

Economic Dialogue with the other EU Institutions under the European Semester Cycles (2014-2019)

State of play - January 2019

This document provides an overview of Economic Dialogues with the other institutions of the European Union that has taken place in the competent Committee of the European Parliament from January 2014 until January 2019 under the European Semester Cycles. It also includes an overview of the respective legal bases for these dialogues.

Economic Dialogues with EU Institutions in 1/2014 -1/ 2019		
Date/Committee	Institution	Subject
21 January 2019 ECON	Council President of ECOFIN (RO)	► Launch of the 2019 Semester Cycle
10 December 2018 ECON	Commission V. Dombrovskis, P. Moscovici	► Launch of the 2019 Semester Cycle and 2019 Draft Budgetary Plans
20 November 2018 ECON	Eurogroup President	► Regular Economic Dialogue
12 July 2018 ECON	Council President of ECOFIN (BG)	► Implementation of the 2018 Semester Cycle, including “comply or explain”
11 July 2018 ECON	Council President of ECOFIN (AT)	► Implementation of the 2018 Semester Cycle, including “comply or explain”
28 June 2018 ECON/EMPL	Commission V. Dombrovskis, M. Thyssen	► 2018 Country Specific Recommendations and implementation of 2017 recommendations
21 February 2018 ECON	Eurogroup President	► Regular Economic Dialogue
24 January 2018 ECON	Council President of ECOFIN (BG)	► Launch of the 2018 Semester Cycle
24 January 2018 ECON	Council President of ECOFIN (EE)	► Implementation of the 2017 Semester Cycle



7 December 2017 ECON	Eurogroup President	► Regular Economic Dialogue
27 November 2017 ECON	Commission V. Dombrovskis, P. Moscovici	► 2017 Draft Budgetary Plans and Euro recommendations
27 November 2017 ECON/EMPL	Commission V. Dombrovskis, P. Moscovici	► 2017 Semester Cycle (AGS and AMR)
11 July 2017 ECON	Council President of ECOFIN (EE)	► Implementation of the 2017 Semester Cycle
19 June 2017 ECON	Council President of ECOFIN (MT)	► Implementation of the 2017 Semester Cycle
30 May 2017 ECON/EMPL	Commission V. Dombrovskis, P. Moscovici, M. Thyssen	► Draft 2017 Country Specific Recommendations and implementation of 2016 recommendations
21 March 2017 ECON	Eurogroup President	► Regular Economic Dialogue
25 January 2017 ECON	Council President of ECOFIN (MT)	► Implementation of the 2016 and launching the 2017 Semester Cycle
12 December 2016 ECON	Commission V. Dombrovskis, P. Moscovici	► 2017 Draft Budgetary Plans and Euro recommendations
12 December 2016 ECON/EMPL	Commission V. Dombrovskis, P. Moscovici, M. Thyssen	► 2017 Semester Cycle (AGS and AMR)
8 December 2016 ECON	Council President of ECOFIN (SK)	► Implementation of the 2016 and launching the 2017 Semester Cycle
29 November 2016 ECON	Eurogroup President	► Regular Economic Dialogue
3 October 2016 REGIO/ECON (as part of a structured dialogue)	Commission J. Katainen, C. Crețu	► Suspension of European Structural and Investment Funds
13 July 2016 ECON	Council President of ECOFIN (SK)	► Implementation of the 2016 Semester Cycle, including "comply or explain"
14 June 2016 ECON/EMPL	Commission V. Dombrovskis, M. Thyssen	► Draft 2016 Country Specific Recommendations
14 June 2016 ECON	Council President of ECOFIN (NL)	► Implementation of the 2016 Semester Cycle, including "comply or explain"
11 April 2016 ECON	Commission V. Dombrovskis, P. Moscovici	► Implementation of the European Semester 2015-2016
18 February 2016 ECON	Eurogroup President	► Regular Economic Dialogue
18 February 2016 ECON	Council President of ECOFIN (NL)	► 2016 Semester Cycle

