**13.09.16**

**The implementation of the June European Council conclusions - state of play**

**Migration**

Tasks on migration set out in the European Council conclusions require a medium-term timeframe. Implementation is the subject of regular reporting by the Presidency (fed via the IPCR mechanism) and the Commission in Coreper, and of specific reports by various agencies. Overall, a broad overview of implementation can be sketched.

Closing the Western Balkans route and implementing the EU-Turkey Statement brought crossings into Greece to an almost complete halt. The EU-Turkey deal broadly holds, but residual crossings and secondary movements along the Western Balkans route need to be monitored closely. Fulfilling EASO and FRONTEX calls for experts would further raise the implementation level.

As regards the support to countries along the Western Balkans route, many EU instruments have been effectively mobilised, with some needs are still to be covered.

Relocations and resettlement increased over the summer despite a number of administrative bottlenecks, such as issues with security checks on relocation candidates.

As regards the Partnership Framework, the HR, Commission and Member States have engaged with priority countries; it is clear that the first material results in terms of increased returns of illegal migrants will still take some time.

The European Council will take stock of progress in October.

**Single Market**

The European Council called for the different Single Market strategies to be completed and implemented by 2018. In particular, it called for progress on the Digital Single Market and the Capital Markets Union.

In terms of the Digital Single Market, the Commission has been steadfast in submitting its proposals - even anticipating the date of publication of a number of them. Likewise, the Council has maintained a sustained rhythm for their examination. Hence, of the dozen legislative items mentioned specifically by the European Council on the DSM, around half appear on track to meet the 2018 deadline.

Several files are likely to give rise to difficulties, however. This includes the **copyright reforms** - [on which a Commission proposal is imminent] - given the breadth of the reforms and diverging national stances. Similarly, upcoming discussions on the review of the **telecoms framework** are also expected to be difficult in the light of the scale of the review, its technical complexities and the ambitious objectives to be achieved. For both these files, the timelines set by the European Council may be ambitious given the political sensitivities of the matters they cover.

Furthermore, slow progress on the proposals on contracts for the supply of digital content and the online distance sale of goods is likely to have a hindering effect on **geo-blocking** discussions. Likewise, the recent attention on the review of the **wholesale roaming market** has illustrated the sensitivity of this file.

On the **Capital Markets Union**, the implementation of the tasks set out by the EU largely depend on developments within the EP. For its part, the Council already reached its general approach on the two proposals (on securitisation and on the prospectus Regulation) in December 2015 and June 2016 respectively.

**Trade**

Various work streams, including TTIP, CETA, China MES, will converge in the second half of 2016, with a comprehensive discussion at the October European Council. More work will be needed in the Council to unblock the modernisation of **trade defence instruments**.

**EFSI**

*[p.m.* The Commission is expected to publish its proposal on the renewal of the European Fund for Strategic Investment on 14 September.]

**EMU**

The European Council called for work to be taken forward on the Economic and Monetary Union (EMU). The first stage of the roadmap to complete the EMU is being taken forward. However prospects for a break-through on the establishment of a **European Deposit Insurance Scheme (EDIS)** in the immediate future are unlikely.

**Agriculture**

Pursuant to the European Council's calls to assist the agricultural sector with all necessary support measures, the Council promptly endorsed **EUR 500 million** worth of support measures. All secondary legislation required to give effect to the measures were adopted in September and work is on-going to ensure implementation and follow-up to the assistance.

**External Relations**

Work in implementing the **Global Strategy** is on-going. Council conclusions on process and substance are expected at the October FAC, and the security and defence aspects will probably be taken up by the European Council in December.

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