



TIMELINE



STATE
OF THE
UNION
2022

SEPTEMBER 2021

15.9

The European Commission adopts the communication on the **New European Bauhaus**, setting out the framework, core principles and key measures that will drive the initiative forward.



16.9

The Commission proposes a **path to the digital decade** to deliver the EU's digital transformation by 2030.

16.9

The Commission adopts its first-ever **recommendation on the safety of journalists**.



16.9

The Commission launches the **European Health Emergency preparedness and Response Authority (HERA)** to prevent, detect, and rapidly respond to health emergencies.



16.9

The EU proposes a strengthened **partnership with the Indo-Pacific region** to advance trade, investment and connectivity.



22.9

The Commission adopts a **comprehensive review of EU insurance rules**, helping insurance companies scale up long-term investment while also aiming to make the insurance and reinsurance sector more resilient.

29.9

The Commission adopts the **communication on European missions**, aiming to tackle significant challenges relating to health, climate and the environment and to achieve ambitious and inspiring goals in these areas.

OCTOBER 2021

12.10

The Commission issues the **first green bond** to finance the sustainable recovery.



5.10

The Commission presents the first-ever **EU strategy on combating antisemitism and fostering Jewish life**.

13.10

The Commission and High Representative / Vice-President Josep Borrell put forward an **approach on** stronger EU engagement for a peaceful, sustainable and prosperous **Arctic**.



27.10

The Commission adopts a **review of EU banking rules** to ensure that banks in the EU become more resilient to potential future economic shocks while contributing to Europe's recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic and the transition to climate neutrality.

28.10

The **reinforced mandate of the European Medicines Agency** proposed by the Commission enters into force.



NOVEMBER 2021

2.11

The Commission announces a **EUR 1 billion pledge to protect the world's forests** at the COP26 conference on climate change.



17.11

The Commission adopts new **proposals to stop deforestation, innovate on sustainable waste management and make soils healthy** for people, nature and the climate.



19.11

TAIEX (the Commission's Technical Assistance and Information Exchange instrument) **celebrates its 25th anniversary**. Over the last two and a half decades, it has mobilised EU public experts over 40 000 times, helping public administrations in EU and globally to address digital, environmental and health challenges.



25.11

The Commission proposes **new measures to improve the ability of companies to raise capital across the EU** and to ensure that people living in the EU get the best deals for their savings and investments.



13.11

Political agreement is reached to **strengthen the work of the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control**, particularly in areas of surveillance, early warning, preparedness and response.

18.11

The Commission adopts a **communication on a competition policy fit for new challenges**, which frames the important role of competition policy for Europe's path towards recovery, for the green and digital transitions and for a resilient single market.



25.11

The Commission sets out **new laws on political advertising, electoral rights and party funding**, aimed at protecting election integrity and open democratic debate.

26.11

At the **ASEM Summit**, the EU and Asia reaffirm their shared partnership and engagement towards a stronger recovery from the pandemic.

DECEMBER 2021

1.12

The EU launches the **Global Gateway**, a new European strategy to improve smart, clean and secure links in the fields of digital, energy and transport and to strengthen health, education and research systems across the world.



1.12

The Commission paves the way for the **further digitalisation of EU justice systems**, making them more accessible and effective.

8.12

At the Nutrition for Growth Summit, the **Commission pledges to improve nutrition by providing EUR 2.5 billion** in funding between 2021 and 2024.



8.12

The Commission proposes a **new tool to counter the use of deliberate economic pressure** by non-EU countries.

9.12

The Commission proposes to extend the list of EU crimes to include **hate speech and hate crime**.



9.12

The Commission presents **an action plan to help the European social economy thrive**, tapping into both its economic potential and its contribution to a fair and inclusive recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic.

9.12

The Commission proposes to **improve the working conditions of people working through digital labour platforms** and publishes draft guidelines on the application of competition rules to collective agreements by solo self-employed people.



14.12

To support the transition to cleaner, greener and smarter mobility, the Commission proposes **modernising the EU's transport system**.



14.12

The Commission proposes **new rules to make the Schengen area without internal border controls more resilient**.

