

## [South Sudan: EU adds 3 persons involved in serious human rights violation to sanctions list](#)

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## [Press speakings of Commissioner Jourová at a joint press conference on dual quality of food with Chair of Czech Parliament Agriculture committee Mr. Fałtynek](#)

The Commission takes the issue of dual quality food very seriously and has drawn up an articulated action plan.

Since September 2017, when Commission President Mr Juncker, said in his State of the Union speech that we cannot accept the perception of second class consumers, we have done a lot already:

We adopted guidance on how to apply and enforce the relevant EU food and consumer protection laws. This is to assist national enforcement authorities to take the appropriate measures on a case-by-case basis.

I personally engaged in a dialogue with the industry concerned, both trade associations representing big brands and retailers and the largest European food producers – I had 4 meetings with them. I asked to stop unnecessary product differentiation practices, which do not correspond to specific market requirements. I stressed that consumers expect branded products to be the same wherever they purchase them in the EU and this is one of the key elements of brand loyalty. I stressed that they have to live up to their customers' expectation in this respect and should offer similar products across the Union.

The Commission's Joint Research Centre (JRC), started to develop a harmonised testing protocol in close cooperation with the industry and all key stakeholders concerned.

I offered to co-fund the enforcement capacities of national authorities to help them tackling the issue. Currently we are finalising the evaluation and award procedure for applicants. [unfortunately, there was no Czech institution interested in our grant].

This year, we will continue our plan:

The harmonised testing protocol should be ready by April. In May, a coordinated testing campaign should be launched with at least 16 EU countries (including or geographical corners and both small and large Members states) participating. The tests will involve the composition of a common market basket of products which are marketed in most Member States and will include chemical and sensory testing. We hope to present first results by the end of 2018.

And throughout 2018, we will continue supporting the Member States' efforts to implement existing laws, our 2017 Guidance, and the forthcoming harmonised testing approach.

In addition, I intend to address the issue as part of the overhaul of consumer law, which I intend to propose to the Member States and the European Parliament in April. We are calling it the "New Deal for Consumers" because we want to ensure that our good consumer laws, which we have in the European Union, are also applied in practice. For this purpose, I will propose to include new provisions in existing laws to ensure consumers can get redress when something goes wrong and that non-compliant traders are properly sanctioned.

Our "New Deal" will make it more difficult and costly for traders to mislead consumers in marketing dual quality products, which will be one of the examples of illegal practices.

When we will have completed these steps, I consider that the Commission will have accomplished its part in relation to dual quality food issue. It will subsequently be for national authorities to take up the challenge and to demonstrate that they also take the issue seriously. They should start to tackle the concrete cases that have been found on their national territory.

From mid-2018, we will also start looking into the need to extend our effort to non-food products such as detergents, a specific harmonised testing approach will be developed by our Joint Research Centre in 2019, drawing on the main principles of the food testing approach and on the lessons learned.

Now I would like to stress again that consumers are in the driving seat. They should be voting with their purses and refuse to buy products that they do not like or consider to be of lower standards. This is the best way to be heard by the manufacturers.

To some extent this already started and has produced tangible effects. Consumers' voices have made the market evolve: some producers have already voluntarily decided to change their recipes in order to ensure that the same products are sold across the Union.

- E.g. Bahlsen, The German producer of waffles and butter biscuits, announced that they will start to use butter in all their products named butter biscuits.
- E.g. Hipp, a leading producer of baby food, will ensure a similar content of vegetables in their processed food across different countries.
- E.g. Ferrero announced it would modify the recipe for Nutella in Germany, the only country where it was different.

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## [Daily News 02 / 02 / 2018](#)

### **Commission announces dual quality of food testing campaign**

The question of dual quality of food products is one that the Commission takes very seriously. President Jean-Claude **Juncker** said on the occasion of the State of the Union speech: *"I will not accept that in some parts of Europe, people are sold food of lower quality than in other countries, despite the packaging and branding being identical. We must now equip national authorities with stronger powers to cut out any illegal practices wherever they exist"*. Commissioner **Jourová** announced this morning in Prague that the common testing methodology, developed by the European Commission's Joint-Research Centre, with support of at least 16 Member States and stakeholders will be ready in April. This would allow Member States authorities to launch a coordinated testing campaign in May. The tests will involve the composition of a common basket of products which are marketed in most Member States and will include chemical and sensory testing. The aim is to present the first results by the end of 2018. Commissioner **Jourová** said: *"We are continuing to roll out our action plan to put an end to the dual quality issue. The fact that 16 Member States are participating is a clear sign that this is not an East-West divide issue and that we will tackle it together. Also, the reform of EU consumer law, the 'New Deal for Consumers', that we'll present in April, will also make it more difficult and costly for*

