

**State of the
Union 2026**

Timeline

second year in office

Von der Leyen Commission
2024-2029

State of the Union 2026

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BELGIUM

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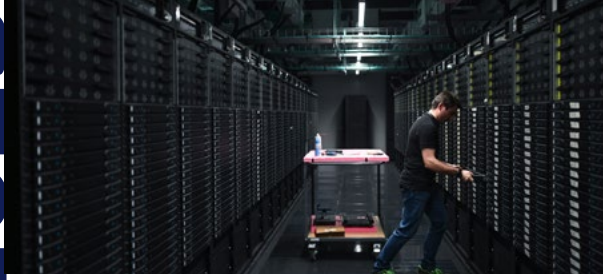
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SEPTEMBER 2025**12.9**

The EU Data Act starts to apply in the EU. It gives users control over data generated by their connected devices and increases access to high-quality data.

**15.9**

The European Commission launches the European Strategy on Research and Technology Infrastructures to give scientists and researchers better access to Europe's cutting-edge facilities and high-quality data and encourage the world's researchers and innovators to 'Choose Europe'.

**17.9**

In response to the war and the humanitarian situation in Gaza, the Commission proposes suspending specific trade-related sections of the EU-Israel Association Agreement and puts forward additional restrictive measures targeting Hamas, extremist ministers and violent settlers.

**17.9**

The Commission and the High Representative adopt a New Strategic EU-India Agenda.

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**23.9**

The EU and Indonesia conclude negotiations on the ambitious EU–Indonesia Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement, marking a major step forward in bilateral relations.

**24.9**

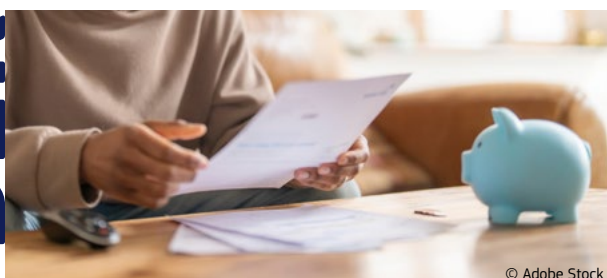
At the Protecting Children in the Digital Age event, President von der Leyen confirms her SOTEU announcement to establish a panel of experts to study action at European level to protect minors online.

**24.9**

The Commission provides an additional €50 million in emergency humanitarian aid to address the pressing needs in Gaza and the West Bank.

**27.9**

President von der Leyen presents a €545 million Team Europe package to accelerate Africa's clean energy transition, as part of the Scaling up Renewables in Africa campaign.

**30.9**

The Commission presents a Financial Literacy Strategy and a new model of Savings and Investment Accounts. These initiatives form part of the Savings and Investments Union.

**3.10**

Nearly €1.6 billion in EU support has been mobilised to help Spain recover from the devastating 2024 floods in Valencia.

OCTOBER



8.10

The Commission launches the Apply AI Strategy and the AI in Science Strategy to accelerate the uptake of AI across the EU.



8.10

The Commission adopts the LGBTIQ+ Equality Strategy 2026–2030, aiming to combat discrimination and hatred while promoting equality, freedom and diversity.



9.10

New rules enter into force to enable people and businesses to send instant payments and transfer money in euro within seconds.



9–10.10

At the Global Gateway Forum, the EU and Team Europe launch a series of investment packages in Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean. In total, Team Europe has so far mobilised over €300 billion under the Global Gateway, surpassing its target two years ahead of schedule.



12.10

Member States start introducing the Entry/Exit System at their external borders.



16.10

The Commission and the High Representative propose the Defence Readiness Roadmap 2030 to improve European defence capabilities, including several flagship projects: the Eastern Flank Watch, the European Drone Defence Initiative, the European Air Shield and the European Space Shield.



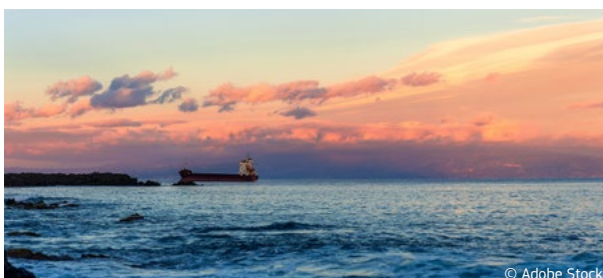
21.10

The Commission presents a Strategy for Generational Renewal in Agriculture, aiming to support young farmers and attract more people to farming.



22.10

At the first-ever EU–Egypt Summit, President von der Leyen and Egyptian President Abdel Fattah al-Sisi announce a financial assistance programme for Egypt worth €4 billion, a financing agreement of €75 million and an agreement formalising Egypt's association with Horizon Europe.



23.10

The EU adopts the 19th package of sanctions against Russia, significantly expanding restrictions on Russian energy, finance and access to dual-use technologies.



25.10

At the 2025 Berlin Global Dialogue, President von der Leyen announces the RESourceEU plan, an initiative aiming to secure access to alternative sources of critical raw materials for European industry.



28.10

The Commission launches the Critical Chemicals Alliance, intending to increase the competitiveness and resilience of Europe's chemical sector.



28.10

The Commission partners with private investors to prepare the creation of a multibillion-euro Scaleup Europe Fund to mobilise private capital and support the growth of innovative European scale-ups.



29.10

The upgraded EU–Ukraine Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Area enters into force.



3.11

At the European AI in Science Summit in Copenhagen, Denmark, the Commission launches the pilot scheme of the Resource for AI Science in Europe initiative and the European Strategy for AI in Science, with €107 million in funding, aiming to drive transformative scientific breakthroughs across disciplines with AI.



5.11

The Commission adopts a comprehensive transport package to accelerate the deployment of Europe's high-speed rail network and stimulate investment in renewable and low-carbon fuels for aviation and shipping.



6.11

The Commission adopts the European Innovation Council Work Programme for 2026, allocating €1.4 billion to support deep-tech entrepreneurs and researchers and to boost innovation.



6.11

At COP30 in Belém, Brazil, President von der Leyen reaffirms the EU's commitment to the Paris Agreement.



10.11

Switzerland joins Horizon Europe, the Digital Europe Programme and the Euratom Research and Training Programme.



