



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

SECRETARIAT-GENERAL

PV(2026) 2566 final

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Brussels, 10 June 2026

TEXTE EN

MINUTES

of the 2566th meeting of the Commission

held in Brussels

(Berlaymont)

on Wednesday 13 May 2026

(morning)

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Single sitting: Wednesday 13 May 2026 (morning)

The sitting opened at 9.03 with Ms von der LEYEN, President, in the chair.

Present:

Ms von der LEYEN	President
Ms RIBERA	Executive Vice-President
Ms VIRKKUNEN	Executive Vice-President
Mr SÉJOURNÉ	Executive Vice-President
Ms KALLAS	High Representative / Vice-President
Ms MÎNZATU	Executive Vice-President
Mr FITTO	Executive Vice-President
Mr ŠEFČOVIČ	Member
Mr DOMBROVSKIS	Member
Ms ŠUICA	Member
Mr VÁRHELYI	Member
Mr KUBILIUS	Member
Ms KOS	Member
Mr SÍKELA	Member
Mr KADIS	Member
Ms ALBUQUERQUE	Member
Ms LAHBIB	Member
Mr BRUNNER	Member
Ms ROSWALL	Member
Mr SERAFIN	Member
Ms ZAHARIEVA	Member
Mr McGRATH	Member
Mr TZITZIKOSTAS	Member
Mr HANSEN	Member
Mr MICALLEF	Member

Items 1 to 12 (in part)
and 13 (in part)

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Absent:

Mr HOEKSTRA	Member
Mr JØRGENSEN	Member

The following also sat in:

Mr SEIBERT	Head of Cabinet to the PRESIDENT	
Mr DE GREGORIO	Director-General, Legal Service	
Ms SPINANT	Director-General, DG Communication	
Ms PINHO	Head of the Spokesperson's Service and Chief Spokesperson of the Commission	
Ms PETKOVA	Director of Coordination and Administration in the PRESIDENT's cabinet	
Ms HENMAN	Adviser in the PRESIDENT's cabinet	
Mr MORDUE	Diplomatic Adviser in the PRESIDENT's cabinet	Item 13
Ms REILLY	Member of the PRESIDENT's cabinet	Items 8 to 11
Ms SEMLALI	Policy Assistant in the PRESIDENT's cabinet	
Mr TAQUET-GRAZIANI	Head of Unit in the Secretariat-General	
Ms DAGILE	Deputy Head of Unit in the Secretariat-General	

Secretary: Ms JUHANSONE, Secretary-General, assisted by Ms DEPREZ, Director in the Secretariat-General.

1. AGENDAS

(OJ(2026) 2566/FINAL; SEC(2026) 2566/FINAL)

The Commission took note of that day's agenda and of the tentative agendas for forthcoming meetings.

2. WEEKLY MEETING OF HEADS OF CABINET

(RCC(2026) 2566)

The Commission considered the Secretary-General's report on the weekly meeting of Heads of Cabinet held on Monday 11 May 2026.

3. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

The Commission held over approval of the minutes of its 2563rd, 2564th and 2565th meetings of 22 and 28 April and 6 May 2026 for a later date.

4. INTERINSTITUTIONAL RELATIONS

(RCC(2026) 171)

The Commission took note of the record of the meeting of the Interinstitutional Relations Group (GRI) held on Friday 8 May 2026 (RCC(2026) 171).

The Commission approved the lines proposed for the following points:

- **Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF) 2028-2034 – Governance-related issues in sectoral proposals under the next MFF**

Line set out in SI(2026) 134/2.

- **Amendment of Regulations (EU) 2024/1689 and (EU) 2018/1139 as regards the simplification of the implementation of harmonised rules on artificial intelligence (Digital omnibus on AI) (Regulation) – KOKALARI & McNAMARA report – 2025/0359 (COD)**

Line set out in SI(2026) 140/2.

- **Framework for strengthening the availability and security of supply of critical medicinal products as well as the availability of, and accessibility of, medicinal products of common interest, and amendment of Regulation (EU) 2024/795 (Regulation) – SOKOL report – 2025/0102 (COD)**

Line set out in SI(2026) 131/2.