15.12

A **new Commission digital finance strategy** paves the way for modern and streamlined supervisory data reporting.

**15.12**

The **EU and Moldova** sign a EUR 60 million grant financing agreement to help the country face its current severe gas crisis.

**15.12**

The Commission proposes a **new EU framework to decarbonise gas markets, promote hydrogen and reduce methane emissions**.

16.12

A **renewed agenda on recovery and resilience reform** is put forward at the Eastern Partnership Summit.

21.12

A new policy is proposed to support **disarmament, demobilisation and the reintegration of former combatants**, as part of the EU's wider contribution to peacebuilding.

**22.12**

The Commission proposes **swift transposition of the international agreement** on minimum taxation of multinationals.

JANUARY 2022**1.1**

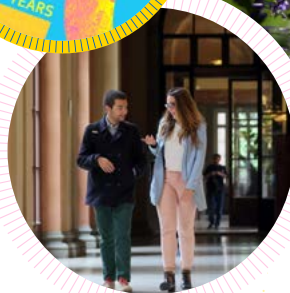
20 years of the euro in our pockets. The **European Year of Youth** starts.

**14.1**

The Commission adopts a proposal for a Council recommendation on **learning for environmental sustainability**.

18.1

In the higher-education field, the Commission adopts two **new initiatives to make universities in the EU ready for the future** through deeper transnational cooperation.

**18.1**

The Commission publishes a **toolkit to help mitigate foreign interference in research and innovation**.

26.1

The Commission puts forward a **declaration on digital rights and principles** for everyone in the EU.

**27.1**

The Commission adopts **new guidelines on State aid relating to the climate, environmental protection and energy**.

FEBRUARY 2022

1.2

The Commission proposes a EUR 1.2 billion **emergency macro-financial assistance package for Ukraine**.



2.2

The Commission proposes a **standardisation strategy**, putting forward a new approach to enable global leadership of EU standards promoting values and a resilient, green and digital single market.

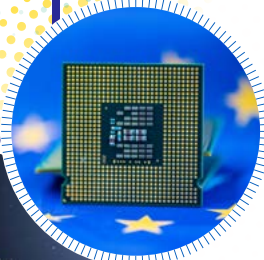


2.2

The Commission approves in principle a **complementary climate delegated act** that will help accelerate the shift from solid or liquid fossil fuels, including coal, towards a climate-neutral future.

8.2

The Commission proposes a comprehensive set of measures to ensure the EU's resilience, technological leadership and security of supply in the field of **semiconductor technologies and applications**.



15.2

The EU initiates a **satellite-based connectivity system** and boosts action on managing space traffic for a more digital and resilient Europe.



15.2

The Commission presents **measures to contribute to European defence, increase innovation and address strategic dependencies**. These new initiatives are concrete steps towards a more integrated and competitive European defence market, particularly by enhancing cooperation within the EU.



17-18.2

At the **African Union–EU Summit** in Brussels, the leaders agree on a joint vision for 2030. This will be supported by the Africa-Europe Investment Package with investments worth EUR 150 billion.

23.2

The Commission proposes a **new EU data act**, containing rules on who can use and access data generated in the EU across all economic sectors, to ensure fairness in the digital environment and open opportunities for data-driven innovation.



23.2

The Commission proposes a **new directive on corporate sustainability due diligence**, laying down rules for companies to respect human rights and the environment in global value chains.



25.2

The EU imposes **further individual and economic sanctions to respond to Russia's military aggression on Ukraine**. This second package of sanctions covers the finance, energy, transport and technology sectors, along with visa policy.



19.2

Following a request for assistance by Ukraine in view of escalating threats by Russia, the European Response Coordination Centre **activates the EU Civil Protection Mechanism**. By June, over 35 000 tonnes of assistance to Ukraine from all 27 EU Member States, Turkey, Norway and North Macedonia have been delivered to Ukraine.

23.2

The EU agrees on a **first package of sanctions to respond to Russia's recognition of the non-government-controlled areas of the Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts in Ukraine** as independent entities, and the decision to send Russian troops into these areas.

28.2

The EU approves a **third package of sanctions against Russia**.

