



Friday, 16h September, 2016

## President Juncker in Bratislava, Slovakia, for the informal meeting of the 27 EU Heads of State of Government

Today, President **Juncker** is attending the informal meeting of the 27 EU Heads of State or Government taking place in Bratislava, Slovakia. [Arriving at the informal meeting](#), President **Juncker** said: "*Today is about overcoming differences. We need unity for Europe to work*". There will be a press conference taking place this evening, currently scheduled for 18:30, with President **Juncker**, Council President Donald Tusk, and Slovak Prime Minister **Robert Fico**. Follow it live on [EbS](#).

## EU teams up with alliance of developed and developing countries in final push for first-ever global deal to curb international aviation emissions

In a [joint statement](#) published today, Commissioner for Climate Action and Energy Miguel **Arias Cañete** and Commissioner for Transport Violeta **Bulc** call on international partners to join them in securing the first ever global scheme to curb CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from international aviation. The statement is supported by the Republic of the Marshall Islands and Mexico as participants in the High Ambition Coalition – the alliance of developed and developing countries that helped broker the Paris Agreement. In it, the Commissioners stress the importance of ensuring that the aviation sector contributes to achieving the global emission goals agreed in Paris. They write: "*It is crucial that we once again work together as a High Ambition Coalition to secure an ambitious and robust Global Market-Based Measure, with broad participation and the widest possible emission coverage, to make the objective of stabilising CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from international aviation from 2020 a reality (...). As participants in the High Ambition Coalition, we are inviting you to encourage as many ICAO states as possible, in particular all major aviation states, to join from the beginning of the scheme, and to declare their intention to opt in as soon as possible, and no later than at the Assembly. Together, we must ensure, through our own action and encouraging the action of others, that the Assembly achieves the highest possible participation.*" The Assembly of the UN's [International Civil Aviation Organisation](#) (ICAO) will meet in Montreal from 27 September to 7 October and, after years of work, is set to adopt a Global Market-Based Measure (GMBM). The statement can be accessed in full [here](#), as well as the [annex](#) of all the countries that have announced they will join the scheme from the start. More information on the position of the European Union and its Member States ahead of the Assembly is available [here](#).

## High-level EU attendance at UN Migration Summit and 71<sup>st</sup> UN General Assembly

A high-level delegation of the European Union will travel to New York next week to participate at the UN Summit on large movements of refugees and migrants on 19 September, as well as to take part in this year's UN General Assembly from 20 to 29 September. First Vice-President Frans **Timmermans** and High Representative/Vice-President Federica **Mogherini** will join European Council President Tusk at the UN Migration Summit and the UN General Debate. Vice-President Kristalina **Georgieva**, Commissioner for European Neighbourhood Policy and Enlargement Negotiations Johannes **Hahn**, Commissioner for International Cooperation and Development Neven **Mimica**, Commissioner for Climate Action and Energy Miguel **Arias Cañete**, Commissioner for Health and Food Safety Vytenis **Andriuskaitis**, Commissioner for Migration, Home Affairs and Citizenship Dimitris **Avramopoulos**, and Commissioner for Humanitarian Aid and Crisis Management Christos **Stylianides** will also participate in high-level meetings at the UN and in New York City throughout the week. For updates follow [@EUatUN](#) and #UNGA. Find more information on EU-UN Partnership in this [factsheet](#). The EU press pack for the UN Migration Summit is available [here](#)

### **La Commission approuve une nouvelle indication géographique d'Italie**

La Commission européenne a approuvé la demande d'inscription d'un produit italien, «[Sicilia](#)», dans le registre des indications géographiques protégées (IGP). Il s'agit d'une huile d'olive vierge extra caractérisée par une saveur particulière fruitée et des arômes d'herbe, de tomate et d'artichaut. La culture, la récolte et l'extraction de l'huile doivent avoir lieu en Sicile. Les entreprises productrices d'huile d'olive vierge extra «Sicilia» ont été dernièrement récompensées par de nombreux prix dans les concours oléicoles internationaux. Cette nouvelle appellation, la 285<sup>ème</sup> d'Italie, va rejoindre plus de 1360 produits déjà protégés dont la liste est disponible dans la base de données [DOOR](#). Pour plus d'informations, voir aussi les pages sur la [politique de qualité](#).