11 January 2016 ECON	Council President of ECOFIN (LU)	► 2015 Semester Cycle
15 December 2015 ECON	Commission V. Dombrovskis, P. Moscovici	► 2016 Draft Budgetary Plans
1 December 2015 ECON/EMPL	Commission V. Dombrovskis, P. Moscovici, M. Thyssen	► 2016 AGS and AMR
10 November 2015 ECON	Eurogroup President	► Regular Economic Dialogue ► <i>Ad hoc</i> exchange of views on Greece
15 July 2015 ECON	Council President of ECOFIN (LU)	► Implementation of the 2015 Semester Cycle, including "comply or explain"
23 June 2015 ECON/EMPL	Commission V. Dombrovskis, P. Moscovici, M. Thyssen	► Draft 2015 Country Specific Recommendations
14 April 2015 ECON	Commission V. Dombrovskis, P. Moscovici	► Implementation of the European Semester 2015
24 February 2015 ECON	Eurogroup President	► Spring 2014 priorities for the Eurogroup ► Debt dynamics in the Euro Area
21 January 2015 ECON	Council President of ECOFIN (LV)	► Implementation of the 2014 and preparations of the 2015 Semester Cycles
12 January 2015 ECON	Council President of ECOFIN (IT)	► Implementation of the 2014 and preparations of the 2015 Semester Cycles
2 December 2014 ECON	Commission P. Moscovici	► Draft Budgetary Plans ► Review of the 6/2 Packs regulations
2 December 2014 ECON/EMPL	Commission V. Dombrovskis, P. Moscovici, M. Thyssen	► AGS and AMR 2015
4 September 2014 ECON	Eurogroup President	► Fiscal and macro-structural challenges
22 July 2014 ECON	Council President of ECOFIN (IT)	► Adopted CSRs 2014, including "comply or explain"
20 February 2014 ECON	Eurogroup President	► Implementation of macro-economic adjustment programmes ► Spring 2014 priorities for the Eurogroup
22 January 2014 ECON	Council President of ECOFIN (GR)	► 2014 Semester Cycle

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ANNEX: The legal provisions for Economic Dialogues with other EU Institutions

The five regulations below were adopted as part of the "6-pack" and include provisions for Economic Dialogues with the other EU institutions

In order to enhance the dialogue between the institutions of the Union, in particular the EP, the Council and the COM, and to ensure greater transparency and accountability, the competent committee of the EP may invite the President of the Council, the Commission and, where appropriate, the President of the European Council or the President of the Euro group to appear before the committee to discuss:

<p>Regulation 1466/97 on the strengthening of the surveillance of budgetary positions and the surveillance and coordination of economic policies (Article 2ab)</p>	<p>(a) information provided to the committee by the Council on the broad guidelines of economic policy pursuant to Article 121(2) TFEU; (b) general guidance to MS issued by the COM at the beginning of the annual cycle of surveillance; (c) any conclusions drawn by the European Council on orientations for economic policies in the context of the European Semester; (d) the results of multilateral surveillance carried out under this Regulation; (e) any conclusions drawn by the European Council on the orientations for and results of multilateral surveillance; (f) any review of the conduct of multilateral surveillance at the end of the European Semester; (g) Council recommendations addressed to MS in accordance with Article 121(4) TFEU in the event of significant deviation and the report made by the Council to the European Council as defined in Article 6(2) and Article 10(2) of the Regulation.</p> <p>The Council is expected to, as a rule, follow the recommendations and proposals of the COM or explain its position publicly ["comply or explain"].</p>
<p>Regulation 1173/2011 on the effective enforcement of budgetary surveillance in the euro area (Article 3)</p>	<p>Decisions taken pursuant to Articles 4, 5 and 6 of the Regulation [i.e. sanctions and fines].</p>
<p>Regulation 1467/97 on speeding up and clarifying the implementation of the excessive deficit procedure (Article 2a)</p>	<p>Council decisions under Article 126(6) TFEU, Council recommendations under Article 126(7) TFEU, notices under Article 126(9) TFEU, or Council decisions under Article 126(11) TFEU.</p> <p>The Council is, as a rule, expected to follow the recommendations and proposals of the COM or explain its position publicly ["comply or explain"].</p>
<p>Regulation 1176/2011 on prevention and correction of macroeconomic imbalances (Article 14 (1))</p>	<p>(a) information provided by the Council on the broad guidelines of economic policy pursuant to Article 121(2) TFEU; (b) general guidance to MS issued by the COM at the beginning of the annual cycle of surveillance; (c) the conclusions of the European Council concerning orientations for economic policies in the context of the European Semester; (d) the results of multilateral surveillance carried out under this Regulation; (e) the conclusions of the European Council concerning the orientations for, and results of, multilateral surveillance; (f) a review of the conduct of multilateral surveillance at the end of the European Semester; (g) the recommendations taken pursuant to Article 7(2), Article 8(2) and Article 10(4) of this Regulation.</p>

Regulation 1174/2011 on enforcement measures to correct excessive macroeconomic imbalances in the euro area (Article 6)	Decisions taken pursuant to Article 3 of the Regulation. [i.e. sanctions including fines]
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The two regulations below were adopted as part of the "2-pack" and include provisions for Economic Dialogues with the other EU institutions

