



## European Parliament Coming Week Highlights - Committee and Political groups' meetings

**President's diary.** European Parliament President Roberta Metsola will be in Malta on Monday to visit EU-funded projects and SMEs. On Tuesday in Brussels, the President will participate in the High-Level Conference on the European Pillar of Social Rights. On Friday, she will be in Lisbon, where she will meet Portugal's President of the Assembleia da República, José Pedro Aguiar-Branco, and Prime Minister Luís Montenegro, followed by a joint press conference, as well as the country's President Marcelo Rebelo de Sousa. On Saturday, the President will be in Malta to meet the country's President Myriam Spiteri Debono.

**2024 LUX European Audience Film Award.** The LUX European Audience Film Award ceremony will take place in Parliament's hemicycle in Brussels. There will be a press conference with the winner immediately afterwards. Parliament and the European Film Academy award the LUX prize to help the distribution of European films with significant artistic merit that reflect cultural diversity in Europe and beyond (Tuesday from 18:00).

**European elections/Spring Eurobarometer survey.** Parliament will publish its last Eurobarometer survey before the 6-9 June elections, covering, among other issues, citizens' interest in and awareness of the elections as well as their likelihood to vote. The survey will also report on the image citizens have of the EU and Parliament, their priorities for the electoral campaign, and the core values they want to defend (Wednesday at 7.00). The day before publication, the EP media service will hold a briefing reserved for media to present its main findings, under embargo until publication (Tuesday at 10:00).

**European Council.** EP President Roberta Metsola will address EU heads of state or government at the 17-18 April special European Council, which is expected to discuss the new European competitiveness deal and relations with Türkiye. (Wednesday).

**Plenary preparations.** Political groups will prepare for the 22-25 April plenary, the last session of this legislature. MEPs will hold debates and final votes on, among other things, the right to repair, prohibiting products made with force labour, fighting violence against women, new "ecodesign" rules, combating trafficking in human beings and protecting victims, a new EU Ethics Body, economic governance, establishing the European Disability Card, and on anti-money laundering. They will hold final votes on packaging and packaging waste, working conditions for platform workers, due diligence rules for companies, ambient air quality and clean air for Europe, plants obtained with new genomic techniques, the European Health Data Space and on the Net Zero Industry Act. MEPs will also debate the 20th anniversary of the largest ever round of EU enlargement in 2004 with Council and Commission.

**Link to all committee meetings [here](#)**



## European Commission Coming Week Highlights

<b>Wednesday</b>	College meeting
<b>Thursday</b>	President Ursula von der Leyen participates in the special meeting of the European Council
<b>Thursday</b>	Ms Iliana Ivanova, Commissioner for Innovation, Research, Culture, Education and Youth, delivers a keynote speech, via videoconference, at the event 'Future of Ireland – New Horizons in Research and Innovation', organised by the Irish Universities Association.
<b>Friday</b>	Mr Josep Borrell in Capri, Italy: participates in the G7 Foreign Ministers' Meeting.
Link to weekly Calendar <a href="#">here</a>	

## European Council and Council of the European Union Coming Week Highlights

<b>15-16 April</b>	<a href="#">Informal meeting of energy ministers</a>
<b>17-18 April</b>	<a href="#">Special European Council</a>
<b>18-19 April</b>	<a href="#">Informal meeting of consumer protection ministers</a>



## Highlights Week 8 to 14 April 2024

### European Parliament.

#### Highlights Week 8 to 14 April 2024

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##### **Deal on trade support for Ukraine with more protection for EU farmers**

On Monday, Parliament and Council reached a new provisional agreement on extending temporary trade measures for Ukraine.

MEPs and the Council presidency agreed on suspending import duties and quotas on Ukrainian agricultural exports to the EU for another year, until 5 June 2025, to support Ukraine amidst Russia's continuing brutal war of aggression. These unilateral trade liberalisation measures will help stabilise the Ukrainian economy and facilitate the country's gradual integration into the EU's internal market.