12.11

The Commission presents the European Democracy Shield and the EU Strategy for Civil Society to encourage stronger engagement, support civil-society organisations and promote resilient democracies across the EU.



12.11

The Commission launches the new Culture Compass for Europe, designed to shape EU cultural policy and ensure its central role in building Europe's identity.



18.11

The Commission imposes safeguarding measures on imports of certain ferroalloys to protect the industry in the EU, with country-specific tariff-rate quotas applied until November 2028.



19.11

The Commission and the High Representative present the Military Mobility Package to build a military Schengen that ensures the seamless movement of troops, equipment and other military assets across the EU.



19.11

The Commission adopts the 2030 Consumer Agenda, a strategic plan to strengthen consumer protection, promote sustainable consumption and ensure effective enforcement and redress.



19.11

The Commission unveils a digital omnibus to simplify EU digital rules on AI, cybersecurity and data, a Data Union Strategy to unlock high-quality data for AI and European Business Wallets to digitise business transactions.



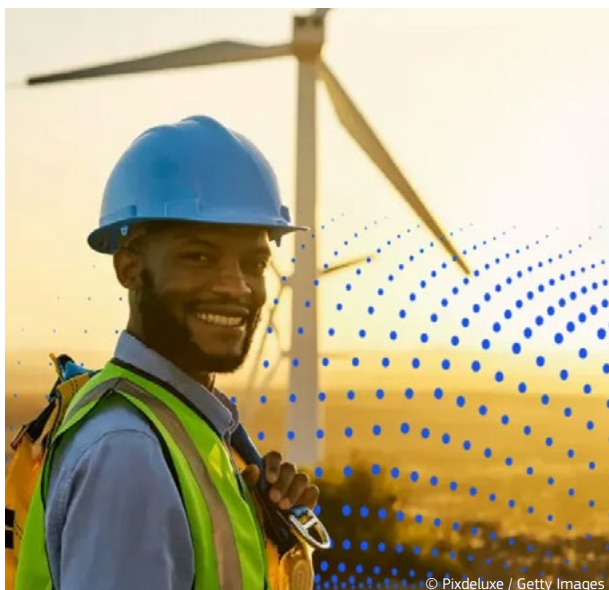
20.11

The Commission adopts a package to strengthen supplementary pensions, aiming to help citizens diversify their retirement income, support security in later life and provide opportunities for productive investments that support the European economy.



20.11

Ahead of the G20 Summit, the EU and South Africa sign a Clean Trade and Investment Partnership.



21.11

At the Scaling up Renewables in Africa pledging summit, President von der Leyen highlights the pledges of around €15.5 billion to support Africa's clean energy transition, of which €15.1 billion comes from Team Europe. The campaign also secures commitments that will generate 26.8 GW of renewable energy and bring renewable electricity to 17.5 million households.



24–25.11

President von der Leyen and António Costa, President of the European Council, participate in the seventh EU–African Union Summit in Luanda, Angola, marking 25 years of partnership.



27.11

The Commission presents a new Strategic Framework for a Competitive and Sustainable EU Bioeconomy, focusing on the use of renewable biological resources.



27.11

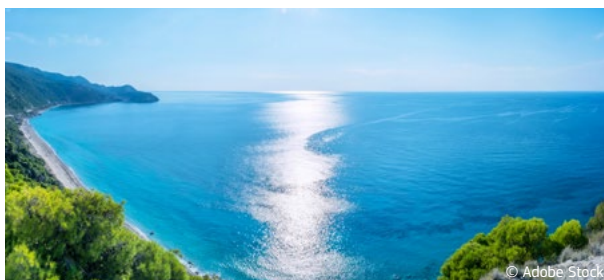
The Commission launches the Skills Guarantee, a flagship initiative of the Union of Skills, to tackle labour shortages in strategic sectors.



28.11

The Commission launches a new prevention, preparedness and response plan for health crises, providing stakeholders with tools to enable coordinated action during health emergencies.

DECEMBER

**28.11**

The EU and southern Mediterranean partners jointly launch the Pact for the Mediterranean, deepening cooperation and taking an important step toward a more stable, secure and prosperous common Mediterranean space.

**1.12**

To strengthen energy interconnectivity and independence, the Commission grants 235 cross-border energy projects the status of Projects of Common Interest and Projects of Mutual Interest.

**3.12**

The Commission adopts the RESourceEU Action Plan to secure access to critical raw materials and reduce the EU's overdependence.

**3.12**

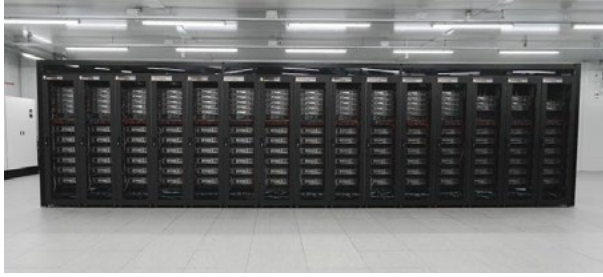
The Commission and the High Representative set out a strengthened EU approach to economic security.

**3.12**

The co-legislators reach a political agreement to ensure a gradual but permanent end of Russian gas imports with LNG imports phased out by 31 December 2026 and pipeline gas by 30 September 2027.

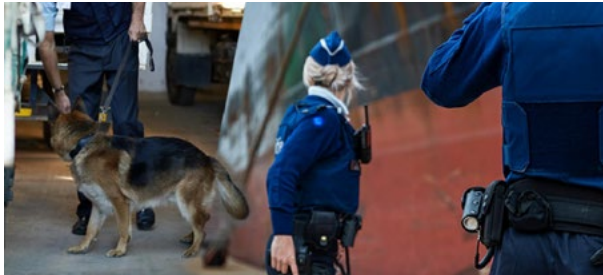
**3.12**

The Commission unveils the EU Agenda for Cities, to help cities address local issues while advancing wider EU objectives by facilitating dialogue, simplifying EU support and increasing investment.



4.12

The Commission signs a memorandum of understanding with the European Investment Bank and the European Investment Fund to support the development of AI gigafactories.