MARCH 2022

2.3

The Commission proposes to **activate the temporary protection directive** to offer quick and effective assistance to people fleeing the war in Ukraine.



8.3

The Commission proposes the **cohesion's action for refugees in Europe initiative**, allowing Member States and regions to provide emergency support to people fleeing from Russia's invasion of Ukraine.

9.3

The Commission sets up **solidarity mechanism for medical transfers of refugees** within the EU under the EU Civil Protection Mechanism.



8.3

The Commission proposes **EU-wide rules to combat violence against women and domestic violence**.

11.3

The **Freeze and Seize Task Force**, set up by the Commission to ensure the efficient implementation of the EU's sanctions against listed Russian and Belarussian oligarchs across EU territory, is launched.



9.3

In view of the situation in Ukraine and in response to Belarus's involvement in the aggression, the EU imposes **further targeted sanctions**.

16.3

The Commission proposes **changes to the central securities depositories regulation** to enhance the efficiency of the EU's settlement markets while safeguarding financial stability – a key component of the 2020 capital markets union action plan.



15.3

The EU imposes a **fourth package of economic and individual sanctions** in respect of Russia's military aggression against Ukraine.



21.3

The EU agrees on a **strategic compass for stronger EU security and defence** in the next decade.

22.3

The Commission launches a **one-stop shop to support Ukrainian researchers**.

23.3

The Commission outlines **options to mitigate high energy prices** by means of common gas purchases and minimum gas-storage obligations.

23.3

The Commission adopts a **temporary crisis framework to enable Member States to use the flexibility provided for under State-aid rules** to support the economy in the context of Russia's invasion of Ukraine.

25.3

The Commission and the United States announce that they have agreed in principle on a **new trans-Atlantic data privacy framework**, which will foster trans-Atlantic data flows.

30.3

In the **circular-economy field**, new rules are proposed to make sustainable products the norm in the EU, improve circular business models and empower consumers for the green transition.

**22.3**

The first day of application of the **pan-European personal pension product regulation**, paving the way for a new voluntary EU-wide scheme to help people save for their retirement.

23.3

The Commission presents **measures to enhance global food security** and to support farmers and consumers in the EU in the light of rising food prices and input costs.

24.3

The Parliament and the Council reach a **political agreement on the digital markets act**. The act will ensure fair, open and contestable digital markets for digital businesses to grow within the single market and compete globally.

28.3

The Commission adopts a recommendation for Member States to take immediate steps on **investor citizenship schemes and investor residence schemes** in the context of the Russian invasion of Ukraine.

APRIL 2022

6.4

The EU takes **action to support Africa's Sahel and Lake Chad regions**, with a total of EUR 554 million in funding to be used to both address acute food insecurity and enhance the sustainability of food systems in the longer term.



6.4

As a response to the impact of the Russia's aggression on Ukraine, the EU announces a support package worth EUR 225 million to **support food security and resilience in the Middle East and North Africa**.

8.4

The EU agrees on a **fifth package of restrictive measures against Russia** in response to its brutal aggression against Ukraine and its people.



8.4

Commission President Ursula von der Leyen and High Representative Josep Borrell visit Ukraine and meet with Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky. President von der Leyen hands over the EU questionnaire.

9.4

The **Stand Up for Ukraine global pledging event** and campaign raises EUR 9.1 billion for people fleeing the Russian invasion, within Ukraine and abroad, including EUR 1 billion from the Commission. The European Bank for Reconstruction and Development pledges an additional EUR 1 billion.



20.4

The EU marks **30 years of humanitarian aid and civil protection operations**, helping people in emergencies all around the world.

23.4

The Parliament and the Council reach a **political agreement on the digital services act**. The act sets out an unprecedented new standard for the accountability of online platforms, better protecting internet users and their fundamental rights.



25.4

President von der Leyen and Narendra Modi, Prime Minister of India, launch the **EU–India Trade and Technology Council**.



25.4

The Commission proposes to **strengthen the European Union Agency for Criminal Justice Cooperation’s mandate** to collect and preserve evidence of war crimes and cooperate with international tribunals in this regard.

26.4

Team Europe steps up **support to the drought-affected countries in the Horn of Africa**, with the EU and its Member States pledging a total of EUR 633 million to improve food security.