Should there be significant disruption to the EU market or the markets of one or more EU countries due to Ukrainian imports, for instance wheat, the regulation ensures that the Commission can take swift action and impose any measures it deems necessary.

##### **Next steps**

Parliament and Council will now both have to give their final green light to the provisional agreement. Parliament's plenary is likely to vote on the regulation during the second part-session in April. The current trade measures expire on 5 June 2024, and new regulations should enter into force immediately following this date.

Link to EP report [here](#)

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##### **Methane: Parliament adopts new law to reduce emissions from energy sector**

Parliament on Wednesday adopted a provisional political agreement with EU countries on a new law to reduce methane emissions from the energy sector, with 530 votes in favour, 63 against and 28 abstentions.

The new regulation is the first piece of EU legislation aimed at cutting methane emissions and covers direct methane emissions from the oil, fossil gas and coal sectors, and from biomethane once it is injected into the gas network.

##### **Next steps**

The law now also has to be adopted by Council, before being published in the EU Official Journal and entering into force 20 days later.

Link to EP report [here](#)

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##### **Carbon removals: MEPs adopt a new EU certification scheme**

Parliament on Wednesday adopted the provisional political agreement with EU countries on a new voluntary certification framework for carbon removals, with 441 votes in favour, 139 against and 41 abstentions.

The legislation covers different types of carbon removals, namely permanent carbon storage through industrial technologies, carbon storage in long-lasting products and carbon farming. It aims to boost their use and improve the EU's capacity to quantify, monitor and verify such activities in order to counter greenwashing.

### **Next steps**

The law now also has to be adopted by Council, before being published in the EU Official Journal and entering into force 20 days later.

Link to EP report [here](#)

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### **His Majesty King Philippe: “Europe and the world are in dire need of hope”**

On Wednesday, His Majesty King Philippe, King of the Belgians, highlighted Europe’s role as a “geo-ecological actor”, and called for the defence of democracy in the face of autocratic trends.

In his address to the European Parliament, King Philippe stressed that in recent years, Europe has been marked by crises, and that in “these times of war, uncertainty and societal unrest, Europe and the world are in dire need of hope”. Although the EU has been united in its support for Ukraine and in its fight against COVID-19, he stressed the need for a less fragmented EU. He argued the EU should work together on new technologies such as artificial intelligence, semiconductors, and rare earth minerals, since it is lagging behind on invention and innovation. “The solution will involve advocating for open markets and ensuring a level playing field for our imports,” he said.

He also called for unity in the fight against climate change, stating that more still has to be done for the EU to reach its 2030 and 2050 climate targets. “Climate policy also helps us achieve that other great ambition: the strategic independence of the EU,” he said, adding that renewable energy will make the EU less dependent on imported energy.

Link to EP report [here](#)

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### **Breakfast foods: Parliament adopts new rules to improve consumer information**

Parliament on Wednesday approved the provisional political agreement with Council on updated rules on the composition, name, labelling and presentation of certain 'breakfast' foodstuffs, the so-called “breakfast directives”, with 603 votes in favour, 9 against and 10 abstentions.

In particular, the new rules will combat adulterated honey imports from non-EU countries through obligatory and clearly visible country of origin labelling, and will launch a process to create a honey traceability system. There will also be clearer labelling on sugar content in fruit juices as well as for minimum fruit content in jams and marmalades.

### **Next steps**

The law now also has to be adopted by Council, before being published in the EU Official Journal and entering into force 20 days later. EU countries will have apply the new rules two years after entry into force.

### **Background**

The revision of EU marketing standards for certain 'breakfast' directives was proposed by the European Commission on 21 April 2023 to update current standards that are more than 20 years old.

Link to EP report [here](#)

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### **MEPs approve the new Migration and Asylum Pact**

On Wednesday, the European Parliament adopted ten legislative texts to reform European migration and asylum policy as agreed with EU member states.

### **Next steps**

Once the package is formally approved by the Council, the laws will enter into force after their publication in the Official Journal. The regulations are expected to start applying in two years time. For the reception conditions directive, member states will have two years to introduce the changes to their national laws.