4.12

To protect citizens and combat criminal networks, the Commission presents a new EU Drugs Strategy and an Action Plan against Drug Trafficking.



4.12

The Commission presents the Quality Jobs Roadmap, focusing on creating quality and future-proof jobs while supporting and protecting workers.



4.12

The Commission adopts a package to further integrate EU financial markets, streamline supervision and eliminate barriers to integration in trading, post-trading and asset management across Member States.



4.12

The Commission launches three new funding opportunities under the Innovation Fund, worth €5.2 billion, funded by EU Emissions Trading System revenues.



9.12

The Commission announces strengthened controls on food, animal and plant products entering the EU, aiming to maintain the highest levels of food safety for people living in the Union.



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10.12

The Commission proposes the European Grids Package, to accelerate the development of energy infrastructure across the EU, and the Energy Highways initiative, to provide short-term support to eight of the most urgent energy infrastructure projects.



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10.12

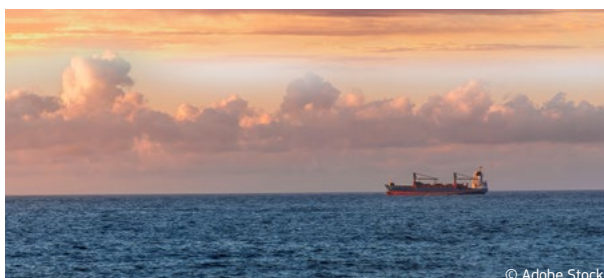
The EU sets a legally binding climate target to cut net greenhouse gas emissions by 90 % by 2040, compared to 1990 levels, providing a clear path to achieving climate neutrality by 2050.



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10.12

The Commission presents a package to simplify environmental legislation, aiming to cut administrative burdens, speed up permitting for key projects and support competitiveness while maintaining environmental and health protections.



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15.12

EU Member States adopt supplementary sanctions targeting the Russian shadow fleet and Belarus, increasing pressure to curb energy revenues and counter hybrid threats.



16.12

The Commission presents the Automotive Package to support the transition to clean mobility, combining an ambitious yet pragmatic framework for climate neutrality and strategic autonomy with greater flexibility and simplified rules for industry.



16.12

The Commission proposes a package to improve citizens' health and strengthen the resilience and competitiveness of the EU health sector. The package includes the Biotech Act, revised medical device rules and a Safe Hearts Plan.



16.12

The Commission proposes the first-ever European Affordable Housing Plan, aiming to increase housing supply and investment and improve access to affordable, sustainable and good-quality housing.



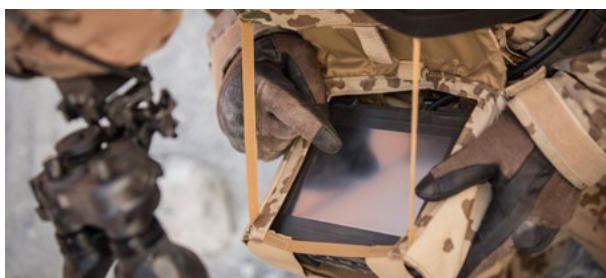
16.12

The Commission and the European Investment Bank announce the BioTechEU initiative, aiming to mobilise €10 billion in investment in 2026–2027 and improve the EU's competitiveness in biotechnology.



17.12

€1.8 billion from the Modernisation Fund, financed by the EU Emissions Trading System, is disbursed by the Commission and the European Investment Bank to support 45 clean energy projects in 12 Member States.



17.12

The Commission allocates €1 billion through the European Defence Fund to boost collaborative defence research, innovation and capability development across the EU.



18.12

The European Parliament and the Member States reach a political agreement on the Retail Investment Strategy, aiming to strengthen investor protection, empower retail investors to make informed investment decisions across the EU and create new funding opportunities for European businesses.

**22.12**

Member States adopt a decision establishing the annual solidarity pool for 2026, one of the main components of the Pact on Migration and Asylum. The pool includes the solidarity contributions pledged by other Member States with those designated by the Commission as being under migratory pressure.

23.12

The Commission unveils a new package of pilot measures to accelerate Europe's transition to a circular economy, with particular focus on strengthening circularity in the plastics sector.

30.12

The European Defence Industry Programme enters into force with funding of €1.5 billion. It aims to increase the EU's defence industrial capacity in close cooperation with Ukraine.

1.1

Bulgaria becomes the 21st Member State to adopt the euro as its currency, marking a key milestone for the Member State and the EU.

1.1

Spain and Portugal celebrate the 40th anniversary of their membership of the EU.



1.1

The Common Agricultural Policy Simplification Package enters into force, aiming to cut red tape for farmers and to simplify payment schemes and on-farm requirements.



8.1

The EU and Jordan deepen their partnership at their first-ever bilateral summit, reviewing progress on the EU–Jordan Strategic and Comprehensive Partnership, signed a year before, and setting priorities for the future.



9.1

President von der Leyen and President Costa visit Syria and then Lebanon. They meet with Syrian President Ahmed al-Sharaa in Damascus to start a new chapter in EU–Syrian relations. In Beirut, they focus on supporting reforms and economic recovery and strengthening security and defence.



14.1

The Commission adopts proposals to provide Ukraine with a €90 billion EU-backed loan for 2026–2027 to strengthen defence and maintain essential state functions, thus reinforcing the EU’s unwavering commitment to Ukraine’s security, resilience and path towards EU membership.



17.1

The EU and Mercosur sign a historic partnership agreement and an interim trade agreement in Asunción, Paraguay. The deal creates a market of over 700 million people and will save European businesses €4 billion in duties every year, while including important safeguards for Europe's sensitive agri-food sector.



20.1

The Commission adopts the new EU Anti-Racism Strategy for 2026–2030, aiming to combat racism in all its forms and build a Union of Equality where everyone can thrive.



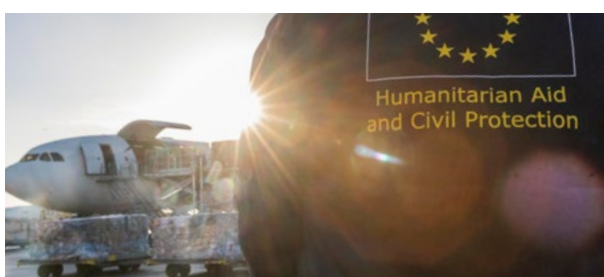
20.1

The Commission proposes a Cybersecurity Package to strengthen the EU's resilience to rising cyber and hybrid threats, including a revised Cybersecurity Act.