- **Oral question O-000021/2026 – EU governance under pressure: institutional responses to global challenges**

Line set out in SP(2026) 189.

- **EU – UK: cooperation with regard to exchange of conviction information on third-country nationals**

Line set out in SI(2026) 133.

- **Signature of a joint statement of the Special Envoys and Coordinators Combating Antisemitism Forum (SECCA)**

Line set out in SI(2026) 132/2.

5. COORDINATION OF EXTERNAL ACTION (RCC(2026) 216)

The Commission took note of the operational conclusions in RCC(2026) 216 of the meeting of the Group for External Coordination (EXCO) held on Thursday
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7 May 2026.

6. WRITTEN PROCEDURES, EMPOWERMENT AND DELEGATION OF POWERS

6.1. WRITTEN PROCEDURES APPROVED

(SEC(2026) 127 ET SEQ.)

The Commission took note of the Secretariat-General's memoranda recording decisions adopted between 4 and 10 May 2026.

6.2. EMPOWERMENT

(SEC(2026) 128 ET SEQ.)

The Commission took note of the Secretariat-General's memoranda recording decisions adopted between 4 and 10 May 2026.

6.3. DELEGATION / SUBDELEGATION OF POWERS

(SEC(2026) 129 ET SEQ.)

The Commission took note of the Secretariat-General's memoranda recording decisions adopted under the delegation and subdelegation procedures between 4 and 10 May 2026, as archived in Decide.

6.4. WRITTEN PROCEDURES SPECIFICALLY IDENTIFIED

(SEC(2026) 130 AND /2)

The Commission took note of the written procedures specifically identified for which the time limit expired between 11 and 15 May 2026.

6.5. COMMISSION DECISION GRANTING A DELEGATION OF POWERS RELATING TO SELECTION OF CERTAIN MEDICAL DEVICES AND IN VITRO DIAGNOSTIC MEDICAL DEVICES FOR JOINT CLINICAL

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***ASSESSMENT UNDER REGULATION (EU) 2021/2282 OF THE
EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL
(C(2026) 3195)***

The Commission decided to grant a delegation of powers to the Director-General of the Directorate-General responsible for health to adopt, on behalf of the Commission and under its responsibility, decisions relating to the selection of certain medical devices and *in vitro* diagnostic medical devices for joint clinical assessment under Regulation (EU) 2021/2282 of the European Parliament and of the Council, subject to the conditions laid down in Articles 2 to 5 of that Decision.

The Commission adopted the Decision in C(2026) 3195.

**7. ADMINISTRATIVE AND BUDGETARY MATTERS
(SEC(2026) 131)**

**ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS
(PERS(2026) 42)**

***DG TRANSLATION – APPOINTMENT OF AN AD14 DIRECTOR
(PERS(2026) 43 AND /2)***

The Commission had before it applications under Article 29(1)(a)(i) and (iii) of the Staff Regulations for the post of Director of the ‘Translation’ Directorate (DGT.C) at the Directorate-General for Translation (PERS(2026) 43).

It took note of the opinions of the Consultative Committee on Appointments of 25 February and 16 April 2026 (PERS(2026) 43/2).

The Commission proceeded to compare the applicants' qualifications for the post. On a proposal from Mr SERAFIN, in agreement with the PRESIDENT, it then decided to appoint Mr Marcin STRYJECKI to the post.

This decision would take effect on a date to be determined.

8. COMMUNICATION FROM THE COMMISSION TO THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND THE COUNCIL – REINFORCING GLOBAL HEALTH RESILIENCE AMIDST GEOPOLITICAL CHANGE (COM(2026) 197 AND /2; RCC(2026) 26)

The PRESIDENT introduced the Communication on strengthening global health resilience, pointing out that the start of her first term in office had been marked by the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic. She noted that the seriousness of this health crisis seemed to be fading from public memory, and that a tendency to challenge the benefits of vaccination and other public health campaigns was on the rise, making that day's initiative particularly relevant.