Link to EP report [here](#)

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## MEPs adopt stricter CO2 emissions targets for trucks and buses

On Wednesday, Parliament adopted new measures, already agreed upon with the Council, to strengthen CO2 emission reduction targets for new heavy-duty vehicles (HDVs).

The regulation, addressing emissions from new trucks, buses and trailers, was endorsed by MEPs with 341 votes in favour, 268 against and 14 abstentions.

CO2 emissions from large trucks (including vocational vehicles, such as garbage trucks, tippers or concrete mixers) and buses will have to be reduced by 45% for the period 2030-2034, 65% for 2035-2039 and 90% as of 2040. By 2030, new urban buses will need to reduce their emissions by 90% and become zero-emission vehicles by 2035. Emissions reduction targets are also set for trailers (7.5%) and semi-trailers (10%), starting from 2030.

The law requires the Commission to conduct a detailed review of the effectiveness and impact of the new rules by 2027. This review will need to assess, among others, whether to apply the rules to small lorries, the role of a methodology for registering HDVs exclusively running on CO2 neutral fuels and the role that a carbon correction factor could have in the transition towards zero-emission HDVs.

**Next steps:** The Council still needs to formally approve the agreement before it can enter into force.

Link to EP report [here](#)

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## Child sexual abuse online: current rules extended until April 2026

On Wednesday Parliament backed prolonging an exemption to EU privacy rules facilitating the detection of child sexual abuse material online until 3 April 2026.

With 469 in favour, 112 against and 37 abstentions, MEPs endorsed a temporary extension of the current e-Privacy derogation that allows the voluntary detection, by internet platforms, of child sexual abuse material (CSAM) online.

The derogation will be extended until 3 April 2026 so that an agreement on the long-term legal framework to prevent and combat child sexual abuse online can be reached.

At the same time, reporting on the voluntary measures companies have taken to find CSAM will be harmonised. According to the Commission, the reporting has so far been inconsistent, making it difficult to assess the impact of the current law.

### Background and next steps

The temporary derogation from EU legislation on the respect of privacy online is due to expire in August 2024. The Parliament already has a position on the proposal for permanent rules to combat and prevent child sexual abuse in the internet, but the Council has yet to agree on its negotiating mandate. The extension is therefore needed to prevent a legal vacuum.

The provisional agreement on the derogation will now have to be formally adopted by the Council before it can become law.

Link to EP Report [here](#)

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## Parliament adopts its position on EU pharmaceutical reform

MEPs adopted their proposals to revamp EU pharmaceutical legislation, to foster innovation and enhance the security of supply, accessibility and affordability of medicines.

The legislative package, covering medicinal products for human use, consists of a new directive (adopted with 495 votes in favour, 57 against and 45 abstentions) and regulation (adopted with 488 votes in favour, 67 against and 34 abstentions).

**Next steps:** The file will be followed up by the new Parliament after the 6 - 9 June European elections.

Link to EP report [here](#)

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## **New EU rules to improve urban wastewater treatment and reuse**

On Wednesday, MEPs approved new EU rules for the collection, treatment and discharge of urban wastewater. With 481 votes in favour, 79 against and 26 abstentions, Parliament adopted the deal reached with the Council in January 2024 on revising the EU's water management and urban wastewater treatment standards to better protect public health and the environment.

### **Next steps**

Council needs to formally approve the agreement as well before it can enter into force.

Link to EP report [here](#)

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## **"Parliament 2024": a more modern and efficient Parliament after the elections**

On Wednesday, MEPs approved (with 429 votes in favour, 148 against, and 47 abstentions) the report implementing the recommendations by the Parliamentary reform group "Parliament 2024", as endorsed by the Conference of Presidents (EP President Metsola and political group chairs) in December 2023.

### **Next steps**

The new rules will come into force at the beginning of the first plenary session after the European elections (6-9 June), i.e. on 16 July 2024. For the changes relating to interinstitutional cooperation to be implemented, the 2010 Framework Agreement between the Parliament and the Commission will have to be revised - a procedure already initiated by President Metsola.