21.1

The Commission proposes the Digital Networks Act, aiming to strengthen connectivity across the Single Market, facilitate the use of innovative technologies, protect net neutrality, simplify investment and enhance network security and resilience.



21.1

The Commission announces a €1.9 billion humanitarian aid budget for 2026.



23.1

The EU deploys 447 emergency generators to Ukraine to restore power to hospitals, shelters and critical services, after Russian strikes leave over 1 million people without electricity.



23.1

The EU and the Council of Europe agree to finance an advance team to establish the Special Tribunal for the Crime of Aggression against Ukraine, to prepare the ground to prosecute senior political and military leaders for the crime of aggression against Ukraine.



27.1

At a summit in New Delhi, the EU and India conclude a free trade agreement. It creates a market of 2 billion people, the largest in the world. The two partners also conclude a security and defence partnership.



28.1

The Commission announces that it will allocate nearly €650 million to 14 cross-border energy infrastructure projects, thereby strengthening energy security, renewable integration and competitiveness. For the first time, funding will support critical infrastructure protection and hydrogen projects.



29.1

The Commission presents the first European Asylum and Migration Management Strategy. It aims to prevent illegal migration and smuggling, protect those in need and attract talent to boost the EU's competitiveness.



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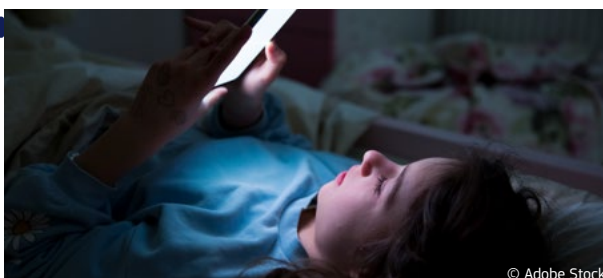
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29.1

The Commission adopts its first-ever EU Visa Strategy to modernise EU visa policy. It seeks to enhance security, simplify travel procedures, improve economic competitiveness and better utilise digital tools.

29.1

The Commission announces €153 million in emergency aid to support Ukraine and Moldova amid ongoing attacks on energy infrastructure.

29.1

The EU and Vietnam agree to upgrade their relations to a comprehensive strategic partnership.

1.2

The EU–Singapore Digital Trade Agreement enters into force.

3.2

The REPowerEU Regulation enters into force, aiming to permanently end the import of Russian gas and phase out Russian oil.

10.2

The Commission launches an Action Plan Against Cyberbullying to protect young people online.

FEBRUARY



10.2

The Parliament approves new rules on the safe-third-country concept and the EU's first list of safe countries of origin.



11.2

The Commission presents the Action Plan on Drone and Counter Drone Security to strengthen the prevention and detection of and the response to malicious drones.



14.2

At the 2026 Munich Security Conference, President von der Leyen stresses that Europe must become more independent and announces a new security strategy to be presented later in the year.



14.2

The EU and Canada sign an agreement for Canadian companies and products to participate in defence procurements financed under SAFE, signalling the close cooperation between the European and Canadian defence industries.



18.2

The Commission adopts a strategy to step up support for EU eastern regions bordering Belarus, Russia and Ukraine, focusing on security and resilience, economic development and support for communities affected by the impact of Russia's unprovoked invasion of Ukraine.



24.2

President von der Leyen and President Costa visit Kyiv to mark four years of Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine, reaffirming the EU's unwavering support and highlighting continued financial and military assistance.



24.2

The European Centre for Democratic Resilience begins operations, aiming to strengthen cooperation so as to counter disinformation and foreign interference and boost democratic resilience across the EU.



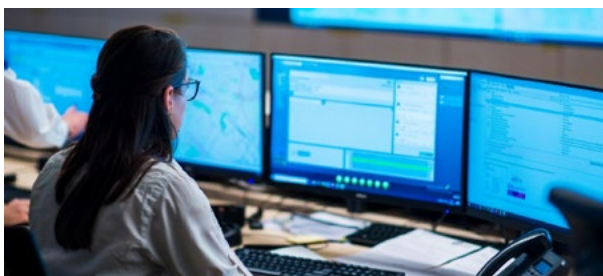
26.2

The Commission launches the EastInvest Facility to improve access to lending and advisory support for EU regions bordering Belarus, Russia and Ukraine. It aims to mobilise at least €28 billion in public and private investment.



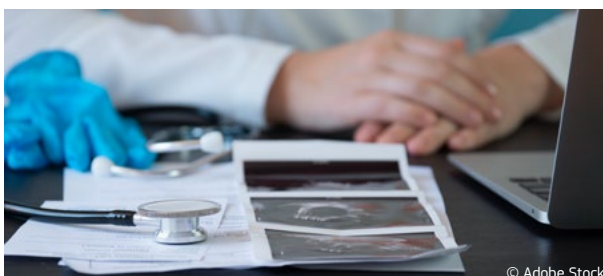
26.2

The Commission presents new EU rules to combat firearms trafficking by harmonising offences and penalties, strengthening cross-border cooperation and improving data collection, including on illicit weapons produced using 3D printing.



26.2

The Commission presents the ProtectEU Agenda to prevent and counter terrorism, proposing measures to anticipate threats, prevent radicalisation, protect people both online and offline and strengthen international cooperation.



26.2

The Commission replies to the European Citizens' Initiative 'My Voice My Choice', which calls for EU support for safe and accessible abortion.

MARCH**2.3**

President von der Leyen launches OceanEye to strengthen global ocean observation and cooperation.

**4.3**

The Commission adopts the Industrial Accelerator Act to increase demand for low-carbon, European-made products, strengthen manufacturing and supply chains, simplify permitting and support investment and job creation in strategic sectors.

**4.3**

The Commission launches the EU Industrial Maritime Strategy and the EU Ports Strategy, aiming to boost competitiveness, decarbonisation and security in the maritime sector.

