



# RAPID

EDIÇÃO DA REPRESENTAÇÃO DA COMISSÃO EUROPEIA EM PORTUGAL

## COMUNICADO DE IMPRENSA

Lisboa, 4 de maio de 2016

### **Commission presents proposals for a sustainable and fair Common European Asylum System**

Today the European Commission is presenting proposals to reform the [Common European Asylum System](#) by creating a fairer, more efficient and more sustainable system for allocating asylum applications among Member States. The basic principle will remain the same – asylum seekers should, unless they have family elsewhere, apply for asylum in the first country they enter – but a new fairness mechanism will ensure no Member State is left with a disproportionate pressure on its asylum system. Today's proposals also include transforming the existing European Asylum Support Office ([EASO](#)) into a fully-fledged European Union Agency for Asylum to reflect its enhanced role in the new system and reinforcing of the EU's fingerprinting database, Eurodac, in order to better manage the asylum system and to help tackle irregular migration. A [Press Release](#), [Memo](#) and [Factsheet](#) are available online.

### **Commission opens the way for decision by European Parliament and Council on visa-free travel for citizens of Turkey**

The European Commission is today proposing to the European Parliament and Council of the European Union to lift the visa requirements for the citizens of Turkey, under the understanding that the Turkish authorities will fulfil, as a matter of urgency and as they committed to do so on 18 March 2016, the outstanding benchmarks of its Visa Liberalisation Roadmap. The proposal is presented together with a Report on progress by Turkey in fulfilling the requirements of the Roadmap. Visa liberalisation for Turkey is a key component of the EU-Turkey Statement of 18 March 2016 which stated that the fulfilment of the visa liberalisation roadmap will be accelerated with a view to lifting the visa requirements for Turkish citizens at the latest by the end of June 2016, provided that all benchmarks have been met. A [Press Release](#), [Memo](#) and [Factsheet](#) on today's report and proposals are available online.

### **Back to Schengen: Commission takes next steps towards lifting of temporary internal border controls**

The Commission has today proposed a [Recommendation](#), to be decided upon by the Council, to prolong proportionate controls at certain internal Schengen borders, namely in Germany, Austria, Sweden, Denmark and Norway for a maximum period of six months. National measures have already been introduced by these countries

to address the threat to public policy and internal security resulting from the secondary movements of irregular migrants. Today's draft Recommendation proposes to extend these measures, in line with the Schengen Borders Code, as, and despite significant progress made by Greece, not all of the serious deficiencies identified could be adequately and comprehensively addressed within the three months' limit. A [Press Release](#), and [Memo](#) are available online.

### **Commission proposes visa-free travel for the people of Kosovo**

The European Commission is today proposing to the Council of the European Union and the European Parliament to lift the visa requirements for the people of Kosovo by transferring Kosovo to the visa-free list for short-stays in the Schengen area. The [proposal](#) is presented together with the Commission's [positive assessment](#) confirming that Kosovo has fulfilled the requirements of its visa liberalisation roadmap. A [Press Release](#) is available online.

### **State of Play: Implementation of the EU-Turkey Statement**

An updated Memo on the implementation of the EU-Turkey Statement has been published today, providing the latest information on the assurances provided on the protection of asylum seekers returned to Turkey, the number of arrivals, returns and resettlements, and the deployment of Frontex and EASO staff. The Memo is available [here](#).

### **Commissioner Bulc visits Brussels Airport, pays tribute to the victims of March 22 attacks**

EU Commissioner for Transport Violeta **Bulc** yesterday visited Brussels Airport, following the reopening of the departures hall. After the visit, Commissioner **Bulc** said *"I would like to thank Brussels Airport CEO, Mr Arnaud Feist for his invitation. I came today to pay my respects to all the victims of the 22 March attacks. All my thoughts are with their families, their friends and with all of those who were left wounded. I also came to express my support and admiration for all the employees of Brussels Airport. They worked tirelessly to resume operations within days of the attacks and to quickly reopen most of the departure hall. I also discussed with Mr Feist the security measures in place at Brussels Airport and what is being done at EU level. My opinion is that transport should remain open and accessible to the travelling public, with the highest possible level of security."*