### **Commission authorises GMOs for food and feed use**

The Commission authorised today the placing on the market of products - for food and feed purposes - containing, consisting of, or produced from various Genetically Modified maize. The 11 Genetically Modified Organisms (GMOs) concerned have gone through a comprehensive authorisation procedure, including a favourable scientific assessment by the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA). The Commission adopted the pending decisions according to that procedure. The authorisations are valid for 10 years, and any product produced from these GMOs will be subject to the EU's strict labelling and traceability rules. The authorisation decisions do not cover cultivation. For details please see: [here](#).

### **EUROSTAT: Second quarter of 2016 - Annual growth in labour costs down to 1.0% in euro area - Down to 1.4% in EU28**

Hourly labour costs rose by 1.0% in the **euro area** (EA19) and by 1.4% the **EU28** in the second quarter of 2016, compared with the same quarter of the previous year. In the first quarter of 2016, hourly labour costs increased by 1.6% in both zones. These figures are published by **Eurostat, the statistical office of the European Union** [Full text available on EUROSTAT website](#)

### **EUROSTAT: Second quarter of 2016 - Euro area job vacancy rate stable at 1.7% - EU28 rate stable at 1.8%**

The job vacancy rate in the **euro area** (EA19) was 1.7% in the second quarter of 2016, stable compared with the previous quarter, but up from 1.5% in the second quarter of 2015, according to figures published

by Eurostat, the statistical office of the European Union. The job vacancy rate in the EU28 was 1.8% in the second quarter of 2016, stable compared with the previous quarter, but up from 1.7% in the second quarter of 2015. [Full text available on EUROSTAT website](#)

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### EU supports the shift to low-emission urban mobility with the EUROPEANMOBILITYWEEK 2016

Today the European Commission is launching the fifteenth annual EUROPEAN MOBILITY WEEK (16-22 September), with events in over 2,000 European cities. This includes the organisation of car-free days in a number of European towns. Urban transport accounts for 23% of the EU's greenhouse gas emissions and the EUROPEANMOBILITYWEEK encourages individual changes in mobility habits to reduce emissions in cities. These actions form part of the [strategy for low-emission mobility](#) adopted by the Commission on 20 July. The implementation of this strategy will be a priority in 2017 as announced by President Jean-Claude Juncker in his [State of the Union address 2016](#). EU Commissioner for Transport Violeta Bulc said: "2,063 local authorities from 48 countries registered their participation. I am very happy to see Washington D.C., Buenos Aires, Almati, Kyoto and 48 cities from Russia. This week is about getting individuals and local authorities - big and small - on board. We are moving towards smart mobility, by integrating technology into transport. Smart mobility can reduce traffic jams in European cities and help cut the 100 billion euro congestion price-tag, making our cities more liveable!". More information on the EUROPEANMOBILITYWEEK is available [here](#).

### Commissioner Vella announces EU to host global 'Our Ocean' 2017 conference in Malta

Karmenu Vella, Commissioner for Environment, Maritime Affairs and Fisheries is today in Washington DC at the 2016 [Our Ocean Conference](#). The conference, hosted by US Secretary of State John Kerry, was addressed by US President Barack Obama. During the meeting Commissioner Vella will announce that the next 'Our Ocean' Conference will be hosted by the EU and take place in Malta. This choice is a significant recognition of the efforts of Commissioner Vella, and the EU as a whole, to help deliver international cooperation on ocean issues. It builds on Vella's pledge that the EU plays a key role in improving Ocean Governance. President Obama praised the EU during his address, saying that the urgency of the issue and the need to act "was why the EU was so quick to raise its hand and offer to host the Our Ocean Conference in 2017". Commissioner Vella, in his [speech](#), noted: "If we want to ensure a more sustainable use of the oceans and their resources, we need to close legal gaps, cooperate more effectively and strengthen enforcement – in short, we need better ocean governance. I therefore intend to launch a major initiative on international ocean governance before the end of the year. We need to keep the momentum for change. In this spirit, I am proud that the European Union will be hosting the fourth edition of the Our Ocean conference in Malta on 5-6 October 2017. In the spirit of Washington and Chile, it will follow up on previous commitments and seek new ones". The 2017 conference will build on the issues of the ocean and climate change, marine pollution and sustainable fishing. It will further develop how the Ocean can contribute to sustainable blue growth, including through new energy sources such as tidal and wave technology.

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COMING UP

**Wednesday 21 September: A transatlantic Citizens' Dialogue on tax avoidance and privacy in the digital age**

Columbia University in New York will host the EU Commissioner for Competition, Margrethe Vestager, who will discuss tax avoidance and privacy issues in the digital economy with the 2001 Nobel Laureate in Economics and University Professor Joseph E.



Find out [here](#) what will be discussed next week in the European Commission, the European Council and the European Parliament.