

Main topics and media events 18 – 31 March 2019

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Indicative programme – Foreign Affairs Council, 18 March 2019

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[Weekly schedule of President Donald Tusk](#)

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[Statement by Vice-President Dombrovskis on the Progress Report on the Capital Markets Union](#)

Good afternoon,

Before I begin today's press conference, please allow me to express my deepest condolences to the victims and the families of the terrorist attacks in Christchurch, New Zealand. This is an appalling act of violence and I strongly condemn it.

Moving on to the topic of the day, which is the Capital Markets Union. I would like to update you all on the developments and advances that have been made lately. But before I do that, let me first say a couple of words on something which is happening in the world as we speak.

Today, people from over 2000 different cities in over 120 different countries are taking to the streets, demanding political action against climate change. The European Union is leading the way in this effort, and our commitment to

the Paris agreement is steadfast.

Yet, the protestors are right when they point out that we are lagging behind. In particular, to meet our Paris agreement targets by 2030 and then transition to a climate-neutral economy, we need an additional €180 billion in investments every year.

Capital markets are vital in helping us to meet this investment challenge, by helping investors to fund the transition to a low-carbon economy. This is why we have put forward an Action Plan for Sustainable Finance followed by three legislative proposals. Together, they will steer the financial sector in a more sustainable direction.

I am happy that two out of the three proposals on sustainability disclosures and low-carbon benchmarks were recently agreed. However, that still leaves on the table our proposal for an EU-classification – or taxonomy – for sustainable economic activities.

This is a key proposal. It would provide common EU definitions for what is green, to help the growing number of climate-conscious investors to stay clear of greenwashing.

The ECON and ENVI committees in the European Parliament have voted on their joint report. So I now call on Member States to agree on a general approach as soon as possible. To fulfil our Paris investment targets and meet the legitimate demands of the younger generation, we cannot afford to wait.

Next Thursday, I will host here in Brussels an international conference on sustainable finance. We want to make sure that our experience in sustainable finance benefits others, and contributes to international standards in this field. This is why next week's high-level conference assembles actors from around the globe.

Let me now return to the Capital Markets Union. Lately we have seen important progress. When I presented the previous CMU progress report in November last year, the lack of progress was disappointing.

But today, out of 13 CMU building blocks that we proposed, as many as 10 have been agreed at EU level! These achievements are concrete steps towards a single market for capital that will deliver real benefits for Europe's citizens, companies, and for our economy.

The financial crisis showed black-on-white the dangers of relying only on one source of financing. In Europe, the economy is predominantly financed by banks, which tend to operate in a pro-cyclical manner. In other words, they lend more when times are good and less when times are bad, which exacerbates the economic cycle.

Capital markets act as a counter-balance to that. This is why more developed capital markets of the United States helped them to recover more quickly from the financial crisis. The Capital Markets Union aims to improve financial stability by diversifying access to finance for companies in Europe. This would lead to a stronger Economic and Monetary Union, and also promote the

international role of the euro.

- For EU companies, a single market for capital will increase access to funding, so they can grow, innovate, and create jobs.
- For example, we have new rules on prospectuses and on SME Growth Markets, so companies can seek more funding from stock markets across the EU.
- We have agreed a new approach to insolvency, to help viable companies restructure early, and give honest entrepreneurs a second chance.
- We have revised the labels for EU Venture Capital Funds and EU Social Entrepreneurship funds, to boost funding for small innovative companies to scale up quickly.
- And we have agreed new rules to boost the ability of investment firms to help companies tap capital markets, manage assets, and provide market liquidity.

For EU consumers, the CMU will provide new saving and investment opportunities.

- For example, we have agreed on a new pan-European personal pension product, and on measures to improve the EU's investment fund market.

For banks, deeper capital markets can help them provide funding to the real economy.

- This is why we have adopted an agreement on Safe, Transparent and Standardised securitisation.
- And we have recently agreed on common rules to develop covered bonds as a stable, cost-effective, and local funding source for EU banks.