Link to EP report [here](#)

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## **Soil health: Parliament sets out measures to achieve healthy soils by 2050**

Parliament on Wednesday adopted its position on the Commission proposal for a Soil Monitoring Law, the first-ever dedicated piece of EU legislation on soils, with 336 votes to 242 and 33 abstentions.

MEPs support the overall aim to have healthy soils by 2050, in line with the EU Zero Pollution ambition and the need for a harmonised definition of soil health as well as a comprehensive and coherent monitoring framework to foster sustainable soil management and remediate contaminated sites.

The new law will oblige EU countries to first monitor and then assess the health of all soils on their territory. National authorities may apply the soil descriptors that best illustrate the soil characteristics of each soil type at national level.

MEPs propose a five-level classification to assess soil health (high, good, moderate ecological status, degraded, and critically degraded soils). Soils with either good or high ecological status would be considered healthy.

### **Next steps**

Parliament has now adopted its position at first reading. The file will be followed up by the new Parliament after the European elections on 6-9 June.

Link to EP report [here](#)

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## **Women must have full control of their sexual and reproductive health and rights**

In a resolution adopted on Thursday with 336 votes in favour, 163 against and 39 abstentions, MEPs want to enshrine the right to abortion in the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights - a demand they have made several times. MEPs condemn the backsliding on women's rights and all attempts to restrict or remove existing protections for sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) and gender equality taking place globally, including in the EU member states.



They want Article 3 of the Charter to be amended to state that “everyone has the right to bodily autonomy, to free, informed, full and universal access to SRHR, and to all related healthcare services without discrimination, including access to safe and legal abortion”.

The text urges member states to fully decriminalise abortion in line with the 2022 WHO guidelines, and to remove and combat obstacles to abortion, calling on Poland and Malta to repeal their laws and other measures that ban and restrict it. MEPs condemn the fact that, in some member states, abortion is being denied by medical practitioners, and in some cases by entire medical institutions, on the basis of a ‘conscience’ clause, often in situations where any delay will endanger the patient’s life or health. Link to EP report [here](#)

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### **Parliament adopts reform of the EU electricity market**

The reform adopted on Thursday will make the EU electricity market more stable, affordable, and sustainable.

The measures, composed of a regulation and a directive already agreed upon with the Council, were adopted with 433 in favour, 140 against and 15 abstentions, and 473 votes to 80, with 27 abstentions, respectively.

The law will protect consumers against volatile prices. MEPs ensured that they will have the right to access fixed-price contracts or dynamic price contracts, and receive important information on the options they sign up to. Suppliers will not be allowed to unilaterally change the terms of a contract.

MEPs also secured that EU countries can prohibit suppliers from cutting the electricity supply of vulnerable customers, including during disputes between suppliers and customers.

#### **Next steps**

After Parliament’s approval, Council also needs to formally adopt the legislation to become law.

Link to EP report [here](#)

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### **MEPs approve reforms for a more sustainable and resilient EU gas market**

On Thursday, MEPs adopted plans to facilitate the uptake of renewable and low-carbon gases, including hydrogen, into the EU gas market.

The new directive and regulation on the gas and hydrogen markets aim to decarbonise the EU's energy sector, enhancing the production and integration of renewable gases and hydrogen.

These measures are designed to secure energy supplies disrupted by geopolitical tensions, particularly the Russian war against Ukraine, and address climate change. In negotiations with Council on the directive, MEPs focused on securing provisions around transparency, consumer rights, and support for people at risk of energy poverty. Plenary adopted the directive with 425 votes in favour, 64 against and 100 abstentions.

The new regulation, adopted with 447 votes in favour, 90 against and 54 abstentions, will beef up mechanisms for fair pricing and stable energy supply, and will allow member states to limit gas imports from Russia and Belarus. The legislation will introduce a joint gas purchasing system to avoid competition among member states and a pilot project to bolster the EU’s hydrogen market for five years.