27.4

The Commission proposes **an EU law and a recommendation to tackle abusive lawsuits** against journalists and human rights defenders.

27.4

The Commission proposes **a legal migration policy**, including initiatives that will benefit the EU’s economy, strengthen cooperation with non-EU countries and improve overall migration management in the long term.



28.4

The EU and international partners put forward a **Declaration for the Future of the Internet**.



MAY 2022

3.5

The Commission launches the **European Health Data Space**. It will empower people to control and utilise their health data in their home country or in other Member States and foster a genuine single market for digital health services and products.



9.5

The **Conference on the Future of Europe concludes its work**. Its year-long journey of discussion, debate and collaboration between citizens and politicians culminates in 49 proposals and more than 320 measures for the EU institutions to follow up on.

9-10.5

The EU hosts the **6th Brussels Conference on 'Supporting the future of Syria and the region'**, mobilising aid to Syrians and hosting communities in neighbouring countries through pledges totalling EUR 6.4 billion for 2022 and beyond. Out of this amount, the EU pledged more than EUR 4.8 billion, with over EUR 3.1 billion from the Commission.



10.5

Political agreement is reached on the **Digital Operational Resilience Act**, helping to ensure our financial system is more resilient to cyberattacks and other digital risks.

11.5

The Commission proposes **new EU legislation to prevent and combat child sexual abuse online**.

11.5

The Commission proposes tax incentive for equity to help **companies grow, become stronger and more resilient**.



12.5

At the **Second Global COVID-19 Summit**, the Commission pledges to accelerate the roll-out and uptake of vaccines and other COVID-19 measures in Africa with a further EUR 400 million in support.

12.5

In Tokyo, the **EU and Japan** hold their 28th summit. They reaffirm their close and comprehensive relations and launch the digital partnership.

**12.5**

The Commission proposes to establish **solidarity lanes** to help Ukraine export agricultural goods.

13.5

Political agreement is reached on **new rules on cybersecurity of network and information systems**, ensuring that citizens and businesses are protected and can trust essential services.

**18.5**

The EU presents the **REPowerEU plan** to rapidly reduce dependence on Russian fossil fuels and fast-forward the green transition.

18.5

The Commission and the High Representative present an **analysis of defence investment gaps** and propose further measures and action necessary to strengthen Europe's defence industrial and technological base.

**18.5**

The EU unveils a **strategic partnership with the Gulf states**, aiming to broaden and deepen its cooperation with the Gulf Cooperation Council and its member countries.

18.5

The Commission presents plans for the EU's immediate response to address **Ukraine's financing gap and the longer-term reconstruction**.

**23.5**

The Commission adopts a **contingency plan for transport** laying out concrete measures to protect EU transport in times of crisis.

25.5

The Commission proposes **rules on criminalising the violation of restrictive measures** and on the freezing and confiscating of assets of persons violating restrictive measures and other criminals.

JUNE 2022

3.6

The EU agrees on a **sixth package of restrictive measures against Russia**, including a ban on most Russian oil imports.



7.6

A political agreement is reached on a proposal relating to **gender balance on company boards**.

16.6

A **New Code of Practice on Disinformation** is agreed, based on the Commission's guidance from May 2021.



22.6

The Commission adopts proposals to **restore Europe's nature** by 2050 and **halve pesticide use** by 50 % by 2030.

23.6

EU leaders grant candidate status to **Ukraine** and **Moldova**. They also recognise the European perspective for Georgia.



23.6

EU-Western Balkans Leaders Meeting ahead of the European Council meeting in Brussels.

24.6

The EU unveils the renewed agenda on **International Ocean Governance**.



30.6

The Parliament and the EU Member States reach a political agreement on a new regulation to address distortions caused by **foreign subsidies in the single market**.

30.6

Commission President von der Leyen and Prime Minister of New Zealand Jacinda Ardern announce the conclusion of negotiations of a **comprehensive trade agreement**.



30.6

The co-legislators reach an agreement on European crypto-assets regulation. This new legal framework **will protect consumers, market integrity and financial stability**, while enabling further innovation in the crypto-asset sector.