*companies to mislead consumers. Consumers are in the driving seat. They should refuse to buy products they consider of lower quality. I also expect the industry to live up to their customers' expectations and offer products of a samequality across the EU."* To tackle this issue, the Commission has already adopted guidance on how to apply and enforce the relevant EU food and consumer protection laws in September 2017. It also offered funding to support the enforcement actions of Member States. Commissioner Jourová met with industry representatives several times to ask them to stop unnecessary product differentiation practices, which do not correspond to specific market requirements. Some producers have already started to change their recipes in order to ensure the same products are sold across the EU. The details of the action plan are available [online](#), as well as Commissioner **Jourová's** [speech](#). (For more information: Christian Wigand – Tel.: +32 229 62253; Mélanie Voin – Tel.: +32 229 58659)

### **European Investment Bank agrees first Juncker Plan project in Cyprus**

The European Investment Bank (EIB) has agreed the first infrastructure project in Cyprus under the European Fund for Strategic Investments (EFSI), the heart of the Investment Plan for Europe. The EIB will provide €35 million to the Cyprus Organisation for Storage and Management of Oil Stocks (COSMOS) to build a 210,000 tonne privately-owned storage facility. The Juncker Plan-backed project will focus on enhancing energy efficiency and it will improve Cyprus's energy security by increasing the amount of reserve oil stocks held in the country. Commission Vice-President Jyrki **Katainen**, responsible for Jobs, Growth, Investment and Competitiveness, said: *"The EU's Energy Union strategy aims to make energy more secure and affordable. This first EFSI project in Cyprus with COSMOS will help us meet those goals. I encourage more project promoters in Cyprus to contact the EIB with their investment proposals in order to continue boosting growth and creating jobs."* (For all the latest EFSI results see the [Investment Plan website](#) or contact Johannes Bahrke – Tel.: +32 229 58615; Siobhán Millbright – Tel.: +32 229 57361)

### **Consultation publique sur la formation des professionnels de la justice au droit de l'UE**

La Commission Européenne lance aujourd'hui une consultation publique pour évaluer l'actuelle [stratégie](#) en matière de formation judiciaire au droit de l'UE et pour préparer la [prochaine](#) couvrant 2019-2025, d'ici le mois d'octobre. Věra **Jourová**, commissaire en charge de Justice, Consommateurs et Egalité des Genres a dit: *"La législation européenne n'est pas statique mais en évolution constante. Afin d'améliorer la formation des professionnels de la justice au droit de l'UE, nous devons prendre en considération les nouveaux développements et tirer des leçons de la stratégie actuelle."* L'un des objectifs de la stratégie actuelle visait à s'assurer que la moitié de tous les acteurs du système judiciaire de l'Union Européenne – environ 700 000 personnes – participe au moins à une formation judiciaire d'ici 2020. Cet objectif sera déjà atteint cette année, en 2018, deux ans avant la date

fixée. Toutefois, des améliorations peuvent encore être apportées à cette formation, comme le démontre le [rapport](#) sur la formation judiciaire 2017. La consultation publique a pour objectif de recueillir le point de vue des parties prenantes sur la formation judiciaire des professionnels de la justice sur la législation de l'UE, d'évaluer la formation en cours et d'élaborer les nouveaux besoins en matière de formation. Deux questionnaires seront disponibles jusqu'au 26 avril 2018: un questionnaire d'ordre général sur la formation à la législation de l'UE à l'attention des professionnels de la justice, des représentants ou des formateurs; et un questionnaire ciblé qui s'adresse aux spécialistes de la formation judiciaire européenne. La consultation est disponible [en ligne](#). (Pour plus d'informations: Christian Wigand – Tel.: +32 229 62253; Mélanie Voin – Tel.: +32 229 58659)