Ms KALLAS noted that global health was also affected by a new world order marked by fierce competition and weakened multilateralism. In this context, she stressed the importance for the EU of reaffirming its trust in science and investing in shared and sustainable health and security. She pointed out that viruses did not respect borders and referred to the recent cases of hantavirus that had spread on a cruise ship, illustrating the persistence of risks. She highlighted that global health resilience had become a key objective of the EU's foreign and security policy since the COVID-19 pandemic, and the Communication presented that day demonstrated that the EU was a committed and reliable partner in this area.

She felt that it was necessary to continue efforts to reform the global health architecture with a view to having a strong multilateral system centred on the World Health Organisation (WHO). She also noted the importance of countering foreign

interventions involving manipulation and disinformation in the field of health, which exploited health crises to undermine EU action. Lastly, she felt that the Member States should agree on proposing European candidates for open positions in international governance structures, particularly in the field of health.

Mr SÍKELA noted that health threats had become more frequent, interconnected and geopolitical since the COVID-19 pandemic. He referred to the recent cases of hantavirus that required a Member State to coordinate emergency operations. He stressed that such situations demonstrated the importance of international cooperation, strong health networks and rapid information-sharing. He then explained that the Communication presented that day was structured around five priorities aimed at increasing the added value of the EU's contribution to collective action on global health.

The first priority was to promote a more effective and less fragmented global health architecture. It was essential to have a system that was more efficient, better coordinated and more in line with EU interests and values, in a context characterised by a change of approach by major international players and difficulties in financing global health initiatives.

The second priority aimed to strengthen the resilience of national health systems. All countries should be able to finance, manage and deliver essential health services. Only in this way would they be able to cope with crises, protect their populations and ensure continuity of care, in particular for critical services such as maternal and child health, vaccination campaigns, mental health support and emergency care.

The third priority focused on improving prevention, preparedness and the response to global health threats and crises at international level. Building on the progress made since the COVID-19 pandemic, the EU would target remaining gaps, particularly in terms of surveillance, laboratory capacity, and preparedness and rapid response mechanisms. International cooperation was also essential, as health threats did not stop at borders.

The fourth priority was to diversify global supply chains and the manufacturing of essential health products. The aim was to strengthen the EU's competitiveness and foster mutually beneficial partnerships with business and authorities in partner countries. While protecting and promoting European medical research and technology, the EU would develop manufacturing capacities globally and create investment opportunities that supported the development of local infrastructure, skills and jobs.

The fifth and final priority aimed to strengthen societal resilience by fostering trust in science and tackling health disinformation. It was essential to ensure that global health policy-making remained science-based. This required access to reliable data and improved public health communication.

Mr SÍKELA said that these five priorities were supported by nine flagship actions at national, regional and global level. He added that the EU's approach to global health was based on cooperation rather than fragmentation, partnership rather than dependence, and on a shared capacity to act on health crises before they worsened. Finally, he pointed out that, in the area of public health, no one was protected until everyone was protected.

During the discussion that followed, the Commission raised the following main points:

- broad support for the Communication as a timely response to an increasingly complex global health environment;
- a reminder that health threats were transnational and required greater prevention, preparedness and cooperation at international level;
- the importance of consolidating partnerships with third countries, especially in Asia and Africa, particularly as regarded strengthening health systems, vaccine production and scientific cooperation;

- the need to defend multilateralism and strengthen global health governance, and in particular the role of the World Health Organisation (WHO);
- the fight against disinformation and the relevance of building trust in science and evidence-based policymaking;
- the link between global health resilience and broader economic and security resilience.

The PRESIDENT concluded the discussion by pointing out that the Communication presented that day also contributed to the EU's broader objective of strategic autonomy and resilience. She stressed that stronger international health networks supported both crisis preparedness and supply chain security. She also noted that during the COVID-19 pandemic, the EU had been the world's leading donor and exporter of vaccines, demonstrating its reliability as a global partner.

Following these presentations, the Commission approved the Communication in COM(2026) 197/2 for transmission to the European Parliament and the Council and, for information, to the national parliaments.

