

# List of EU priorities 2018



## The priorities can be divided into three categories:

### General priority

General priority refers to proposals formulated in the European Commission Work Programme 2018 that receive extra attention from the Netherlands House of Representatives. These EU initiatives can either be legislative or non-legislative in nature. Upon publication of a prioritized proposal, the sectoral parliamentary committee dealing with the proposal will decide whether to hold hearings, technical briefings, debates or other activities in order to assess the Commission's proposal.

### Parliamentary scrutiny reservation

A parliamentary scrutiny reservation on a legislative proposal may be placed when the House of Representatives wants to influence the position of the Netherlands at an early stage and stay closely informed on the Government's course of actions taken throughout the negotiations. If the House foresees that it wishes to place a parliamentary reservation on the basis of the Commission Work Programme, it is so indicated on the priorities list. Once such a legislative proposal is presented by the Commission, the House will take a final decision whether to place the reservation.

*The House's decision is followed by a debate with the government within four weeks. In this debate, the proposal's political importance and the objectives of the Netherlands in the negotiations are discussed, with the purpose of coming to a written agreement with the Government on the provision of information to parliament during the negotiation process. The government is expected to present its provisional position to parliament within a (shortened) period of three weeks after the publication of the proposal.*

### Subsidiarity review (reasoned opinion)

A subsidiarity review may be conducted on legislative proposals in order to determine whether the matter at hand should be dealt with at EU level or national level. If the House foresees a subsidiarity concern on the basis of the Commission Work Programme, it is so indicated on the priorities list.

*Once a proposal is published, the House will take a final decision on whether to perform a subsidiarity review. Based on this review, the House renders a judgement on whether the European Commission's subsidiarity arguments are conclusive. A subsidiarity judgement can turn out to be either negative or positive. In case of a negative subsidiarity judgement, the House issues a reasoned opinion in which the House declares that the desired objective can be more effectively achieved at a national level. This reasoned opinion is sent to the European Commission. If at least one third of all national parliaments issue a negative judgement, the European Commission must reconsider the proposal (yellow-card procedure).*

*If a subsidiarity review is foreseen, the government will present its initial assessment of the proposal to the House within a (shortened) period of three weeks of the publication of the proposal.*

			Q4 - 2017	Q1 - 2018	Q2 - 2018	Q3 - 2018	General priority	Subsidiarity	Parliamentary reserve
<b>FOREIGN AFFAIRS</b>									
21.	Delivering on the Global Strategy	An EU strategy on connecting Europe and Asia, A renewed partnership with Latin America and the Caribbean and A new framework for engagement with India, Iran and Iraq (non-legislative).					●		
23.	More efficiency and consistency in implementing the Common Foreign Policy (initiative to be launched with a 2025 perspective)	Communication on the possibility of further enhancing the use of qualified majority voting in Common Foreign Policy, on the basis of Article 31(3)TEU, as well as on enhancing the consistency of the Common Foreign Policy (non-legislative).					●		
<b>FOREIGN TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION</b>									
3.	A sustainable European future (initiative to be launched with a 2025 perspective)	Reflection Paper "Towards a Sustainable Europe by 2030, on the follow-up to the UN Sustainable Development Goals, including on the Paris Agreement on Climate Change" (non-legislative)					●		
15.	Delivering on the Trade for All Strategy	Finalising agreements with Japan, Singapore and Vietnam, Pursuing negotiations with Mexico and with Mercosur and Advancing negotiations with Australia and New Zealand (once the Council will have approved the mandates recommended by the Commission).					●		
<b>ECONOMIC AFFAIRS AND CLIMATE POLICY</b>									
4.	Completing the Digital Single Market	c. A revision of the Commission guidelines on market analysis and assessment of significant market power in the electronic communications sector (non legislative).					●		
<b>EUROPEAN AFFAIRS</b>									
2.	Multi-annual financial framework (initiative to be launched with a 2025 perspective)	a. Comprehensive proposal for the future Multi-annual Financial Framework beyond 2020.					●		
		b. Followed by proposals for the next generation of programmes and new own resources (legislative, incl. impact assessment, Art. 311 TFEU plus sectoral bases).					●		
14.	Creation of a permanent and accountable European Minister of Economy and Finance (initiative to be launched with a 2025 perspective)	Communication on the possible creation of a permanent European Minister of Economy and Finance who is democratically accountable (non-legislative).					●		
22.	A credible enlargement perspective (initiative to be launched with a 2025 perspective)	Strategy for a successful EU accession of Serbia and Montenegro as frontrunner candidates in the Western Balkans, with a particular emphasis on the rule of law, fundamental rights, the fight against corruption and organised crime and on the overall stability of the region (non-legislative).					●		
25.	Doing less more efficiently (initiative to be launched with a 2025 perspective)	Communication on further enhancing subsidiarity, proportionality and better regulation in the daily operation of the European Union (non-legislative).					●		
<b>FINANCE</b>									
7.	Fair taxation in the digital economy	Proposal establishing rules at EU level allowing taxation of profits generated by multinationals through the digital economy (legislative, incl. impact assessment, Art. 113, 115 TFEU).					●		
12.	Completing the Economic and Monetary Union	a. Proposals for the transformation of the European Stability Mechanism into a European Monetary Fund within EU law (legislative).					●		●
		c. The integration of the substance of the Treaty on Stability, Coordination and Governance in the Economic and Monetary Union into EU law, taking into account the flexibility built into the Stability and Growth Pact and identified by the Commission since January 2015 (legislative).					●		●
13.	Completing the Banking Union	a. Proposals on the development of secondary markets for non-performing loans (legislative, incl. impact assessment, Art. 114 TFEU).					●		
		c. An enabling framework for the development of EU Sovereign Bond-backed Securities (legislative, incl. impact assessment, Art. 114 TFEU).					●		●
<b>JUSTICE AND SECURITY</b>									
16.	Completing the Security Union	a. Implementation of the Security Union agenda and advancing the fight against terrorism: proposals to allow interoperability between EU information systems for security, border and migration management (legislative, incl. impact assessment; Art. 74, 77, 79, 85, 87, 88).					●		
18.	Extension of the tasks of the new European Public Prosecutor's Office (initiative to be launched with a 2025 perspective)	Communication on a possible extension of the tasks of the new European Public Prosecutor's Office to include the fight against terrorism on the basis of Article 86(4)TFEU (non-legislative).					●		
<b>SOCIAL AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT</b>									
8.	Social fairness package	a. Proposal to establish a European Labour Authority (legislative).					●	●	●
		b. An initiative on access to social protection for atypical self-employed workers (legislative/non-legislative, Art. 153-155, 352 TFEU).					●	●	●
<b>INTERIOR</b>									
1.	ID cards and Residence Documents	Legislative Initiative to improve the security of ID cards and residence documents of EU citizens and of their non-EU family members. This initiative responds to an opinion of the REFIT Platform. (legislative, incl. impact assessment, Art. 21 and/or 77(3) TFEU).					●		

## EU Regulatory Fitness and Performance (REFIT) programme