Boosting local capital markets is also a major goal of the Capital Markets Union. For example, my services have worked to help the Baltic States – Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania – to create preconditions for a pan-Baltic capital market. This would make the region more attractive for investors and create additional sources of financing, for example for the many innovative start-up companies hosted in these three countries.

Finally, resilient capital market structures are necessary to help us manage major systemic challenges. Brexit makes this even more important and urgent. The measures we have put forward here will help the EU to develop its markets, while strengthening our capacities in terms of market infrastructure, and financial market supervision.

Just this week, we reached an agreement on revamped rules for more robust supervision of central counterparties, which will boost financial stability. And we have made progress in the talks on reforming the European Supervisory Authorities. This would make European financial supervision stronger and more integrated, and strengthen the supervisory framework for anti-money laundering and terrorist financing.

We have made very good progress and with a bit of flexibility from on both co-legislators we can get there next week. So I call on the European

Parliament and Member States to reach a political agreement with urgency. The Commission stands ready to provide its full support.

Despite the progress on our legislative agenda, there is more work to do. We need to create more opportunities for European companies, keeping in mind the rapid changes arising from climate change and developments in financial technology. So I expect that work on CMU will continue in the next Commission.

But for now, the main focus should be on adopting and implementing the agreed legislation. And I count on the full engagement of Member States and market actors in this crucial phase to deliver a successful Capital Markets Union.

Thank you very much.

CALENDRIER du 18 mars au 24 mars 2019

(Susceptible de modifications en cours de semaine)

Déplacements et visites

Lundi 18 mars 2019

Agriculture and Fisheries Council

Foreign Affairs Council

President Jean-Claude **Juncker** receives Mr Wang Yi, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China.

Mr Frans **Timmermans** in Berlin, Germany: gives a keynote speech at the [Global Solutions Summit](#).

Ms Federica **Mogherini** co-chairs the EU-China Strategic Dialogue, in Brussels.

Ms Federica **Mogherini** chairs the Foreign Affairs Council, in Brussels.

Mr Andrus **Ansip** participates in the AI 4 Belgium Launch with Mr Charles Michel, Prime Minister of Belgium, Mr Alexander De Croo, Deputy-Prime Minister and Minister for Finance of Belgium and Mr Philippe de Backer, Minister for Digital Agenda, Telecom and Postal Services of Belgium, in Brussels.

Mr Andrus **Ansip** receives Senator Pavel Fischer and Senator Ladislav Faktor from the Czech Senate.

Mr Valdis **Dombrovskis** in Berlin (until 19/03): meets Mr Olaf Scholz, Federal Minister for Finance of Germany; meets Mr Peter Altmaier, Federal Minister for Economic Affairs and Energy of Germany; and meets the Committees for Europe, Finances, Economy and Budget of the Bundestag.

Mr Jyrki **Katainen** receives Mr Alexander Stubb, Vice-President of the European Investment Bank (EIB).

Mr Jyrki **Katainen** participates in a working lunch with the European Government Business Relations Council, in Brussels.

Mr Johannes **Hahn** Attends the informal meeting: "Breakfast with friends of North Macedonia", in Brussels.

Mr Neven **Mimica** in Bucharest, Romania: participates in the 37th session of the [African-Caribbean-Pacific \(ACP\)-European Union Joint Parliamentary Assembly](#).

Mr Miguel **Arias Cañete** gives a keynote speech at the [Clean Energy Industrial Forum](#), in Brussels.

Mr Karmenu **Vella** meets Mr Rumen Porodzanov, Minister for Agriculture, Food and Forestry of Bulgaria, in Brussels.

Mr Karmenu **Vella** meets Mr Kaspars Gerhards, Minister for Agriculture of Latvia, in Brussels.

Mr Vytenis **Andriukaitis** receives Mr Kaspars Gerhards, Minister for Agriculture of Latvia.

Mr Vytenis **Andriukaitis** receives Mr Miroslav Toman, Minister for Agriculture of Czechia.

Mr Vytenis **Andriukaitis** receives Mr Jan Krzysztof Ardanowski, Minister for Agriculture and Rural Development of Poland.

