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DECISION OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION
of 7.1.2025

on the establishment of a Commissioners' Project Group on Preparedness Union

**Decision of the President of the European Commission
on the establishment of a Commissioners' Project Group on Preparedness Union**

THE PRESIDENT OF THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the European Union,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Atomic Energy Community,

Having regard to the Commission's Rules of Procedure, and in particular Article 3(6) thereof,

Whereas:

The Commissioner in charge of Preparedness and Crisis Management and Equality, will lead the work on the design and implementation of the Preparedness Union Strategy, in coordination with the Executive Vice-President for Social Rights and Skills, Quality Jobs and Preparedness.

- (1) The Preparedness Union Strategy represents a key tool to develop a common vision around the efficient preparedness of our societies, citizens and critical infrastructure to safeguard our livelihood, values, economic stability and sustainable prosperity.
- (2) The Preparedness Union Strategy would provide an overarching strategic and cross-sectoral approach to disaster and crisis management covering all threats, risks and challenges under an all-hazard approach – consisting of a more integrated, anticipatory and proactive crisis management mode at EU level, a whole-of government approach – consisting of an integrated approach across sectors and levels of governance and a whole-of-society approach – consisting of a broader development of a culture of preparedness and resilience in Europe.
- (3) To ensure coherent approach in the preparation and implementation of the Strategy and deliver tangible results would require coordinating together with several Members of the Commission.
- (4) To help the Commissioner for Preparedness, Crisis Management and Equality deliver on this mission, it is appropriate to establish a Commissioners' Project Group on Preparedness Union to steer the work on the agenda set out by the President in the Political Guidelines and the respective Mission Letters.

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

Article 1

- (1) A Commissioners' Project Group on Preparedness Union is created to help deliver a coordinated approach to better anticipate, prevent and prepare for crises inside and outside Europe following the integrated all-hazards, whole-of-government and whole-of-society

approach, reflecting the political priorities of the Commission, shaping coherent policies and building joint ownership.

(2) Without prejudice to the decision-making process of the College and the responsibility of the collegial preparatory bodies, it shall ensure timely coordination on topical issues and provide political steer for the development of initiatives and implementation of priorities.

(3) The Project Group shall ensure coherence with work in other areas, notably in the areas of democracy, internal security and defence.

Article 2

(1) The Commissioners Project Group on Preparedness Union is chaired by the Commissioner for Equality, Preparedness and Crisis Management. Whenever the President attends a meeting of the Project Group, she may decide to chair it.

(2) The composition of the Project Group shall be as follows:

- The High-Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy and Vice-President
- The Executive Vice-President for Social Rights and Skills, Quality Jobs and Preparedness
- The Executive Vice-President for Tech Sovereignty, Security and Democracy
- The Commissioner for Defence and Space
- The Commissioner for Internal Affairs and Migration
- The Commissioner for Climate, Net Zero and Clean Growth
- The Commissioner for Trade and Economic Security; Interinstitutional Relations and Transparency
- The Commissioner for Energy and Housing

(3) Other Executive Vice-Presidents and Commissioners may participate in relevant meetings of the Project Group and contribute to the work upon their request or invitation by the chair.

(4) Each participant can be accompanied by two staff members, from the Cabinet and Services. The Chair may decide a different format of the meeting.

(5) The Secretary-General of the Commission or a Deputy Secretary-General, the Secretary-General of the European External Action Service or his/her Deputy, the Director-General of the Legal Service or his or her Deputy, the Director-General of DG Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations or his/her Deputy, the Director-General of DG Communication or his/her Deputy and the Cabinet of the President, have standing invitations

to attend the meetings of the Commissioners' Project Group.

Article 3

- (1) The Secretariat-General shall ensure the secretariat of the Project Group.
- (2) The secretarial tasks consist of:
 - assisting in the organisation of the Project Group's meetings;
 - sending invitations on behalf of the Chair to the participants of each meeting of the Project Group;
 - ensuring the timely preparation and/or circulation of meeting documents (agendas, short discussion notes);
 - preparing draft minutes of the meetings and circulating them after their approval by the Cabinets of the President and the Chair.
 - updating a six-monthly rolling calendar of the Project Group;

Article 4

- (1) The Project Group shall meet on a regular basis, whenever deemed necessary by the Chair or by the President
- (2) Participants shall be invited by the Chair through the secretariat of the Project Group, no later than ten days before each meeting, except in exceptional circumstances.
- (3) The agendas of meetings of the Project Group shall be decided by the Chair in agreement with the Executive Vice-President for Social Rights and Skills, Quality Jobs and Preparedness and the Cabinet of the President. Participants may suggest items to be included on the agenda no later than one week before the meeting.
- (4) The Chair shall draw the conclusions of the meeting. She shall approve the minutes of the meetings of the Project Group in agreement with the Executive Vice-President for Social Rights and Skills, Quality Jobs and Preparedness and the Cabinet of the President. The minutes are not subject to correction after circulation.
- (5) Possible documents for meetings of the Project Group shall be concise and politically focused and identify the main questions and options, to help steer the discussions of the Project Group.
- (6) The list of documents to be discussed at meetings of the Project Group shall be approved by the Chair in agreement with the Executive Vice-President for Social Rights and Skills, Quality Jobs and Preparedness and the Cabinet of the President.

Article 5

- (1) The Project Group is established for an initial period of one year.
- (2) The Project Group may continue to operate subsequently if the President decides to renew its mandate under the same or revised terms.

Done at Brussels, 7 January 2025.

The President

Ursula VON DER LEYEN