**5.3**

The Commission presents a new Gender Equality Strategy for 2026–2030, setting out measures to tackle gender-based violence, close pay gaps and improve access to quality healthcare for all.

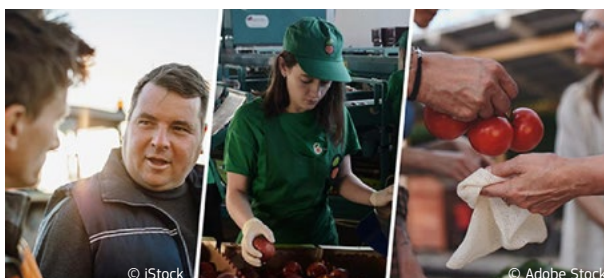
**5.3**

The Commission adopts the first Strategy on Intergenerational Fairness to ensure fair opportunities across generations and integrate youth perspectives into EU decision-making.



5.3

President von der Leyen hosts the first meeting of the Special Panel on Child Safety, which will provide recommendations to better protect children online while preserving the benefits of digital technologies.



5.3

The Parliament and the Council of the European Union reach a political agreement to strengthen farmers' position in the food supply chain.



9.3

The EU steps up civil protection efforts in response to the hostilities in Iran and escalating tensions in the Middle East, bringing back more than 13 000 stranded citizens with the first deployment of rescEU's transport capabilities.



10.3

The Commission presents the Clean Energy Investment Strategy, the Citizens Energy Package and the Strategy for Small Modular Reactors, aiming to increase investment in homegrown clean energy solutions, reduce energy prices and increase resilience.



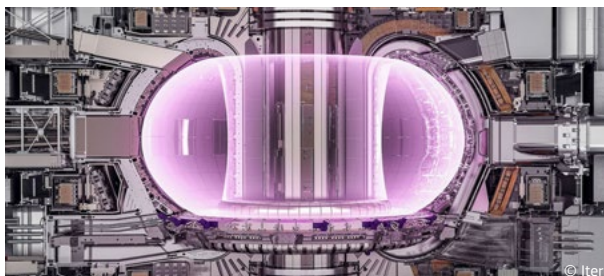
17.3

The Commission disburses €189 million to Moldova under the Reform and Growth Facility, supporting key reforms and the country's progress on its path towards EU membership.



18.3

The Commission presents EU Inc., a new optional, digital-by-default European company framework, introducing a single set of corporate rules to make it easier for businesses to start, operate and grow across the Single Market.



19.3

Through its Euratom Research and Training Programme, the EU will invest €330 million to advance nuclear research, including fusion energy and nuclear fission, thereby supporting energy independence, innovation and the clean transition.



24.3

The EU and Australia strengthen their partnership by concluding negotiations on a free trade agreement, launching a Security and Defence Partnership and advancing cooperation on research.



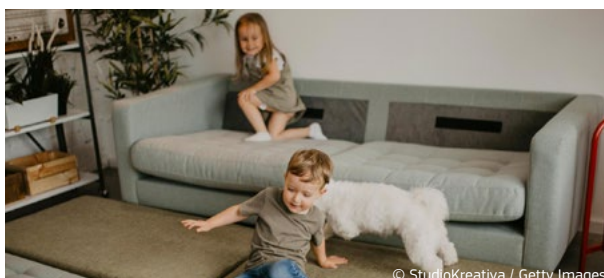
24.3

The EU and Ghana sign a Security and Defence Partnership.



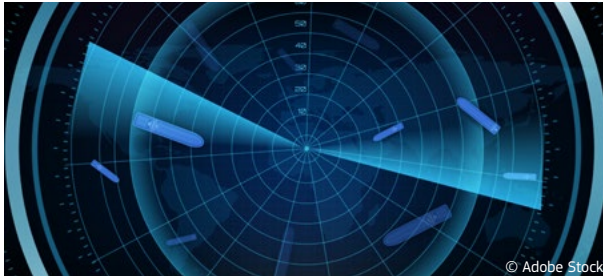
25.3

The Commission launches an integrated, holistic approach to wildfire risk management.



25.3

In the context of its mid-term review, Member States reallocate €34.6 billion from 2021–2027 cohesion policy funds to support key priorities, such as competitiveness, defence and preparedness, and affordable housing.

**25.3**

The Commission presents the Programme for Agile and Rapid Defence Innovation, a €115 million funding tool to accelerate disruptive defence technologies.

**30.3**

The Commission approves funding of €1.5 billion under the European Defence Industry Programme to increase production, support Ukraine, strengthen joint procurement and drive innovation in Europe's defence industry.

**30.3**

The Council adopts new EU rules harmonising insolvency proceedings to improve creditor recovery and simplify cross-border investment.

APRIL**1.4**

The Commission takes steps to implement the €90 billion Ukraine Support Loan, proposing €45 billion for 2026 and enabling rapid defence procurement – starting with drones – alongside budget support and safeguards.

**7.4**

At the One Health Summit, the Commission announces new global health commitments, including €700 million for the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria.

**9.4**

The Commission invests nearly €400 million in postdoctoral fellowships under the Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions, supporting researchers who contribute to cutting-edge research across Europe.



13.4

The Parliament and the Council reach a political agreement on measures to shield the EU steel sector from the negative effects of global overcapacity, thus protecting jobs and the industry's resilience.



15.4

The Commission selects 57 defence projects to receive €1.07 billion in funding under the European Defence Fund, supporting the priorities of the Defence Readiness Roadmap 2030.



15.4

The Commission's European age verification app is technically ready. It allows users to prove their age securely and anonymously when accessing online platforms.



15.4

The EU and the United Kingdom sign an agreement for the latter to rejoin the Erasmus+ programme from 2027.



16.4

Since the launch of the Pact for Skills in 2020, over 10 million people have benefited from its upskilling initiatives, which have supported skills development for the green and digital transitions through partnerships across industries and sectors.



17.4

To advance the Pact for the Mediterranean, the Commission launches 21 initiatives to strengthen cooperation with southern Mediterranean partners.



22.4

The Commission proposes **AccelerateEU**, a set of measures to protect households and businesses from the fossil energy crisis while accelerating the shift to clean, homegrown energy.