Mr Christos **Stylianides** in Berlin, Germany: hosts a discussion with German humanitarian aid NGOs and meets Mr Uwe Corsepius, Director for EU affairs in the Federal Chancellor's Office.

Mr Phil **Hogan** meets Mr Kaspars Gerhards, Minister for Agriculture of Latvia, in Brussels.

Mr Phil **Hogan** meets Ms Jennie Nilsson, Minister for Rural Affairs of Sweden, in Brussels.

Mr Phil **Hogan** meets Mr Didier Guillaume, Minister for Agriculture and Food of France, in Brussels.

Ms Elżbieta **Bieńkowska**, in Craiova, Romania: delivers a speech at the Automotive Industry Forum.

Mr Tibor **Navracsics** in Budapest, Hungary: holds a Citizens' Dialogue at

Pázmány Péter University.

Ms Corina **Crețu** in Athens, Greece (until 20/03): meets Mr Christos Spirtzis, Minister for Infrastructure and Transport; meets Mr Nikos Pappas, Minister for Digital Policy, Telecommunications and Information; delivers a speech at the [4th Meeting](#) of OECD (Organisation of Economic Co-operation and Development) Champion Mayors for Inclusive Growth.

Ms Margrethe **Vestager** in Copenhagen, Denmark: meets Mr Morten Ostergaard, party leader of the Danish Social liberal party; and meets Mr Lars Rohde, Governor of the Danish National Bank.

Ms Margrethe **Vestager** in Lund, Sweden: meets Mr Hans Dahlgren, Minister for European Affairs of Sweden; and gives a keynote speech at the “Anna Lindh Lecture” at the University of Lund.

Mr Carlos **Moedas** receives a group of young representative of the JSD (Social Democratic Youth) from Castelo Branco and Leiria districts, in Brussels.

Mr Carlos **Moedas** attends the inauguration of ‘Citizen Space’ at the Embassy of Portugal in Belgium together with HE Professor Augusto Santos Silva, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Portugal, in Brussels.

Mr Julian **King** in London, the United Kingdom: meets Ms Sharon White, Chief Executive of the Office of Communications (Ofcom) to discuss cyber security and online terrorist content.

Ms Mariya **Gabriel**, in Sofia, Bulgaria: participates in a discussion with young people on “Sofia and Europe for the Young – 3D Democracy, Dialogue and Debate”.

Ms Mariya **Gabriel**, in Sofia, Bulgaria: meets with Mr. Mark Vasic, Deutsche Telekom Vice President responsible for EU and International Regulation and Mr Nikola Ljushev, CEO of Makedonski Telekom.

Mardi 19 mars 2019

General Affairs Council

President Jean-Claude **Juncker** receives Mr Andrej Kiska, President of Slovakia.

President Jean-Claude **Juncker** holds a joint press point with Mr Andrej Kiska, President of Slovakia.

Mr Frans **Timmermans** receives Mr Reinier van Zutphen, National Ombudsman of the Netherlands, to discuss the migrants and refugees situation in Member States.

Ms Federica **Mogherini** participates in the 15th EU-North Macedonia Association & Stabilisation Council, in Brussels.

Mr Andrus **Ansip**, Ms Věra **Jourová**, Mr Julian **King** and Ms Mariya **Gabriel** participate in a roundtable with the online platforms Google, Facebook and Twitter to follow-up on the implementation of the Code of Practice on Disinformation, in Brussels.

Mr Valdis **Dombrovskis** in Berlin: delivers a speech at the [Global Solutions Summit](#); meets Mr Dennis J. Snower, President of the Global Solutions Initiative; meets Mr Rainer Hoffmann, Chairman of the German Trade Union Confederation; and meets Mr Eric Schweitzer, President of the German Chambers of Commerce and Industry.

Mr Jyrki **Katainen** delivers a keynote speech at the [InvestEU Matchmaking Event](#), in Brussels.

Mr Jyrki **Katainen** delivers a keynote speech at the Globe EU event on [“Fast-tracking a Circular Economy in the EU”](#), in Brussels.