### **Juvenes Translatores: Winners of the EU translation contest for schools announced today**

The European Commission announced the winners of its annual translation contest '[Juvenes Translatores](#)' today. A total of 28 secondary school students, one from each of the European Union Member States, will be awarded a trophy and a diploma after competing with over 3 300 participants from across the continent. The winners will be invited to Brussels on 10 April 2018 to receive their trophies from Commissioner Günther **Oettinger**, responsible for Budget and Human Resources. *"My congratulations on your achievement. Well done for taking on the challenge and proving your talents in all 24 EU languages. Learning languages is a skill that is vital for your careers and personal development. It is amazing to see so many talented young people. Multilingualism defines us as Europeans"*, said Commissioner **Oettinger**. The names of the winners are in the following [press release](#) (also in [FR](#), [DE](#) and all official EU languages). (For more information: Alexander Winterstein – Tel.: +32 229 93265; Maria Tsoni – Tel.: +32 229 90526)

### **State aid: Commission approves public compensation for electronic data boxes service in the Czech Republic**

The European Commission has found public support to Czech Post for the provision of an electronic data boxes service in the Czech Republic for the period 2018 to 2022 to be in line with EU State aid rules. The electronic data boxes service is an advanced electronic communication channel for (i) internal communication within the public administration, and (ii) for secured guaranteed communication between the public administration and citizens and companies. The Czech authorities consider the electronic data boxes service to be a service of general economic interest (SGEI). The use of the data boxes service will be free for users and Czech Post will be compensated for its provision by means of direct grants from the State budget. Since the annual compensation for the provision of this service exceeds €15 million, the measure was notified by the Czech authorities to the Commission under the [2012 SGEI Framework](#), which lays down the conditions that should be met by aid to be found compatible. The Commission concluded that the compensation to Czech Post is in line with EU state aid rules. More information will be available, once potential confidentiality issues have been resolved, in the public [case register](#) on the Commission's [competition](#) website under the case number SA.47293. (For more information: Ricardo Cardoso – Tel.: +32 229

80100; Maria Sarantopoulou – Tel.: +32 229 13740)

### **Concentrations: la Commission autorise la création d'une entreprise de pièces de panneaux solaires contrôlée conjointement par Canadian Solar et EDF**

La Commission Européenne a autorisé, en vertu du règlement européen sur les concentrations, le projet de création d'une entreprise contrôlée conjointement par la société canadienne Canadian Solar et la société française EDF ENR, filiale du Groupe EDF. L'entreprise commune nouvellement créée développera, fabriquera et fournira des lingots, briques et wafers photovoltaïques. Canadian Solar fabrique des modules photovoltaïques et est également active dans le développement, la construction et l'exploitation de projets d'énergie photovoltaïque. EDF ENR est spécialisée dans la production de lingots, briques, wafers, cellules et modules photovoltaïques. La Commission est parvenue à la conclusion que l'opération envisagée ne poserait pas de problèmes de concurrence compte tenu de la position limitée des entreprises sur les marchés où leurs activités se chevauchent. L'opération a été examinée en vertu de la procédure simplifiée de contrôle des concentrations. De plus amples informations sont disponibles sur le site internet [concurrence](#) de la Commission, dans le [registre public des affaires](#) sous le numéro d'affaire [M.8693](#). (Pour plus d'informations: Ricardo Cardoso – Tel.: +32 229 80100; Maria Sarantopoulou – Tel.: +32 229 13740)

### **Eurostat: Décembre 2017 comparé à novembre 2017: Les prix à la production industrielle en hausse de 0,2% dans la zone euro, hausse de 0,1% dans l'UE28**

En décembre 2017 par rapport à novembre 2017, les prix à la production industrielle ont augmenté de 0,2% dans la zone euro (ZE19) et de 0,1% dans l'UE28, selon les estimations d'Eurostat, l'office statistique de l'Union européenne. En novembre 2017, les prix avaient crû de 0,6% dans la zone euro et de 0,7% dans l'UE28. En décembre 2017 par rapport à décembre 2016, les prix à la production industrielle ont progressé de 2,2% dans la zone euro et de 2,4% dans l'UE28. Par rapport à 2016, les prix moyens à la production industrielle de l'année 2017 ont augmenté de 3,1% dans la zone euro et de 3,4% dans l'UE28. Un communiqué de presse Eurostat est [disponible en ligne](#). (For more information: Lucía Caudet – Tel.: +32 229 56182; Maud Noyon – Tel.: +32 229 80379; Victoria von Hammerstein – Tel.: +32 229 55040)