23.4

The EU adopts the 20th package of sanctions against Russia, introducing new measures targeting energy, financial and trade sectors and strengthening anti-circumvention tools.



24.4

The EU and the United States sign a strategic partnership on critical minerals to strengthen supply-chain cooperation and enhance resilience and diversification.



24.4

The European Parliament, the Council of the European Union and the European Commission sign the **One Europe, One Market Roadmap**, setting out concrete initiatives, targets and timelines to strengthen competitiveness and complete the Single Market by 2027.



28.4

The Commission presents a plan to make EU laws clearer, simpler and better enforced, so as to promote simplicity by design in lawmaking, reduce complexity, tackle gold-plating and ensure faster enforcement.



29.4

The Commission adopts a temporary State aid framework to support those sectors most affected by the Middle East crisis, allowing Member States to provide targeted and flexible support to agriculture, fisheries, transport and energy-intensive industries until the end of 2026.



30.4

The Commission opens a consultation on the drafting of new EU Merger Guidelines. This marks the most significant reform of EU merger control in two decades.

MAY



4–5.5

In Yerevan, the first EU–Armenia Summit focuses on deepening connectivity, security and economic ties.



6.5

The Commission proposes new measures to fight poverty and improve the lives of people with disabilities, including the EU's first Anti-poverty Strategy.



7.5

The Parliament and the Council reach a provisional agreement on the Digital Omnibus on AI, which involves simplifying the EU AI Act and introducing a ban on AI-generated non-consensual sexual imagery.

**11.5**

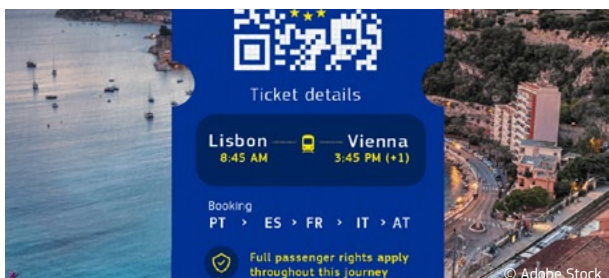
The EU, Canada and Ukraine host, in Brussels, the High-Level Meeting of the International Coalition for the Return of Ukrainian Children.

**13.5**

The Commission adopts the Global Health Resilience Initiative to position the EU as a leader in global health.

**13.5**

The Commission responds to the European Citizens' Initiative calling for a ban on conversion practices, recognising their harm and outlining available EU-level measures.

**13.5**

The Commission presents the Passenger Package to enable seamless cross-border rail travel via single-ticket bookings and enhance passenger rights across entire journeys.

**15.5**

The EU formally joins the Enlarged Partial Agreement of the Special Tribunal for the Crime of Aggression against Ukraine and ratifies the Convention establishing an International Claims Commission for Ukraine.

**19.5**

The Commission adopts the Fertiliser Action Plan to address rising prices, secure supply and support farmers.

**20.5**

The Parliament and the Council reach a political agreement on implementing EU tariff commitments under the EU–US Joint Statement of August 2025. Following the formal approval by the European Parliament and Council of the EU, the framework entered into force on 1 July 2026.

**22.5**

At the eighth EU–Mexico Summit, the EU and Mexico sign the Modernised Global Agreement and the Interim Trade Agreement, upgrading EU–Mexico trade, investment, digital, climate and political cooperation.

**27.5**

The Commission proposes a new authorisation framework for mobile satellite services to strengthen EU resilience and competitiveness.

**29.5**

Poland becomes the first Member State to receive a payment under SAFE, worth €6.6 billion. Since then, a total of €12 billion has been disbursed to different Member States.

**1.6**

The co-legislators agree on the establishment of a Common European System for Returns. The rules include mutual recognition of return decisions, stronger rules on forced returns and against absconding, and the possibility to set up return hubs in non-EU countries.

**3.6**

The Commission puts forward the European Technological Sovereignty Package, including the Chips Act 2.0, the Cloud and AI Development Act, the Open-Source Strategy and a roadmap for digitalisation and AI in energy.

**4.6**

The Council approves the Commission's proposal to open negotiations with Western Balkan partners to integrate them into the EU's Roam Like at Home initiative.

**8.6**

The EU disburses nearly €2.8 billion to Ukraine under the Ukraine Facility following the fulfilment of reform commitments.

**10.6**

The 11th EU–Republic of Korea Summit takes place in Brussels. The parties agree to deepen cooperation on security and defence, economic security, trade, connectivity, cybersecurity and support for Ukraine.

**12.6**

The Pact on Migration and Asylum starts to apply across the EU. For the first time, the EU has a comprehensive migration and asylum framework with strong external border protection, fair and firm asylum rules, and a balance between solidarity and responsibility.



15.6

The EU opens negotiations on the first cluster in Ukraine's and Moldova's accession processes. This cluster covers the rule of law, fundamental rights, functioning of institutions, public administration reform and economic criteria.



15.6

The Council adopts new restrictive measures against Russia. Targeting the military-industrial complex, energy revenues, propaganda networks, destabilising activities and human rights violations, the package imposes sanctions on 34 individuals and 47 entities.



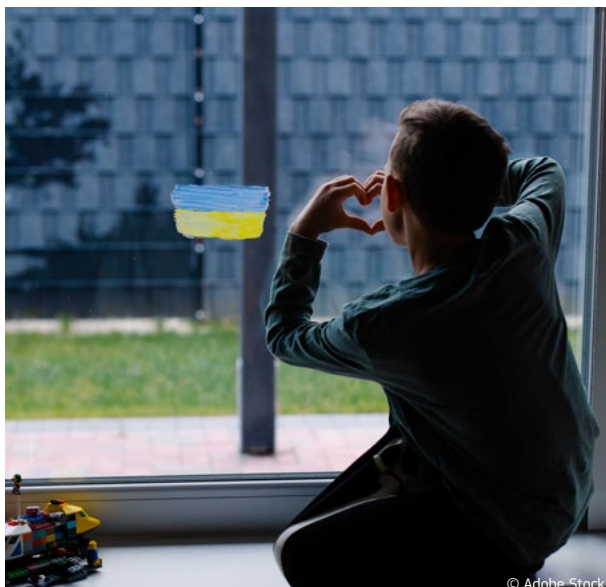
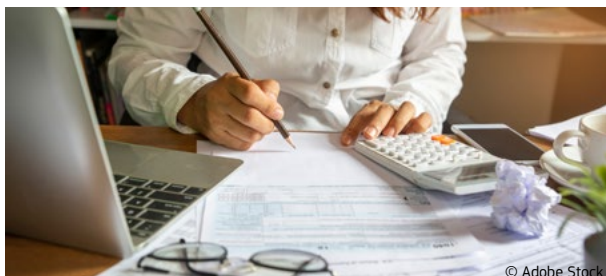
18.6

The first progress report on the One Europe, One Market Roadmap shows that EU institutions deliver on key priorities that will drive Europe's competitiveness and leaders reaffirm their commitment to unlock the full power of the Single Market.



