



Council of the  
European Union

Brussels, 10 May 2021  
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**NOTE**

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From: General Secretariat of the Council  
To: Permanent Representatives Committee

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Subject: Special meeting of the European Council (24 and 25 May 2021)  
– Draft guidelines for conclusions

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*With a view to the forthcoming meeting of the European Council, delegations will find below the state of progress regarding the various topics on its agenda. Where possible, first indications are given on the elements the President of the European Council intends to include in the draft of the conclusions.*

*Member States are invited to provide their reactions, in order to help guide the preparations for the draft European Council conclusions which will be submitted in one week.*

## **I. COVID-19**

The European Council will take stock of the epidemiological situation and of efforts to increase the production, delivery and deployment of vaccines. It will also review coordination efforts in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, international solidarity and the use of the Digital Green Certificate.

## **II. CLIMATE CHANGE *[draft conclusions]***

1. The European Council reaffirms its conclusions of 10-11 December 2020. It welcomes the agreement reached by the co-legislators on the Climate Law proposal.
2. As additional guidance, following up on its previous conclusions, the European Council:
  - reaffirms the need to maintain national targets under the Effort Sharing Regulation and to preserve its broad scope to stimulate effective measures at national level;
  - confirms that the distribution of efforts among Member States should be based on the criteria of the existing Effort Sharing Regulation;
  - underlines the need to strengthen EU-wide sectoral measures and policies to achieve greenhouse gas emission reductions.
3. The European Council invites the Commission to swiftly put forward its legislative package accompanied by an in-depth examination of the environmental, economic and social impact at Member States level.
4. The EU welcomes the renewed commitment of the United States and its rejoining of the Paris Agreement. The EU underlines its readiness to seize the momentum at the global level and calls on its international partners to increase their ambition, with a view to the COP26 meeting in Glasgow.

### III. RUSSIA

In line with the Statement of the Members of the European Council of 25 March 2021, the European Council will hold a strategic debate on relations between the EU and Russia.

### IV. UK

The European Council will review the implementation of the Trade and Cooperation Agreement.

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