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **Commissioner Hahn in Washington D.C.**

Johannes **Hahn**, Commissioner for European Neighbourhood Policy and Enlargement Negotiations is today in Washington D.C. to discuss [EU and US](#) bilateral relation and common work in the EU neighbourhood. Commissioner **Hahn** will meet officials of the US administration including the Senior Advisor to the President Jared Kushner, the Deputy Assistant to the President and Senior Director for European and Russian Affairs Fiona Hill, and the U.S. Special Representative for Ukraine Negotiations Kurt Volker. Commissioner will discuss with the First Deputy Managing Director of the International Monetary Fund David Lipton, and the Chief Executive Officer of the World Bank Kristalina Georgieva, how to enhance the common work between the EU and the

International Financial Institutions. Commissioner **Hahn** will also participate in an informal roundtable discussion at the Hudson Institute. Photos and videos of the visit will be available on [EbS](#). (For more information: Maja Kocijančič – Tel.: +32 229 86570; Alceo Smerilli – Tel.: +32 229 64887)

## [Calendar](#)

Commissioners' weekly activities

[Upcoming events](#) of the European Commission (ex-Top News)

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# [CALENDRIER du 05 au 11 février 2018](#)

*(Susceptible de modifications en cours de semaine)*

## *Déplacements et visites*

### **Lundi 05 février 2018**

05-08/02 European Parliament Plenary Session, in Strasbourg

President Jean-Claude **Juncker**, together with the College of Commissioners in Luxembourg: participates in a College to College meeting with the European Court of Auditors.

President Jean-Claude **Juncker** in Strasbourg, France (until 07/02): receives Mr Joseph Daul, President of the European People's Party (EPP), and Mr Manfred Weber, Chairman of the EPP Group in the European Parliament.

Ms Federica **Mogherini** chairs the EU-Georgia Association Council, in Brussels.

Ms Federica **Mogherini** receives Mr Fathallah Sijilmassi, Secretary General of the Union for the Mediterranean (UfM).

Ms Federica **Mogherini** receives Mr Khemaies Jhinaoui, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Tunisia.

Mr Maroš **Šefčovič** in Trenčín, Slovakia: visits the Trenčín Region on the Coal region initiative.

Mr Johannes **Hahn** participates in the EU-Georgia Association Council, in Brussels.



Mr Johannes **Hahn** receives Mr Khemaies Jhinaoui, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Tunisia.

Ms Cecilia **Malmström** receives Mr Giorgi Kvirikashvili, Prime Minister for Georgia.

Mr Miguel **Arias Cañete** in Madrid, Spain: exchanges views with the Committee on Climate Change of the Spanish national Parliament.

Mr Phil **Hogan** in Luxembourg: meets Mr Andrew McDowell, Vice-President of the European Investment Bank (EIB).

Mr Carlos **Moedas** delivers an opening keynote speech at the open roundtable meeting of the [European Group on Ethics in Science and New Technologies](#) (EGE).

## **Mardi 06 février 2018**

College meeting

European Parliament Plenary Session, in Strasbourg

President Jean-Claude **Juncker** in Strasbourg, France: participates in a debate on the future of Europe in the Plenary of the European Parliament with Mr Andrej Plenković, Prime Minister of Croatia; receives Ms Assunção Cristas, President of the Democratic and Social Centre – People's Party (CDS-PP) of Portugal; and receives Ms Emily O'Reilly, European Ombudsman.

Ms Violeta **Bulc** in Strasbourg, France: meets Ms Gioia Ghezzi, Chairwoman of *Ferrovie dello Stato Italiane Group* and Mr Renato Mazzoncini, CEO of *Ferrovie dello Stato Italiane Group*.

Ms Věra **Jourová** in Strasbourg, France: delivers a keynote speech at the [Safer Internet Day 2018](#).

Ms Mariya **Gabriel** in Strasbourg, France: presides the [Safer Internet Day 2018](#); and receives Mr Vittorio Colao, CEO of Vodafone.