24.6

Two devastating earthquakes hit Venezuela. Over the coming days, more than 750 specialists from 19 European countries are deployed through the EU Civil Protection Mechanism to support emergency response operations. European countries also provide shelter, water and sanitation equipment in a clear example of Europe's lifesaving solidarity.



24.6

The Commission proposes new measures to strengthen Eurojust and Europol to fight cross-border crime and terrorism.

24.6

The Commission adopts a Tax Simplification Package to streamline compliance and enhance the competitiveness of the Single Market.

25.6

The Commission disburses the first instalment, of €3.2 billion, to Ukraine under the €90 billion Ukraine Support Loan.

26.6

The Commission proposes to extend the temporary protection of people fleeing the war in Ukraine until March 2028, while taking into account Ukraine's ability to defend itself. Temporary protection must not be granted as a rule to newly arriving persons who are not authorised by the Ukrainian authorities to leave the country.

30.6

The Commission adopts a financial package setting out the budgetary arrangements that would apply to Montenegro upon its accession to the EU. This follows the set-up by the Council of a working group to draft the Accession Treaty with Montenegro.

JULY



1.7

New rules to protect the steel industry in the EU from the damaging impacts of global overcapacity enter into application.



1.7

The EU begins to apply a €3 customs duty on e-commerce parcels valued at under €150, helping to restore a level playing field for EU businesses and ensuring safe choices for consumers.



1-2.7

President von der Leyen visits Armenia and Azerbaijan, announcing a new €200 million Peace through Connectivity Package for the South Caucasus, with the potential to mobilise up to €2 billion in public and private investment.



3.7

The Commission proposes five joint projects to strengthen European defence capabilities in five priority areas – drones, maritime, space, air and missile defence, and strengthening the EU's eastern flank.



7.7

The Commission presents an EU action plan to address the risks and harness the opportunities of advanced AI models for cybersecurity.



13.7

At the second meeting of the Palestine Donor Group, the EU steps up support for Palestinians with the Team Gaza Initiative gathering €883.6 million to support recovery actions in Gaza.

**13.7**

President von der Leyen receives the final report of the co-chairs of the Special Panel on child safety online, highlighting the critical challenges children face online and providing recommendations.

**15.7**

The EU launches the Ukraine defence industrial partnership and disburses €1 billion for drones. President von der Leyen receives the Order of Europe from Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy in Kyiv.

**17.7**

With the Electrification Action Plan and a review of the Emissions Trading System, the Commission sets out a plan to make Europe the first electro-powered continent and measures to support EU industry in the clean transition and electrification. The Commission also presents the proposal to future-proof electricity bills in the EU.

**17.7**

The Commission adopts the seventh Rule of Law Report, assessing the state of the rule of law across the Member States, along with Albania, Montenegro, North Macedonia and Serbia.

**17.7**

The Commission outlines measures to strengthen the EU's banking sector that will strengthen Europe's economy, while safeguarding financial stability.



17.7

The Commission launches the EU-Ukraine Drone Alliance to strengthen cooperation on drone and counter-drone technologies.



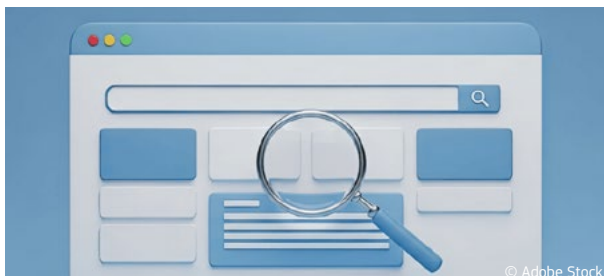
22.7

The Commission adopts a communication on the European Pillar of Social Rights, highlighting three priorities: affordability, harnessing AI and reducing inequalities.



22.7

President von der Leyen meets with young representatives of the President's Youth Advisory Board, from across the EU, as well as observers from candidate and potential candidate countries, to discuss the future youth policy priorities beyond 2027.



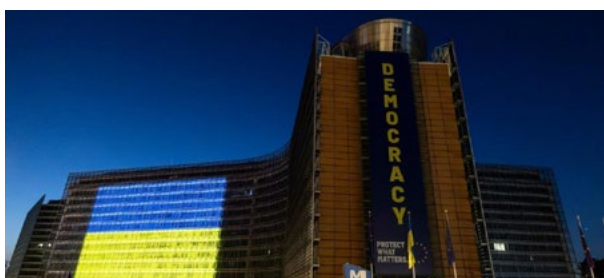
23.7

The Commission imposes an €890 million fine on Google for breaching the Digital Markets Act.



23.7

The Council renews the derogation from certain provisions of the e-Privacy Directive until 3 April 2028 to facilitate the detection of child sexual abuse online.



23.7

The EU adopts the 21st package of sanctions against Russia, targeting energy, finance, trade, and the military-industrial complex, while suspending the oil price cap adjustment mechanism until July 2027 to ensure Russia does not benefit from the situation in the Strait of Hormuz.