Mr Jyrki **Katainen** participates in the Politico [Artificial Intelligence: Innovation and Governance Summit 2019](#), in Brussels.

Mr Günther H. **Oettinger** receives Mr Žygimantas Vaičiūnas, Minister for Energy of Lithuania.

Mr Johannes **Hahn** receives Mr Wolfgang Sobotka, President of the Austrian National Council.

Mr Johannes **Hahn** at the EU-North Macedonia Stabilisation and Association Council, in Brussels.

Mr Johannes **Hahn** receives Mr Goerge Ciamba, Minister Delegate for European Affairs of Romania.

Ms Cecilia **Malmström** in Tbilisi, Georgia: meets Ms Salome Zourabichvili, President of Georgia; meets Mr Mamuka Bakhtadze, Prime Minister of Georgia; meets Mr Giorgi Kobulia, Minister for Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia; meets with the Civil Society of the EU-Georgia Domestic Advisory Group (DAG); participates in a Business Forum hosted by the EU-Georgia Business Council; and visits the Tiflistex manufacturing company.

Mr Miguel **Arias Cañete** receives Mr Krzysztof Tchórzewski, Minister of Energy of Poland.

Mr Miguel **Arias Cañete** receives Mr Žygimantas Vaiciunas, Minister of Energy of Lithuania.

Mr Miguel **Arias Cañete** receives Mr Herkko Plit, CEO of Baltic Connector.

Mr Miguel **Arias Cañete** gives an opening speech at the [PCI Energy Days](#), in Brussels.

Mr Karmenu **Vella** delivers a speech at the high-level conference on: “Oceans – The future of the Blue Planet”, in Brussels.

Mr Vytenis **Andriukaitis** in Amsterdam, the Netherlands: visits the European Medicines Agency.

M. Pierre **Moscovici** à Paris: participe au sommet annuel « Annual AAA issuer and investor Summit » organisé par HSBC.

Mr Christos **Stylianides** receives Mr Andreas Pottakis, Greek Ombudsman.

Mr Phil **Hogan** addresses a conference organised by the Ministry for Environment, Agriculture, Conservation and Consumer Protection of the State of North Rhine-Westphalia, in Brussels.

Ms Elżbieta **Bieńkowska** delivers a Speech at the Tourism Showcase Conference, in Brussels.

Ms Elzbieta **Bienkowska** takes part in the European Family Business roundtable, in Brussels.

Ms Věra **Jourová** delivers a speech at the [2nd Artificial Intelligence Summit: Innovation and Governance 2019](#), organised by Politico, in Brussels.

Ms Věra **Jourová** delivers the welcome speech at the European Civil Rights Award of Sinti and Roma, in Brussels.

Mr Tibor **Navracsics** receives Alfonso Pallavicini, new President of the European Historic Houses, and Vice President Wenceslas de Lobcowicz.

Mr Tibor **Navracsics** meets with members of the European Government Business Relations Council (“Ad hoc Council”) to discuss priorities in education and youth “Building resilience, cohesion and competitiveness – what next for education and youth in Europe?”, in Brussels.

Ms Margrethe **Vestager** receives Mr Krzysztof Tchórzewski, Minister for Energy of Poland.

Ms Corina **Crețu** in Athens, Greece: meets Mr Angel Gurría, Secretary-General of the Organisation of Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD); participates in the [7th OECD Roundtable of Mayors and Ministers](#); delivers a speech at the Opening session “The Geography of Global Megatrends”; and delivers a keynote speech at the Plenary Session “Looking Back, Looking Ahead” of the [Fourth Ministerial Meeting of the Regional Development Policy Committee](#).

Mr Carlos **Moedas** delivers a keynote speech at the Conference [“InvestEU Matchmaking 2019 Powered by the European Investment Project Portal \(EIPP\) and the Seal of Excellence \(SoE\)”](#), in Brussels.

Mr Carlos **Moedas** delivers a keynote speech at the European House Ambrosetti on: “Shaping the future of research, science and innovation in Europe”, in Brussels.