## **Mercredi 07 février 2018**

European Parliament Plenary Session, in Strasbourg

Mr Andrus **Ansip** reçoit des membres du Hub France IA.

Mr Andrus **Ansip** receives Mr Stephen Spengler, CEO of Intelsat, Ms Michelle Bryan, Executive Vice-President, General Counsel and Chief Administrative Officer, and Mr Jose Manuel do Rosario Toscano, Head of International Government Affairs and Asset management.

Mr Maroš **Šefčovič** receives Mr Riccardo Puliti, Senior Director, Head of the



Energy and Extractives Global Practice of the World Bank Group.

Mr Maroš **Šefčovič** exchanges views on the Future of Europe with students from the European School at the [TEDYouth Conference](#), in Brussels.

Mr Valdis **Dombrovskis** in Frankfurt, Germany: participates in a meeting of the Governing Council of the European Central Bank (ECB).

Mr Jyrki **Katainen** in Strasbourg, France: meets Mr Antonio Tajani, President of the European Parliament.

Mr Jyrki **Katainen** receives Mr Werner Hoyer, President of the European Investment Bank Group.

Mr Johannes **Hahn** in Serbia (until 08/02): on official visit.

Mr Neven **Mimica** receives Mr Eklil Ahmad Hakimi, Minister for Finance of Afghanistan.

Ms Marianne **Thyssen** in Strasbourg, France: attends the Posting of Workers trilogue.

Ms Violeta **Bulc** takes part in the announcement of the ten finalists of the [European Startup Prize for mobility](#), in Brussels.

Mr Tibor **Navracsics** in Sweden: meets Ms Alice Bah Kuhnke, Minister for Culture and Democracy of Sweden; delivers a keynote speech at the conference [Folk och Kultur](#); and visits the Museum of Photography.

Ms Corina **Crețu** in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia (until 12/02): attends the 9<sup>th</sup> session of the [World Urban Forum](#); meets Ms Maimunah Mohd Sharif, Executive Director of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat); and Mr Noh bin Omar, Minister for Urban Wellbeing of Malaysia.

Mr Carlos **Moedas** in Mafra, Portugal: participates in and delivers keynote speeches at [COTEC Europe Summit 2018 "Work 4.0: Rethinking the Human-Technology Alliance"](#).

Ms Mariya **Gabriel** attends the second High-Level Group on Fake News expert meeting.

Ms Mariya **Gabriel** participates in and delivers a speech at a meeting with Trusted Flaggers in the fields of illegal hate speech, terrorism and CSAM (Child Sexual Abuse Material), and at a meeting in the field of intellectual property rights, in Brussels.

## **Jeudi 08 février 2018**

European Parliament Plenary Session, in Strasbourg

President Jean-Claude **Juncker** receives Mr Günther Platter, Landeshauptmann of Tyrol.

President Jean-Claude **Juncker** in Berlin, Germany: meets Ms Angela Merkel, Chancellor of Germany, for a working dinner.

Mr Frans **Timmermans** meets Mr Jacek Czaputowicz, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Poland, in Brussels.

Ms Federica **Mogherini** receives Mr Eklil Ahmad Hakimi, Minister for Finance of Afghanistan.

Mr Andrus **Ansip** reçoit une délégation de députés de la Commission des Affaires culturelles et de l'Education de l'Assemblée nationale française.

Mr Maroš **Šefčovič** receives Mr John Pettigrew, CEO of National Grid UK.

Mr Maroš **Šefčovič** delivers a keynote speech at the [EURELECTRIC Power Sector Vision Event](#), in Brussels.

Mr Jyrki **Katainen** in Paris, France: delivers a keynote speech at the [Capital Markets Summit](#); and meets Mr Steven Maijor, Chair of the European Securities and Markets Authority (ESMA).

Mr Günther H. **Oettinger** in Lisbon, Portugal (until 09/02): meets Mr Augusto Santos Silva, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Portugal; and Ms Ana Paula Zacarias, Secretary of State for European Affairs of Portugal.

Mr Johannes **Hahn** in Serbia: on official visit.