The regulation also focuses on increasing investments in hydrogen infrastructure, especially in coal regions, promoting a transition to sustainable energy sources like biomethane and low-carbon hydrogen.

#### **Next steps**

Both texts will now have to be formally adopted by Council before publication on the Official Journal.

Link to EP report [here](#)

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### **Discharge: MEPs sign off EU budget for 2022**

The European Parliament on Thursday granted discharge to the Commission, all decentralised agencies and the development funds.



With more than 95% of the EU's expenditure managed by the European Commission, MEPs generally endorse its budgetary management (by 438 votes in favour, 167 against and 5 abstentions), but they criticise the high error rate in the 2022 spending. This rose to 4.2%, up from 3% in 2021 and 2.7% in 2020, prompting MEPs to warn against underestimating the level of risk.

Similarly, the EU's outstanding commitments in 2022 have reached a record-high (€450 billion, largely due to the NextGenerationEU package). They are also concerned about member state reporting and control systems for the EU's recovery and resilience funds and warn of the risk they pose to the EU's financial interests.

In the resolution that accompanies the discharge decision, MEPs regret the "political contradiction" in disbursing the previously suspended funds to Hungary in exchange for its endorsement of aid for Ukraine. They warn the Commission against "watering down" the EU's climate goals and ask to speed up the pace of investments, noting that in 2022 the European Union fell short of the efficiency needed to achieve the goals set for 2030, 2040 and 2050. Link to EP report [here](#)

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## European Commission. Highlights Week 8 to 14 April 2024

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### State Aid

**Slovakia:** The Commission has found that [Slovakia's €267 million measure](#) in favour of Volvo Cars is in line with EU State aid rules. The investment aid will support the establishment of a new electric passenger vehicles production plant in Valaliky near Košice in Eastern Slovakia. The measure will contribute to the EU's strategic objectives relating to job creation, regional development and the European Green Deal.

**Germany:** The Commission has approved a [€2.2 billion German scheme](#) to support investments in the decarbonisation of industrial production processes to foster the transition to a net-zero economy, in line with the Green Deal Industrial Plan. The scheme was approved under the State aid Temporary Crisis and Transition Framework, adopted by the Commission on 9 March 2023 and amended on 20 November 2023, to support measures in sectors which are key to accelerate the green transition and reduce fossil fuel dependencies.

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### Vice-President Jourová hosts signing ceremony of the Code of Conduct for the 2024 European Parliament Elections

On Tuesday, Vice-President Jourová hosted a signing ceremony of the Code of Conduct for the 2024 European Parliament Elections. With their signature, European political parties committed to upholding ethical and fair campaign practices. Against the backdrop of growing concerns about protecting the integrity of elections in Europe from internal and external threats, this commitment by political parties carries great importance. The political parties that signed the Code of Conduct are: Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe Party, European Christian Political Movement, European Conservatives and Reformists Party, European Democratic Party, European Free Alliance, European Green Party, European People's Party, Party of European Socialist and Party of the European Left. Identity and Democracy declared that they will also join the Code of Conduct for the 2024 European Parliament elections.

Link to Commission statement [here](#)

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### 2023 State aid Scoreboard shows reduction in State aid expenditures in 2022 while crisis support to businesses continued

The Commission has published the 2023 State aid Scoreboard relating to the State aid expenditure in 2022. It provides a comprehensive overview of State aid expenditure in the EU based on the reports provided by



the Member States. The 2023 edition shows that, despite a strong reduction in State aid expenditure in 2022 compared to 2021, Member States continued to support companies affected by the crises provoked by the coronavirus pandemic and Russia's war against Ukraine.

In 2022, Member States reported approximately €228 billion State aid expenditures for all objectives, including crisis measures relating to the coronavirus pandemic and Russia's war against Ukraine and all other measures. This corresponds to 1.4% of the 2022 EU GDP and represents a 34.8% reduction compared to 2021, when expenditures reached €349.7 billion.