JULY 2022

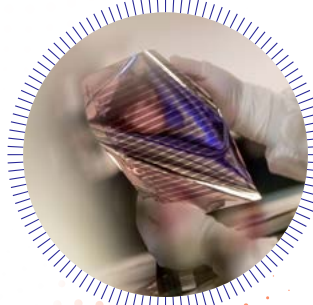
1.7

The **new roaming rules** enter into force, in time to ensure continued 'roam like at home' benefits for citizens.



5.7

The Commission adopts a **New European Innovation Agenda** to position Europe at the forefront of the new wave of deep tech innovation and start-ups.



13.7

2022 Rule of Law Report:
The Commission issues specific recommendations to Member States.



19.7

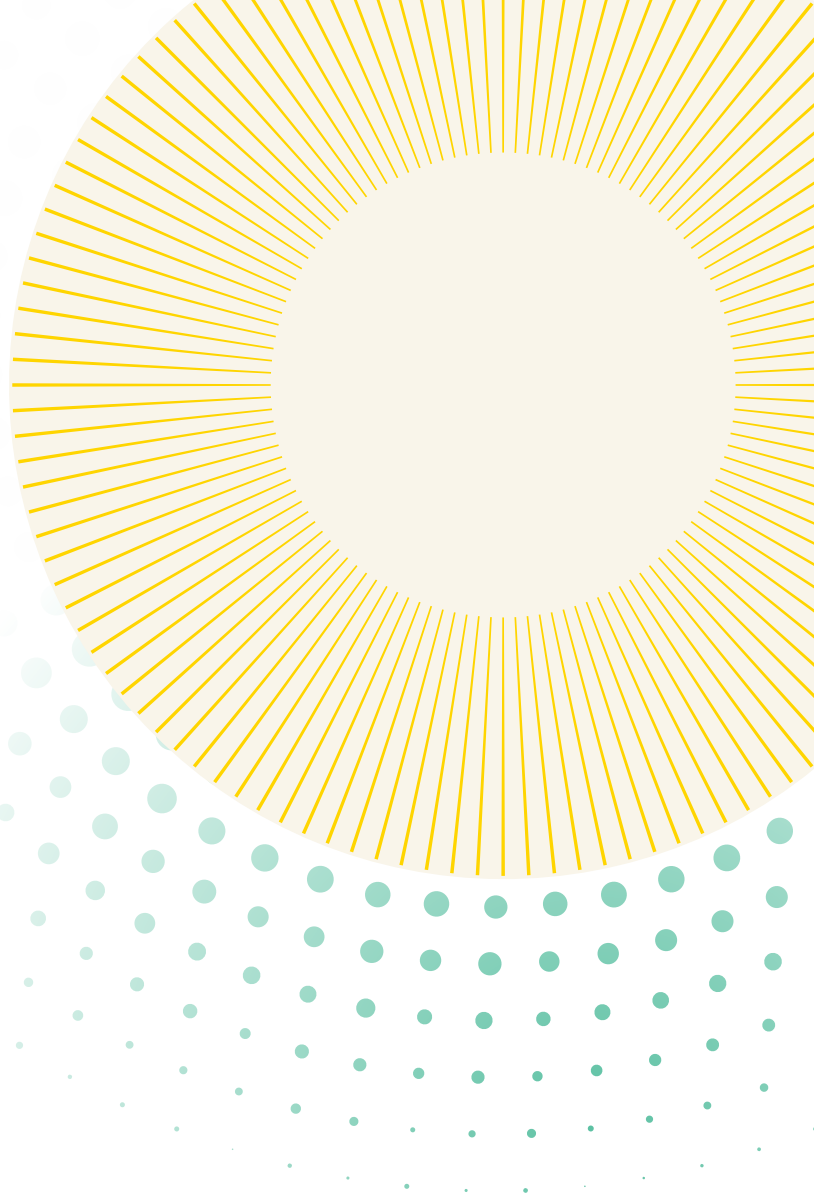
The European Union starts **accession negotiations with Albania and North Macedonia.**



20.7

The Commission presents the **'Save gas for a safe winter'** proposal, a new legislative tool and a gas demand reduction plan to prepare the EU for supply cuts.





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