Mr Carlos **Moedas** delivers a keynote speech at the European Parliament high-level conference “Oceans – the future of the blue Planet”, in Brussels.

Mr Carlos **Moedas** delivers a keynote speech at the Dialogue seminar with churches, religious and philosophical organisations, organised by the European Parliament, on: “Artificial Intelligence: Ethical Concerns”, in Brussels.

Mr Julian **King** participates in a roundtable with online platforms, in Brussels.

Ms Mariya **Gabriel** delivers opening remarks at the high-level conference within the [European Media Literacy Week](#), in Brussels.

Ms Mariya **Gabriel** meets with Ms Rositsa Zaimova, co-founder of Dalberg Data Insights, in Brussels.

Ms Mariya **Gabriel** delivers a keynote speech at the [15 Years Anniversary of the European Union Agency for Network and Information Security](#) under the title “Building cybersecurity bridges together: 15 years of ENISA”, in Brussels.

Ms Mariya **Gabriel**, in Namur, Belgium: delivers a keynote speech at the conference “Europe Numérique: où sont les femmes?” at the University of Namur.

Mercredi 20 mars 2019

College Meeting

President Jean-Claude **Juncker** accompanied by Mr Valdis **Dombrovskis** and Ms Marianne **Thyssen**, delivers the opening speech at the [Tripartite Social Summit](#), in Brussels.

President Jean-Claude **Juncker** meets Mr Petro Poroshenko, President of Ukraine, Mr Antonio Tajani, President of the European Parliament, and Mr Donald Tusk, President of the European Council, for a working dinner.

Mr Frans **Timmermans** receives representatives of the European Disability Forum.

Ms Federica **Mogherini** receives Mr David Harris, Executive Director of the American Jewish Committee (AJC).

Mr Jyrki **Katainen** visits the Employers Group of the Economic and Social Committee (EESC), in Brussels.

Mr Jyrki **Katainen** delivers a keynote speech on the EU-Japan Economic Partnership Agreement at the event organised by Japan Machinery Center for Trade and Investment (JMC) and Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO), in Brussels.

Ms Cecilia **Malmström** receives Mr Geoffroy Roux de Bézieux, President of MEDEF, a network of entrepreneurs in France.

Mr Neven **Mimica** in Buenos Aires, Argentina: participates in the [2nd high-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation](#) (BAPA+40 Conference) and meets Mr Jorge Marcelo Faurie, Minister for Foreign Affairs and Worship of Argentina.

Mr Karmenu **Vella** receives Mr Koen Van den Heuvel, Minister for Environment, Nature and Agriculture of Flanders, Belgium.

Mr Vytenis **Andriukaitis** receives members of the Assembly of European Regions.

M. Pierre **Moscovici** rencontre le Professeur Joseph Stiglitz, lauréat du prix Nobel d'économie en 2001, à Bruxelles.

Mr Phil **Hogan** receives Mr Theo de Jager, President of the World Farmers' Organisation (WFO).

Ms Věra **Jourová** delivers a speech at the conference Combating Racism/Discrimination: Evaluating 2014-2019 and recommendations for 2019-2024, at the EU Roma Week in the European Parliament, in Brussels.

Ms Věra **Jourová** speaks at the conference Creating Trust through Uncovering and Recognising the Truth: Advancing Recognition and Remedy for Anti-Gypsyism organised on International Day Against Racial Discrimination, at the EU Roma Week in the European Parliament, in Brussels.

Ms Věra **Jourová** speaks at the [9th Annual European Data Protection & Privacy Conference](#) – “What next for European and global data privacy?”, in Brussels.

Ms Věra **Jourová** receives Ms Dunja Mijatović, Commissioner for Human Rights of the Council of Europe.

Mr Tibor **Navracsics** and Mr Günther H. **Oettinger** receive Andy Grote, Hamburg's Interior and Sports Senator.