9. PROPOSAL FOR A REGULATION OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL ON MULTIMODAL BOOKING AND REPEALING REGULATION (EC) NO 80/2009

(COM(2026) 231 AND /2; SWD(2026) 300 AND /2; SWD(2026) 301; SEC(2026) 300; RCC(2026) 28)

10. PROPOSAL FOR A REGULATION OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL ON RAIL TICKETING

(COM(2026) 232 AND /2; SWD(2026) 300 AND /2; SWD(2026) 301; SEC(2026) 300; RCC(2026) 28)

11. PROPOSAL FOR A REGULATION OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL AMENDING REGULATION (EU) 2021/782 AS REGARDS THE PROTECTION OF PASSENGERS WITH SINGLE TICKETS

(COM(2026) 233 AND /2; SWD(2026) 233 AND /2; RCC(2026) 28)

The PRESIDENT welcomed the package of measures presented that day, which was the result of several years of work to simplify travel bookings and EU-wide rail travel.

Mr FITTO noted that this package was a key step in the integration of the European transport sector, more than 40 years after Jacques Delors's White Paper on completing the internal market. These measures were a response to persistent calls from consumers, who wanted to be able to buy tickets for any destination in the EU while enjoying better protection for their entire journey. The measures also provided greater transparency and market access for smaller operators and independent digital ticketing providers. In addition, they would facilitate the sale of pan-European products by reducing cross-border obstacles and complexities and by making it easier for businesses to operate across national borders.

Mr FITTO pointed out that, with the regulations proposed that day, rail transport – which was the cleanest mode of transport – would become more attractive to users as an affordable alternative in the current period of high fossil fuel prices. The regulations would also strengthen territorial cohesion by making it easier for individuals to reach any region or city, including in remote, border or rural areas. Lastly, he explained that the proposed measures were part of the strategy to promote the right of citizens to remain in their region of origin, a right that could only be exercised fully if appropriate connections were available.

Mr TZITZIKOSTAS stressed that the package would be a game-changer for rail transport, making it simpler, smoother and more attractive to citizens. Rail travel across Europe was currently subject to a number of obstacles that made it less

attractive. Passengers faced fragmented booking systems, incomplete offers, limited price comparability and uncertainty about their rights when travelling beyond national borders or with multiple operators. The aim of the package was therefore to increase confidence in rail transport and encourage travel combining different transport services, based on the idea of ‘one journey, one ticket, full passenger rights’.

Mr TZITZIKOSTAS then reviewed the three proposals for a Regulation, namely a proposal on multimodal booking, a proposal on rail ticketing and a targeted revision of the Regulation on the protection of passengers with a single ticket. With regard to the proposal on multimodal booking, he pointed out that it established fair rules for digital ticketing platforms across all modes of transport. The proposal introduced new obligations for ticketing platforms and operators to ensure fair access to ticket sales and a neutral presentation of travel options. The rules would ensure that all transport operators could enter into fair, reasonable and non-discriminatory commercial agreements with ticketing platforms, and vice versa. This would boost the market for digital ticketing platforms by offering fair access to the market while also making it easier for passengers to find multimodal travel options, for example by combining rail and air travel.

With regard to the proposal on rail ticketing, Mr TZITZIKOSTAS explained that in many Member States, incumbent rail operators still controlled not only the provision of rail services, but also the main booking and ticketing systems. This created barriers for new market entrants and limited passenger choice. The proposal therefore introduced two important obligations: on the one hand, railway undertakings would have to share their products and offers with ticketing platforms upon request and, on the other hand, dominant rail ticketing platforms would have to accommodate and integrate rail operators upon request. In practical terms, this meant that passengers would be better able to compare and purchase rail journeys provided by different operators on the platform of their choice.

Lastly, Mr TZITZIKOSTAS noted that the proposal to revise the Regulation on the protection of passengers with a single ticket filled a major gap in the protection of passengers' rights. Thus, passengers holding a single ticket combining several trains operated by different rail operators would enjoy all rights, if a delay or cancellation caused them to miss a connection. This included rights to assistance, re-routing, reimbursement or compensation, depending on the circumstances.