The results shows that 33.6% of this support (€76.65 billion) helped companies affected by the coronavirus pandemic to remain viable, while 17% (€39.33 billion) corresponded to measures adopted to counterbalance the negative effects of the Russian invasion of Ukraine. Link to Commission statement [here](#)

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### **Commission decides to register European Citizens' Initiative calling for EU financial support on safe and accessible abortion**

On Wednesday, the Commission decided to register a European Citizens' Initiative (ECI) entitled 'My Voice, My Choice: For Safe And Accessible Abortion'.

The organisers of the initiative call on the Commission to submit a proposal for financial support to Member States for enabling safe termination of pregnancies for anyone in Europe who lacks access to safe and legal abortion.

The initiative does not concern the granting of a right to abortion at EU level and the registration decision must be viewed within the limits of Article 168(7) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union and the limits within which the EU has only supportive competence of the action of the Member States in the field of health policy and the organisation and delivery of health services, including sexual and reproductive health. The decision to register is of a legal nature and it does not prejudice the final legal and political conclusions of the Commission on this initiative and the action it would take, if any, in case the initiative obtains the necessary support.

As the European Citizens' Initiative fulfils the formal conditions established in the relevant legislation, the Commission considers that it is legally admissible. The Commission has not analysed the substance of the proposals at this stage.

#### **Next Steps**

Following today's registration, the organisers have six months to open the signature collection. If a European Citizens' Initiative receives one million statements of support within one year from at least seven different Member States, the Commission will have to react. The Commission will have to decide whether or not it will take action in response to the request, and will be required to explain its reasoning.

Link to Commission statement [here](#)

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### **Statement by President von der Leyen at the joint press conference with President Metsola and Belgian Prime Minister De Croo on the adoption of the Pact on Migration and Asylum**

Link to statement [here](#)

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### **Commission consults Member States on a limited prolongation of the State aid Temporary Crisis and Transition Framework to further support the agricultural sector**

The European Commission has sent to Member States for consultation a draft proposal for a limited prolongation of the State aid Temporary Crisis and Transition Framework ('TCTF') in order to allow continued support for the primary agricultural sector in view of the persisting market disturbances.

Link to Commission statement [here](#)

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## **Interoperable Europe Act enters into force for better connected public services for people and businesses**

The Interoperable Europe Act, which entered into force on Thursday, will facilitate cross-border data exchange and accelerate the digital transformation of the public sector. The Act is essential to reaching the objectives of the EU's Digital Decade, such as having 100% of key public services available online by 2030. Interoperability is a core feature of a functioning Digital Single Market and contributes to a more effective implementation of digital features of public policies, from justice to health to transport.

Citizens, businesses, and public administrations will benefit most of the new regulation when using interconnected digital public services that require cross-border exchange of data. Examples of such services include mutual recognition of academic diplomas or professional qualifications, exchanges of vehicle data for road safety, access to social security and health data, the exchange of information related to taxation, customs, public tender accreditation, digital driving licenses, commercial registers. According to the impact assessment, the Act is expected to save up to €5 billion on a yearly basis.

### **Next Steps**

Following the timeline defined in the Regulation, most of the provisions will apply within 3 months from the date of entry into force.

### **Exceptionally:**

European Institutions, bodies and agencies and public sector bodies will run Interoperability assessments as of January 2025;

Member States will designate national competent authorities 9 months after the date of entry into force of the Regulation, by January 2025.

Link to Commission statement [here](#)

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## **Joint Statement on the progress of the EU-UK Agreement in respect of Gibraltar**

European Commission Executive Vice-President Maroš Šefčovič, Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs José Manuel Albares and UK Foreign Secretary David Cameron, together with the Chief Minister of Gibraltar Fabian Picardo, met in Brussels on Friday 12 April.

This was the first meeting in this format. Discussions took place in a constructive atmosphere, with significant progress achieved. General political lines have been agreed, including on airport, goods and mobility. Negotiations will continue over the coming weeks to conclude the EU-UK Agreement.