Mr Tibor **Navracsics** delivers a keynote address at the event “Learn to Swim, Prevent Drowning – The Way Forward”, hosted by MEP Adina Vălean, Chairwoman of the Committee on Environment, Public Health and Food Safety in the European Parliament, in Brussels.

Ms Corina **Crețu** in Athens, Greece: participates in the Plenary Session “Including Everyone, Everywhere: Managing Demographic and Social Change” and in the Closing session “The Path Forward” of the [Fourth Ministerial Meeting of the Regional Development Policy Committee](#); and meets Mr Çetin Ali Dönmez, Deputy Minister for Industry and Technology of Turkey.

Mr Julian **King** meets Mr Roland Ries, Mayor of Strasbourg, in Brussels

Mr Julian **King** receives Mr Boris Pistorius, Minister for Internal Affairs and Sports of Lower Saxony

Ms Mariya **Gabriel** delivers a speech at [the 9th Annual European Data Protection and Privacy Conference: What next for European and global data privacy?](#), in Brussels.

Ms Mariya **Gabriel** meets with Mr Bruno Liebhberg, Chair of the [EU Observatory on Online Platform Economy](#) and Director General of the Centre on Regulation in Europe (CERRE), in Brussels.

Ms Mariya **Gabriel** participates in the Code Week Ambassadors and Education Ministries' coordinators meeting, in Brussels.

Jeudi 21 mars 2019

European Council

President Jean-Claude **Juncker** participates in the EPP Summit ahead of the European Council.

President Jean-Claude **Juncker** participates in the European Council.

President Jean-Claude **Juncker** holds a press conference with Mr Donald Tusk, President of the European Council.

Mr Frans **Timmermans** receives Ms Britta Stark, President of the Landtag Brandenburg, State Parliament of Brandenburg, Germany.

Mr Valdis **Dombrovskis** delivers a speech at the high-level conference on [“A global approach to sustainable finance”](#), in Brussels.

Mr Jyrki **Katainen** receives Ms Eva Maydell, Member of the European Parliament, and Bulgarian Business Leaders in the context of “Leaders' Academy of the Education Bulgaria 2030”

Mr Jyrki **Katainen** delivers a keynote speech at the [Eurocities Mayors' Summit](#), in Brussels.

Mr Jyrki **Katainen** receives Mr Hiromichi Mizuno, Executive Managing Director and Chief Investment Officer of Japan's Government Pension Investment Fund (GPIF).

Mr Jyrki **Katainen** delivers a keynote speech at the [First EU-African SME Summit](#), in Brussels.

Mr Jyrki **Katainen** receives Mr Luca Visentini, General Secretary of the European Trade Union Confederation (ETUC).

Ms Cecilia **Malmström** delivers a keynote speech at the American Chamber of Commerce to the European Union (AmCham EU) Transatlantic Conference: [“Atlantic drift? The EU, the US and the WTO in a new world”](#), in Brussels.

Ms Cecilia **Malmström** and Mr Phil **Hogan** deliver a keynote speeches at the European Liaison Committee for Agricultural and Agri-Food Trade (CELCAA) Conference: [“Beyond ‘Trade for All’: Time to promote the benefits of agri-food trade”](#), in Brussels.

Ms Cecilia **Malmström** delivers a keynote speech at the European Liberal Forum

Ralf Dahrendorf Roundtable: “Taking Charge of Transatlantic Trade: The EU as a global leader”, in Brussels.

Mr Neven **Mimica** in Buenos Aires, Argentina: participates in the launch of the [EU-UN Spotlight Initiative](#) in Argentina; meets Ms Patricia Bullrich, Minister for Security of Argentina; and meets Ms Carolina Stanley, Minister for Health and Social Development of Argentina.

Mr Miguel **Arias Cañete** in Las Palmas, Gran Canaria, Spain: participates in the [Citizens Dialogue](#).

Ms Marianne **Thyssen** attends the Conference on [Mobility of Apprenticeships in Europe: A contribution to youth employment and competitiveness of business](#), co-organised by the European Parliament, in Brussels.