Regulation 473/2013 on monitoring and assessing draft budgetary plans and ensuring the correction of excessive deficits of the Member States in the euro-area (Articles 7(3), 15 (1) and (3) and 16)	<p>Article 7: COM assessment of the draft budgetary plan</p> <p>(3) The Commission's opinion [on the draft budgetary plan] shall be made public and shall be presented to the Eurogroup. Thereafter, at the request of the parliament of the Member State concerned or of the European Parliament, the Commission shall present its opinion to the parliament making the request.</p> <p>Article 15: Economic dialogue</p> <p>(1) In order to enhance the dialogue between the Union institutions, in particular the EP, the Council and the COM, and to ensure greater transparency and accountability, the competent committee of the EP may invite, where appropriate, the <u>President of the Council</u>, the <u>COM</u>, the <u>President of the European Council</u> or the <u>President of the Eurogroup</u> to appear before the committee to discuss:</p> <p>(a) the specification of the content of the draft budgetary plan as set out in a harmonised framework established in accordance with Article 6(5) [harmonised framework established by the COM in cooperation with the MS];</p> <p>(b) the results of the discussion of the Eurogroup on the COM opinions adopted in accordance with Article 7(1) [COM shall adopt an opinion on the draft budgetary plan as soon as possible and in any event by 30 November], to the extent that they have been made public;</p> <p>(c) the overall assessment of the budgetary situation and prospects in the euro area as a whole made by the COM in accordance with Article 7(4) [COM assessment shall be made on the basis of most recent economic forecasts; it shall include sensitivity analysis that provide an indication of the risks to public finance sustainability];</p> <p>(d) Council acts referred to in Article 9(4) [the Council, acting on a proposal from the COM, shall adopt an opinion on the economic partnership programme] and in Article 12(3) [COM shall recommend that the Council takes additional measures where there has been no effective action in response to its recommendations].</p> <p>(...)</p> <p>(3). The EP shall be duly involved in the European Semester in order to increase the transparency and ownership of, and the accountability for the decisions taken, in particular by means of the economic dialogue carried out pursuant to this article.</p>
Regulation 472/2013 on the strengthening of economic and budgetary surveillance of Member States in the euro area experiencing or threatened with serious difficulties with respect to their financial	<p>Article 3: Enhanced surveillance</p> <p>(1, 2nd subparagraph) The Commission shall inform the competent committee of the European Parliament, the EFC, the Eurogroup Working Group, and the parliament of the Member State concerned, where relevant and in accordance with national practice, of the measures referred to in the first subparagraph. [measures to address the sources of difficulties identified]</p> <p>(5, 2nd subparagraph) Every quarter, the Commission shall communicate its assessment [following each mission to the MS concerned] to the competent</p>

<p>stability (Articles 3 (1), (5), (8), (9), 7(1), (4) and (10), 14 (3), 18 and 19</p>	<p>committee of the European Parliament and to the EFC. In that assessment, it shall examine, in particular, whether further measures are needed.</p> <p>(8) Where a recommendation [Council recommendations to the concerned MS regarding measures to be adopted] referred to in paragraph 7 is made public:</p> <p>(a) the competent committee of the European Parliament may offer the opportunity to the Member State concerned and to the Commission to participate in an exchange of views;</p> <p>(...)</p> <p>(c) the Council shall inform the relevant committee of the European Parliament in due time about the content of the recommendation.</p> <p>(9) During the course of the enhanced surveillance process, the competent committee of the EP and the parliament of the MS concerned may invite representatives of <u>the COM, the ECB and the IMF</u> to participate in an economic dialogue.</p> <p>Article 7: Macroeconomic adjustment programme</p> <p>(1, 5th subparagraph) (...) The Commission shall orally <u>inform</u> the Chair and Vice-Chairs of the competent committee of the EP of the progress made in the preparation of the draft macroeconomic adjustment programme. This information shall be treated as confidential.</p> <p>(...)</p> <p>(4) The Commission shall <u>inform</u> the Chair and Vice-Chairs of the competent committee of the EP orally of the conclusions drawn from the monitoring of the macroeconomic adjustment programme. That information shall be treated as confidential.</p> <p>(...)</p> <p>(10) The competent committee of the European Parliament may offer the opportunity to the Member State concerned and to the Commission to participate in an exchange of views on the progress made in the implementation of the macroeconomic adjustment programme.</p> <p>Article 14: Post-programme surveillance</p> <p>(3) The Commission shall conduct, in liaison with the ECB, regular review missions in the Member State under post- programme surveillance to assess its economic, fiscal and financial situation. Every six months, it shall communicate its assessment to the competent committee of the European Parliament, to the EFC and to the parliament of the Member State concerned and shall assess, in particular, whether corrective measures are needed.</p> <p>Article 18: Informing the EP</p> <p>The EP may invite representatives of <u>the Council</u> and of <u>the COM</u> to enter into a dialogue on the application of this Regulation.</p>
<p>* In addition to the Economic Dialogue mentioned above the Commission is accountable to the EP in line with the Article 17 (8) of the Treaty on European Union and the framework agreement between the COM and the EP.</p> <p>* For the legal bases for invitations to the Member States to take part in an Economic Dialogue see a separate table.</p>	