Mr TZITZIKOSTAS concluded his presentation by stressing that the package proposed that day aimed to complete the single market for rail, ensure fair competition in the sector, expand digital access and strengthen passenger trust. He felt that the proposed measures would bring tangible change for millions of Europeans and that they had been carefully calibrated to meet the needs of the various stakeholders in the EU's transport sector. Finally, he felt that the package would ensure greater transparency and fluidity by offering passengers more choice in all modes of transport, which would stimulate competition and, over time, encourage operators to offer more attractive prices.

During the discussion that followed, the Commission raised the following main points:

- full support for the proposed package, which aimed to overcome certain obstacles to the internal market by reducing fragmentation and promoting smoother multimodal travel for the benefit of consumers and the EU economy as a whole;
- the positive response to the extension of consumer protection measures to cover multimodal ticketing, made possible by the digitalisation of services and the collection of digital data;
- the importance for the Commission of closely monitoring the interinstitutional negotiation process and ensuring this new package remained consistent with the European Digital Services Act and Digital Markets Act.

Following these presentations, the Commission:

- adopted the proposal for a Regulation in COM(2026) 231/2 for transmission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee, the Committee of the Regions and the national parliaments, together with the impact assessment, the summary thereof and the opinion of the Regulatory Scrutiny Board in SWD(2026) 300/2, SWD(2026) 301 and SEC(2026) 300, the contents of which were noted;
- adopted the proposal for a Regulation in COM(2026) 232/2 for transmission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee, the Committee of the Regions and the national parliaments, together with the impact assessment, the summary thereof and the opinion of the Regulatory Scrutiny Board in SWD(2026) 300/2, SWD(2026) 301 and SEC(2026) 300, the contents of which were noted;
- adopted the proposal for a Regulation in COM(2026) 233/2 for transmission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee, the Committee of the Regions, the European Data Protection Supervisor and the national parliaments, together with the staff working document distributed as SWD(2026) 233/2, the contents of which were noted.

12. COMMUNICATION FROM THE COMMISSION ON THE EUROPEAN CITIZENS' INITIATIVE (ECI) 'BAN ON CONVERSION PRACTICES IN THE EUROPEAN UNION' (C(2026) 3333 AND /2; RCC(2026) 27)

Ms LAHBIB presented the Commission's response to the European Citizens' Initiative calling for a ban on conversion practices in the EU, reminding the College that such practices were based on the misconception that LGBTIQ+ people were ill and should be treated. One in four LGBTIQ+ people in the EU had been a victim of

such practices, which included verbal, physical and sexual violence, coercion, isolation, forced medication and electric shocks. She stressed that these practices could cause long-lasting psychological and physical damage.

Referring to the mission letter in which the PRESIDENT had expressly instructed her to take action to prohibit such practices, Ms LAHBIB welcomed the fact that the Commission was not alone in this fight. In addition to this citizens' initiative, which had the support of 1.1 million EU citizens, eight Member States had already legislated along those lines, the European Parliament had recently adopted two resolutions calling on the Commission to take action, and the European Economic and Social Committee had issued an opinion calling for an end to these practices in the EU.

She explained that the Commission was therefore committed to adopt, by 2027, a Recommendation to protect LGBTIQ+ people, in particular the most vulnerable, and to combat conversion practices that sought to change or repress their sexual orientation, gender identity or gender expression, a commitment that fully respected the competences of the Member States. The Communication presented that day set out very clearly why the Commission was proposing a Recommendation rather than a binding legal act. This was partly because the EU's limited competences in the matter meant that a binding legal act could not cover all the steps already taken by the Member States, and partly because the adoption of such an act would require unanimity in the Council.

Ms LAHBIB said that several actions would be implemented to prepare this Recommendation. First, a structured dialogue would be launched with Member States through the Expert Group on LGBTIQ+ equality to build on the good practices already in place. Secondly, to give a voice to civil society and those affected, an LGBTIQ+ policy forum would be organised in 2026, with a focus on the fight against conversion practices. Thirdly and finally, the work would also build on the ongoing in-depth study on conversion practices, the results of which were expected in early 2027. Ms LAHBIB concluded her presentation by stressing that,

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by acting through a Recommendation, the Commission recognised the key role of the Member States in this area and focused on supporting them, building on the positive momentum created by a growing number of Member States already moving in this direction.