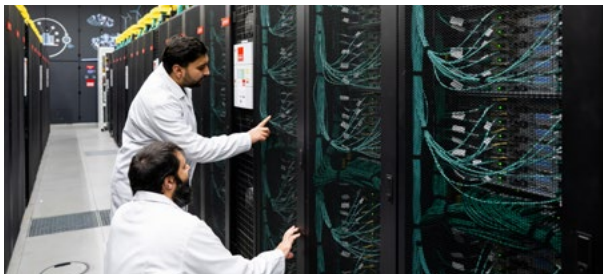
25.7

As major wildfires rage across France and Spain, Europe responds with solidarity. Over the following days, firefighting teams from 17 European countries come to the aid of these Member States in the most affected areas. For the first time, Ukraine provides assistance to a fellow European country under the EU Civil Protection Mechanism.



30.7

Japan officially joins Horizon Europe.



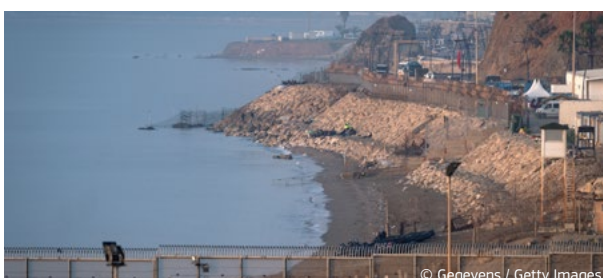
30.7

The EU launches a call for tenders to establish up to seven AI gigafactories to boost computing capacity and unlock over €30 billion in investment.



30.7

The Commission disburses €3.47 billion to Ukraine under the defence window of the Ukraine Support Loan. The funds will help respond to Ukraine's need for drones, missiles, air defences and fighter jets.



30.7

As thousands illegally cross the border into Ceuta, Spain, the Commission offers support to Spain from the first moment.

AUGUST**2.8**

Hungary officially becomes a participating Member State of the European Public Prosecutor's Office, further strengthening the protection of EU funds.

**2.8**

The Commission's AI Office starts enforcing AI Act rules on general-purpose AI. Under the new rules, chatbots and other AI systems will have to tell users they are dealing with AI and not a human.

**4.8**

The Commission completes the final legal steps to establish the Scaleup Europe Fund, which will help European scale-ups grow faster and compete globally with a target of €5 billion. The following day, the fund completes its first investment.

**7.8**

The Commission signs an implementation agreement with the SpaceRISE consortium to accelerate IRIS² deployment and expand it to 348 satellites, enhancing secure connectivity for European governments, defence and emergency services.

**12.8**

Following the devastating 7.4 magnitude earthquake that has hit the country, the EU mobilises civil protection assistance and €2.1 million in emergency humanitarian funding for Colombia.

**24.8**

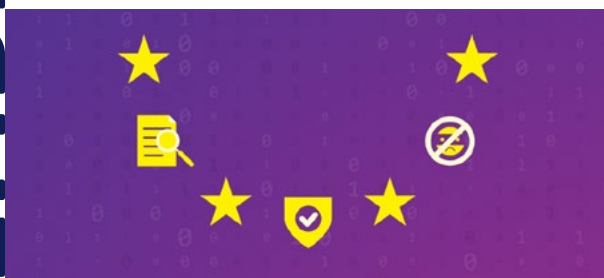
On Ukraine Independence Day, the Commission approves €6.1 billion in new defence procurement for Ukraine, covering air and missile defence systems, missiles, ammunition and radars.



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**26.8**

As wildfires still rage across several European countries, Europe's solidarity is on full display. This summer alone, the Commission has already coordinated the deployment of 777 firefighters and 41 aircraft across borders to help countries tackle wildfires.

31.8

Member States reach the final implementation deadline for the reforms and investments set out in their national recovery and resilience plans. They now have until 30 September 2026 to submit their final payment requests under the Recovery and Resilience Facility.

31.8

The Commission designates ChatGPT as a Very Large Online Search Engine, and Reddit and Roblox as Very Large Online Platforms, under the Digital Services Act, after they reported reaching at least 45 million average monthly users in the EU.

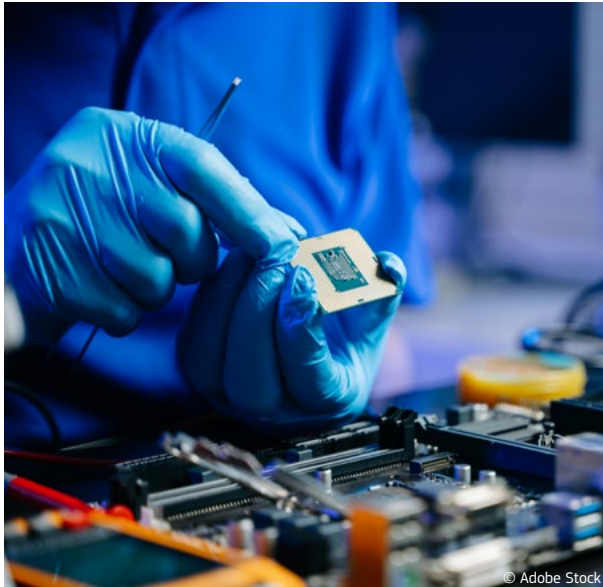
7.9

President von der Leyen visits Greenland hosted by Greenlandic Premier Jens-Frederik Nielsen and Danish Prime Minister Mette Frederiksen. They sign a new Joint Declaration on EU-Greenland relations, and the President announces a Global Gateway Partnership Package of €200 million for investments in Greenland.



8.9

Together with NATO Secretary General Mark Rutte, President von der Leyen welcomes the agreement by Member States on the derogation for Ukraine to purchase crucial products for Patriot air defence systems with part of the funds provided under the Ukraine Support Loan.



9.9

The Commission presents the Public Procurement Act and the European Innovation Act to enable public authorities to support European innovation and suppliers in critical sectors by simplifying procurement, making it more accountable, and allowing a better use of intellectual property rights.



9.9

The Affordable Housing Act is proposed by the Commission to give Member States and local authorities additional tools to help ease housing pressures.



9.9

The Commission decides to provide Spain with €114.7 million in emergency assistance to help manage the situation in Ceuta, following the large-scale illegal border crossings on 30-31 July.



10.9

The Commission presents a new strategic vision for the EU's outermost regions to ensure that they can fully realise their potential, with stronger support, greater resilience and fairer opportunities for their people.



10.9

President von der Leyen delivers a speech at the International Space Summit in Paris laying out Europe's role in this new space age.