### **Commission welcomes agreement to make public sector websites and apps more accessible**

Negotiators of the European Parliament, the Council and the Commission agreed last night on the first EU-wide rules to make the websites and mobile apps of public sector bodies more accessible, especially for the blind, the deaf and the hard of hearing. The Directive will cover public sector bodies' websites and mobile apps, from administrations, courts and police departments to public hospitals, universities and libraries. Andrus **Ansip**, Vice-President for the [Digital Single Market](#), welcomed the agreement: *"Internet access should be a reality for everyone. Leaving millions of Europeans behind is not an option. Last night's agreement is an important step towards a Digital Single Market, which is about removing barriers so that all Europeans can get the best from the digital world."* Günther H. **Oettinger**, Commissioner for the Digital Economy and Society, said: *"It is not acceptable that millions of European citizens are left behind in the digital society. The agreement that we have just reached will ensure that everyone has the same opportunity to enjoy the benefits of the internet and mobile apps, to*

*participate in society to a fuller extent and to lead a more independent life." A press release is available [here](#) in all EU languages.*

### **Commission publishes results of two public consultations under Digital Single Market Strategy**

The Commission has today published two reports as part of its preparatory work to create a [Digital Single Market](#). The first one is related to the public consultation on the review of the EU Satellite and Cable Directive (more information [here](#)). The objectives of the consultation were to collect views on how stakeholders evaluate the requirements of the Directive and on the possibility of extending some of its principles in light of market and technological developments as well as online practices. The Commission will take account of the results of the public consultation in its ongoing work to facilitate cross-border access to content in the EU. The second report published today covers the public consultation on the technical measures related to the end of roaming charges in the EU. A few days after a new decrease in roaming charges, the Commission is fully working on the preparation of the end of roaming charges set for June 2017. The results of the public consultation will notably contribute to the review of wholesale markets (i.e. the prices that operators charge each other for the use of their networks) to be presented in the coming weeks (more information [here](#)). Vice-President **Ansip**, in charge of the Digital Single Market, and Commissioner **Oettinger**, in charge of the Digital Economy and Society, said: *"We have now analysed almost all the contributions to the public consultations that we have launched under the Digital Single Market Strategy. One year after we presented our plans, we are on the right track to translate them into concrete proposals. Our next set of initiatives should be on the table at the end of the month. They will boost e-commerce in the EU and contribute to creating the rights conditions for a thriving digital economy and society, with modern rules for audiovisual media and policy directions in the area of online platforms"*.

### **Eurostat: Over a million persons died in the EU from a heart attack or a stroke**

In the European Union (EU) in 2013, heart attacks (around 644 000 deaths) and strokes (almost 433 000 deaths) were the cause of death for almost 1.1 million persons, accounting for slightly more than 1 in 5 deaths (21.6%). Since 2000 however, the share of both fatal heart attacks and fatal strokes has continuously decreased in the EU, from being responsible for 16.6% and 11.5% respectively of all deaths in 2000, to 12.9% and 8.7% in 2013. Commissioner for Health and Food Safety, Vytenis **Andriukaitis**, commented: *"In 2013 over one million EU citizens died from heart attacks or strokes. This number is simply terrifying, especially because cardiovascular diseases are largely preventable. We must at all levels and in all relevant sectors continue to address the risk factors of chronic disease: tobacco, alcohol, unhealthy diets and lack of exercise. Tobacco alone is responsible for nearly 700 000 premature deaths in the EU every year. My hope is that the EU Tobacco Products Directive – which starts to apply as of 20 May – will greatly discourage smoking and, as such, premature death in the EU."* A Eurostat press release is available [here](#).

### **Eurostat: Le volume des ventes du commerce de détail en baisse de 0,5% dans la zone euro**

En mars 2016 par rapport à février 2016, le volume des ventes du commerce de détail corrigé des variations saisonnières a diminué de 0,5% dans la zone euro (ZE19) et de 0,7% dans l'UE28, selon les estimations d'Eurostat, l'office statistique

de l'Union européenne. En février, le commerce de détail avait progressé de 0,3% dans la zone euro et était resté stable dans l'UE28. Un communiqué de presse est disponible [ici](#).

### **EU-Japan Leaders' Meeting**

European Commission President, Jean-Claude **Juncker**, met Japanese Prime Minister, Shinzō Abe, on 3 May in Brussels. Prime Minister Abe is touring European capitals to prepare the [G7 Summit](#) of 26-27 May in Ise-Shima. In his [statement](#), President **Juncker** called on the G7 to show unity and leadership in the face of complex challenges. *"This is especially true of migration, one of the defining global challenges of our century,"* said the President. *"The international community must do its fair share, by helping to resettle refugees and by providing assistance."* The meeting also focused on the need to stimulate the global economy: *"This is why our Free Trade Agreement with Japan is so important,"* said President **Juncker**. *"Our negotiations have progressed but now we must finish the job. I am confident we can do this before the end of this year."*

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