M. Pierre **Moscovici** à Athènes, Grèce (jusqu'à 09/02): rencontre M. Prokópis Pavlópoulos, Président de la République hellénique; M. Alexis Tsipras, Premier ministre de la République hellénique; M. Euclide Tsakalotos, Ministre de finance de la République hellénique; et prononce un discours au [The World in 2018 Gala Dinner](#) organisé par *The Economist*.

Mr Phil **Hogan** receives Mr Michael Kuhn, Assistant Secretary General of the Commission of the Bishops' Conferences of the European Community (COMECE).

Ms Věra **Jourová** meets Ms Renata Mrázová, Global Head of Human Resources at NN Group, in Brussels.

Ms Věra **Jourová** receives Mr Jacek Czaputowicz, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Poland.

Ms Corina **Crețu** in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia: attends the 9<sup>th</sup> session of the [World Urban Forum](#); delivers a keynote speech at the official opening of the 9<sup>th</sup> session of the [World Urban Forum](#); meets Mr Neal Rackleff, Assistant Secretary for the U.S Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Office of Community Planning and Development; and participates in the World Assembly of Local and Regional Governments and Ministers roundtable.

## **Vendredi 09 février 2018**

President Jean-Claude **Juncker** receives Mr Werner Hoyer, President of the European Investment Bank (EIB).

President Jean-Claude **Juncker** receives Mr Ján Figel', Special Envoy for the promotion of freedom of religion or belief outside the EU.

Ms Federica **Mogherini** chairs the EU-Azerbaijan Cooperation Council.

Mr Valdis **Dombrovskis** in Riga, Latvia: participates in a [Citizens' dialogue](#) on "Growth of Latvian national economy within hundred years: experience for the future of Latvia and Europe", at the University of Latvia.

Mr Günther H. **Oettinger** in Lisbon, Portugal: on a tour to gather views on the Future of EU finances and the post-2020 Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF).

Mr Johannes **Hahn** in Montenegro: on official visit.

Mr Neven **Mimica** in Stockholm, Sweden: meets Ms Ulrika Modéer, State Secretary of Sweden; Ms Isabella Lövin, Minister for International Development Cooperation and Climate, Deputy Prime Minister for Sweden; and Ms Carin Jämtin, Director-General of the Swedish International Development Agency (Sida).

Mr Miguel **Arias Cañete** in Madrid, Spain: meets several NGOs to discuss the clean energy package; meets Mr Rafael Villaseca, CEO of Gas Natural Fenosa; and Mr José Ma. Egea Krauel, Managing Director of Energy Planning at Gas Natural Fenosa.

Mr Vytenis **Andriukaitis** receives representatives of Eurocare, including Ms Tiziana Codenotti, President of Eurocare, and Mr Peter Rice, Vice-President of Eurocare.

Mr Dimitris **Avramopoulos** in Athens, Greece: meets Mr Giorgi Margvelachvili, President of Georgia.

M. Pierre **Moscovici** à Athènes, Grèce: prononce un discours au [forum franco-grec "Grèce : les chemins de l'espoir"](#); et rencontre des membres de la Commission des affaires européennes et de la Commission de la défense nationale et des affaires étrangères du Parlement hellénique.

Mr Christos **Stylianides** in Lisbon, Portugal: delivers a speech at a seminar on the EU Civil Protection Mechanism co-organised by the European Ideas Network; meets Mr António Costa, Prime Minister of Portugal; Mr Eduardo Cabrita, Minister for Internal Administration; and Mr Jorge Fernando Branco de Sampaio, Chairman of the NGO Global Platform for Syrian Students.

Mr Tibor **Navracsics** in Budapest, Hungary: delivers a lecture on the "European Year of Cultural Heritage 2018" at the General Assembly of Towns with county rights.

Ms Corina **Crețu** in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia: attends the 9<sup>th</sup> session of the [World Urban Forum](#); meets Mr Koichi Yoshida, Vice-Minister at the Ministry of Land Infrastructure and Hokkaido Development of the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport, and Tourism (MLIT) of Japan; and Mr Hardeep Singh Puri, Minister of State for Housing and Urban Affairs of India.

Mr Julian **King** receives Mr John Pettigrew, CEO of National Grid UK.