The participants agreed that this was a productive day. The meeting reaffirmed their shared commitment to concluding an EU-UK Agreement to secure the future prosperity of the whole region. This Agreement will bring confidence, legal certainty and stability to the lives and livelihoods of the people of the whole region, without prejudice to the parties' legal positions.

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## **European Council and Council of the European Union Highlights Week 8 to 14 April 2024**

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### **Informal meeting of agriculture ministers, 7-9 April**

Link to Council report [here](#)

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## Eurogroup, 11 April

### **In regular format:**

#### **Preparation for international meetings: exchange rate and inflation developments**

In preparation for the upcoming spring meetings of the World Bank Group and the International Monetary Fund in Washington DC, the Eurogroup took stock of exchange rate and inflation rate developments over the past few months.

#### **Euro area competitiveness: trade performance and risks of trade fragmentation**

The Eurogroup held a third exchange of views on the external competitiveness of the euro area. The discussion focussed on trade performance of the euro area, risks of trade fragmentation and policy avenues to strengthen the euro area's competitiveness in an increasingly fragmented global environment.

#### **Luxembourg's updated draft budgetary plan**

The Eurogroup was informed of the upcoming Commission Opinion on Luxembourg's updated draft budgetary plan. Follow-up is expected to be taken up by the Eurogroup Working Group.

### **In inclusive format:**

#### **Digital euro: state of play with regard to global central bank digital currencies**

The Eurogroup took stock of the advancement of the digital euro project and of global developments regarding central bank digital currencies.

The European Central Bank (ECB) updated ministers on the focus and progress of the second (preparation) phase of the digital euro project. Ministers shared their views on the key political issues underlying the digital euro project within the global context.

Link to Council report [here](#)

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## Informal meeting of telecommunications ministers, 11-12 April

Link to Council report [here](#)

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## Economic and Financial Affairs Council, 12 April

**Recovery and Resilience Facility:** Ministers exchanged views and adopted conclusions on the implementation of the Recovery and Resilience Facility (RRF).

**Russia's aggression against Ukraine:** The Council took note of the state of play of the economic and financial impact of Russia's aggression against Ukraine. Ministers received an update from the Commission on the economic and budgetary situation in Ukraine, including the implementation of the Ukraine Facility.

**G20:** The Council approved the EU's mandate for the G20 meeting of finance ministers and central bank governors of 17-18 April 2024. The Council also approved an EU statement for the International Monetary and Financial Committee.

Link to Council report [here](#)

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## European Committee of the Regions (CoR)

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Link to European Committee of the Regions Home Page [here](#)

Link to European Committee of the Regions News Page [here](#)

## Inter-parliamentary meetings and conferences during the Parliamentary Dimension of the Hungarian Presidency 2nd Semester - 1st July - 31 December June 2024

Version 28 March 24

Date	Meeting	Host	Location
<b>21 - 23 April 2024</b>	Conference of the Speakers of European Union Parliaments (EUSC)	Congress of Deputies	Spain Palma, Majorca
<b>28-29 July</b>	COSAC Chairpersons		Budapest
<b>9-10 September</b>	Inter-Parliamentary Conference for the Common Foreign and Security Policy and the Common Security and Defence Policy (IPC on CFSP/CSDP)		Budapest
<b>3-4 October</b>	Inter-Parliamentary Conference on Stability, Economic Coordination and Governance in the EU (IPC on SECG)		Budapest
<b>27-29 October</b>	LXXII. COSAC Plenary		Budapest
<b>11-12 November</b>	Joint Parliamentary Scrutiny Group on Europol (JPSG on Europol)		EP/Brussels
<b>November/December tbc</b>	Interparliamentary conference (topics to be defined)		Budapest
<b>tbc</b>	Meeting of the Secretaries General of the European Union Parliaments (EUSG)		Budapest
<b>tbc</b>	Conference of the Speakers of European Union Parliaments (EUSC)		Budapest
European Parliament events will be added when Parliament convenes after June elections.			

**Sources:** Websites of: European Parliament European Commission, European Council and Council of the European Union Council, European Court of Auditors and European Ombudsman.