Ms MÎNZATU praised the European Citizens' Initiative as a democratic tool that enabled EU citizens to influence EU policies. She stressed that conversion practices had no place in the EU. She explained that, given the EU's competences, the Commission had considered that a Recommendation was the most appropriate legal tool to encourage the Member States that had not yet banned such practices to do so.

For his part, Mr ŠEFČOVIČ noted that the Commission's response to this European Citizens' Initiative confirmed the effectiveness of this democratic tool. He highlighted the impact that a citizens' initiative could have at the regulatory, political and societal level. He noted that the use of European Citizens' Initiatives was on the rise and that two other initiatives, both relating to nature preservation, were expected to be registered the following week. In view of the efforts made by the organisers of these initiatives, he felt that it was important for the Commission to show the utmost respect for this democratic exercise. He added that it was equally crucial to communicate the Commission's response and the follow-up to it in an effective manner.

After these presentations, the Commission approved the Communication in C(2026) 3333/2 (i) for notification, in the authentic language (English), to the organisers of the initiative, (ii) for publication, for information, in the *Official Journal of the European Union*, and (iii) for transmission, for information, to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee, the Committee of the Regions and the national parliaments.

13. OTHER BUSINESS

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LATEST DEVELOPMENTS IN EXTERNAL RELATIONS

Ms KALLAS reported on the latest developments in external relations. She mentioned her participation in the Foreign Affairs Council and the high-level meeting of the International Coalition for the Return of Ukrainian Children on Monday 11 May as well as in the Defence Council and a multinational meeting of defence ministers on Tuesday 12 May. The Foreign Affairs Council had been followed by the first high-level political dialogue between the EU and Syria.

On the substance, she referred first to the discussions held in the Council on the situation in the Middle East, and in particular the blockade in the Strait of Hormuz. With regard to the prospects for restoring navigation in the Strait after the end of hostilities, she mentioned the possibilities offered by the ASPIDES operation already deployed in the region, but also its current limitations and the advisability of already starting work to strengthen it and amend its operational mandate. She stressed the usefulness in this regard of a joint initiative by EU Member States to enable credible and far-reaching action to be taken.

As regards Israel and Palestine, Ms KALLAS reported that the Foreign Affairs Council on 11 May had reached a political agreement in response to the deteriorating situation in the West Bank, marked by an increase in violence amid settlement expansion. This agreement should pave the way for targeted sanctions against extremist settlers and entities supporting settlements in the West Bank, along with further restrictive measures targeting senior officials of Hamas and the Palestinian Islamic Jihad. She added that the Council had also examined other options, including trade measures relating to imports of products from the occupied territories.

Finally, she briefly reported on the high-level political dialogue between the EU and Syria, stressing that the country needed EU assistance in its transition process.

Ms KALLAS then referred to the Council's discussions on Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine. The discussions had highlighted the value of continuing

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work on a new package of sanctions, in particular as regards the Russian shadow fleet and military industrial complex, with a view to the June Foreign Affairs Council. Ministers had also approved the proposal to strengthen the European Union Satellite Centre, to enable it to contribute to the monitoring of a future ceasefire. Ministers had noted the stalemate in the US-led peace talks, and the question of a more active role for the EU had been raised. Lastly, she mentioned that Foreign Ministers had also discussed the accession of Ukraine.

During the discussion that followed, the Commission raised the following main points:

- the seriousness of the situation in the West Bank and in Gaza and Lebanon, in view of the scale of civilian casualties, attacks on civilian and health infrastructure and concerns about compliance with international humanitarian law;
- tangible positive developments in the area of enlargement, with the establishment of the Working Group on Montenegro's Accession Treaty, the impending accession referendum in Iceland and Albania's progress on the rule of law;
- the more worrying developments in Bosnia and Herzegovina with the resignation of the International High Representative, who should be replaced in the run-up to the elections scheduled for October;
- the importance of the work done by the International Coalition for the Return of Ukrainian Children.

The Commission took note of this information.

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The Commission's other discussions on certain agenda items are recorded in the special minutes.

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The meeting closed at 10.56.