Pierre **Moscovici** rencontre M. Mohamed Benchaaboun, ministre des Finances et de l'Économie du Maroc, à Bruxelles.

Ms Věra **Jourová** in Bruges, Belgium; participates in a debate: “[The future of Europe and equality between men and women in the EU](#)”, at the College of Europe.

Mr Tibor **Navracsics** in Zagreb, Croatia: delivers a speech on Talent Education at the Second International Gifted Conference.

Mr Carlos **Moedas**, in Porto, Portugal: delivers a keynote speech at the 170th Anniversary event of the Portuguese Business Association (AEP) on the theme: “European competitiveness in a situation of uncertainty”.

Mr Julian **Kings** speaks at the [E!Sharp Live Conference 2019](#) on disinformation and election security, in Brussels

Mr Julian **King** receives Ms Natalia Intotero, Minister for Romanians Abroad.

Ms Mariya **Gabriel**, in Cluj-Napoca, Romania: participates as guest speaker at an Investment Breakfast; delivers an opening keynote speech at the [Startup Europe Summit 2019](#); meets with the [Startup Europe Western Balkans Network](#) launched in Sofia and discusses the Western Balkans policy recommendations report; delivers a speech at the [Startup Europe Awards Special edition Ceremony](#) and awards winners; and meets Romanian entrepreneurs.

Vendredi 22 mars 2019

European Council

President Jean-Claude **Juncker** participates in a special event celebrating the 25th anniversary of the European Economic Area Agreement together with the Leaders of the European Council and the Prime Ministers of Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway.

President Jean-Claude **Juncker** participates in the European Council.

President Jean-Claude **Juncker** holds a press conference with Mr Donald Tusk, President of the European Council.

Mr Valdis **Dombrovskis** in Riga, Latvia: meets the Latvian Parliament for a European Semester visit.

Mr Jyrki **Katainen** in Tampere, Finland; meets Ms Mari Walls, President of Tampere University and the management board of Tampere University; participates in a [Citizens' dialogue](#) at Tampere University; attends a working lunch hosted by Mr Lauri Lyly, Mayor of City of Tampere; and visits two Horizon2020 funded-projects on digital innovation and robotics.

Mr Johannes **Hahn** receives Mr Mohamed Benchaâboun, Minister for Economy and Finance of Morocco.

Mr Miguel **Arias Cañete** in Santa Cruz de Tenerife, Spain: participates in the [Citizens' Dialogue](#).

Ms Marianne **Thyssen** receives Ms Natalia-Elena Intotero, Minister for Romanians Abroad.

Mr Christos **Stylianides** in Naples, Italy: participates in a [Citizens' Dialogue](#) and participates in the ["EU Saves Lives"](#) roadshow.

Mr Carlos **Moedas**, in Vila Real, Portugal: visits the University of Trás-os-Montes e Alto Douro (UTAD) as part of the Science Road Show agenda.

Mr Carlos **Moedas**, in Ílhavo, Portugal: speaks at the WinterCEmp event organised by the European Commission's representation in Portugal: «The stage to Europe: conversation with Carlos Moedas and Francisco Pinto Balsemão».

Ms Mariya **Gabriel**, in Pazardzhik, Bulgaria: delivers a speech at the national Students Conference on European parliament elections 2019 and "My Media Literacy beat the fake news".

Samedi 23 mars 2019

Ms Federica **Mogherini** on official visit to Tokyo, Japan (until 24/03).

Mr Christos **Stylianides** in Udine, Italy: speaks in an event on civil protection together with local civil protection authorities.

Dimanche 24 mars 2019

Ms Federica **Mogherini** on official visit to Tokyo, Japan: participates in the 5th [World Assembly for Women \(WAW!\)](#).

Mr Karmenu **Vella** in Monaco:delivers a speech at the [10th Edition of the Monaco Blue Initiative](#); meets Mr Viacheslav Fetisov, United Nations Environment Patron for the Polar Regions.

Prévisions du mois de mars 2019 :

26-27/03 Informal meeting of transport ministers

Permanence DG COMM le WE du 23 et 24 mars 2019:

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