



# RAPID

EDIÇÃO DA REPRESENTAÇÃO DA COMISSÃO EUROPEIA EM PORTUGAL

## COMUNICADO DE IMPRENSA

Lisboa, 17 de março de 2016

- **Conselho: declarações prévias do Presidente da Comissão Europeia**

As declarações do Presidente Jean Claude-Juncker à imprensa antes do Conselho podem ser vistas (e livremente utilizadas pelos meios de comunicação social) [aqui](#).

- **President Juncker announces European Commission will recommend visa-free travel for Ukraine in April**

This morning, President **Juncker** met with Council President Donald Tusk, and Petro Poroshenko, President of Ukraine. At the joint press point, President **Juncker** said: *"The European Commission stands by Ukraine. Yesterday we decided a new humanitarian aid package worth €20 million. This is showing our ongoing support for Ukraine and for the reform process in that country, which is a very impressive one"*. Regarding visa liberalisation with Ukraine, President **Juncker** added: *"We have a shared interest in making it easier for our citizens to travel to each other's countries. Ukraine, in the last days and hours, has undertaken huge reforms, mainly as far as the adoption of the e-declarations law is concerned or as far as the appointment of the members of the Anti-corruption Agency is concerned. These steps taken by Ukraine will allow us as the Commission to make a proposal for visa liberalisation in April."* The full statement is available [online](#). (For more information: Mina Andreeva – Tel.: +32 229 91382). Video available [here](#).

- **Aviation Safety: European High-Level Task Force tackles conflict-zones overflight**

Assembled in the aftermath of the downing of Malaysian Airlines flight MH17, the European High-Level Task Force on Conflict Zones today handed its final report to Violeta **Bulc**, EU Commissioner for Transport. This report contains recommendations to address the risks to civil aviation when flying over conflict zones. In particular, it recommends the development of a common European risk assessment of conflict zones and a quick alert mechanism to notify the aviation community, including passengers. More information is available [here](#). (For more information: Jakub Adamowicz – Tel.: +32 229 50595; Alexis Perier - Tel.: +32 229 69143)

- **EUROSTAT: Annual inflation down to -0.2% in the euro area**



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Euro area annual inflation was -0.2% in February 2016, down from 0.3% in January 2016. In February 2015 the rate was -0.3%. European Union annual inflation was also -0.2% in February 2016, down from 0.3% in January. A year earlier the rate was -0.3%. These figures come from Eurostat, the statistical office of the European Union. In February 2016, negative annual rates were observed in fifteen Member States. The lowest annual rates were registered in Cyprus (-2.2%) and Romania (-2.1%). The highest annual rates were recorded in Belgium (1.1%), Austria and Malta (both 1.0%). Compared with January 2016, annual inflation fell in twenty Member States, remained stable in one and rose in six. The largest upward impacts to euro area annual inflation came from restaurants and cafes (+0.13 percentage points), rents (+0.08 pp) and fruit (+0.06 pp), while fuels for transport (-0.49 pp), heating oil (-0.24 pp) and gas (-0.10 pp) had the biggest downward impacts. A Eurostat press release is [available online](#). (For more information: Annika Breidhardt – Tel.: +32 229 56153; Annikky Lamp – Tel.: +32 229 56151)

- **EUROSTAT: Euro area international trade in goods surplus €6.2 bn**

The first estimate for euro area (EA19) exports of goods to the rest of the world in January 2016 was €145.3 billion, a decrease of 2% compared with January 2015 (€148.0 bn). Imports from the rest of the world stood at €139.1 bn, a fall of 1% compared with January 2015 (€140.9 bn). As a result, the euro area recorded a €6.2 bn surplus in trade in goods with the rest of the world in January 2016, compared with +€7.1 bn in January 2015. Intra-euro area trade remained stable at €132.5 bn in January 2016 compared with January 2015. A Eurostat press release is [available online](#). (For more information: Daniel Rosario – Tel.: +32 229 56 185; Clémence Robin – Tel.: +32 229 52 509)

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