**Samedi 10 février 2018**

Ms Corina **Crețu** in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia: attends the 9<sup>th</sup> session of the [World Urban Forum](#); participates in the high-level roundtable on "[Urbanization and Development: investing in the transformative force of cities](#)"; and in the Mayors' roundtable with representatives from local authorities, EU and Global Mayors; and meets Mr Tegegnework *Gettu*, United Nations Under-Secretary-General and Associate Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

**Prévisions du mois de février:**

15/02 Education, Youth, Culture and Sports Council on education

15-16/02 Informal meeting of foreign affairs ministers, in Sofia

19/02 Agriculture and Fisheries Council

19/02 Eurogroup

20/02 Economic and Financial Affairs Council

23/02 European Council – Informal meeting of heads of state or government

26/02 Foreign Affairs Council

26/02 Transport, Telecommunications and Energy Council on energy

26/02 EU-Kazakhstan Cooperation Council

27/02 General Affairs Council (Art. 50)

27/02 General Affairs Council

27/02 Informal meeting of foreign affairs ministers on trade, in Sofia

28/02 Informal meeting of education, youth, culture and sport ministers on culture, in Sofia

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# Juvenes Translatores: announcing this year's winners of the European Commission's translation contest for secondary school students

Brussels, 2 February 2018

Congratulations to 28 talented young students for winning the 2017-2018 translation contest for schools 'Juvenes Translatores'! The winners will come to Brussels on 10 April to collect their awards for the best translation submitted by their country.

The European Commission announced the winners of its annual translation contest '[Juvenes Translatores](#)' today. A total of 28 secondary school students, one from each Member State, will be invited to Brussels on 10 April to receive their trophies and diplomas from Commissioner Günther H. **Oettinger**, responsible for Budget and Human Resources.

*"My congratulations on your achievement. Well done for taking on the challenge and proving your talents in all 24 EU languages. Learning languages is a skill that is vital for your careers and personal development. It is amazing to see so many talented young people. Multilingualism defines us as Europeans",* said Commissioner Günther H. **Oettinger**.

The contest continues to garner strong support and dedicated participation. This year, over 3300 students from across the European Union translated texts on the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the European Union. They could choose from any of the 552 possible combinations between any two of the EU's 24 official languages. Students sat the competition in 144 language combinations, including translating from Polish into Finnish, and from Czech into Greek. All winners chose to translate into their strongest language or mother tongue, as the staff translators in EU Institutions do.

## Background

The European Commission's Directorate-General for Translation has been organising the *Juvenes Translatores* (Latin for 'young translators') contest every year since 2007. Its aim is to promote language learning in schools and give young people a taste of what it is like to be a translator. It is open to 17-year-old secondary school students and takes place at the same time in all selected schools across the EU. The contest has inspired and encouraged some of the participants to pursue their languages at university level and to become professional translators.

Translation has been an integral part of the EU from the outset, and the subject of the very first [Regulation](#) in 1958.

The winners of this year are:

#### Juvenes Translatores 2017-2018 winners

Country	Winner		Participants	
	Name, Language pair	School	Number of schools	Number of students
Austria	Johanna Tösch, EN-DE	BORG Birkfeld, Birkfeld	18	87
Belgium	Audrey Lizin, EN-FR	Athénée Royal de Huy, Huy	21	97
Bulgaria	Яница Стойкова, DE-BG	Профилирана езикова гимназия „Проф. д-р Асен Златаров“, Велико Търново	17	76
Croatia	Ante Kuvačić, EN-HR	Prirodoslovna tehnička škola – Split, Split	11	52
Cyprus	Δάφνη Ρουμπά, EN-EL	Λύκειο Αποστόλων Πέτρου και Παύλου, Λεμεσός	6	29
The Czech Republic	Anna Kovářnová, EN-CS	Gymnázium Jírovcova, České Budějovice	21	96
Denmark	Sarina Ulrich, EN-DA	Paderup Gymnasium, Randers	13	53
Estonia	Laura Emily Rilanto, FI-ET	Tartu Jaan Poska Gümnaasium, Tartu	6	30
Finland	Sara Soimasuo, EN-FI	Tammerkosken lukio, Tampere	13	54
France	Irene Campillo Pinazo, ES-FR	Lycée Saint-Sernin, Toulouse	74	333
Germany	Rebekka Mattes, HU-DE	Marienschule, Leverkusen	93	370
Greece	Θεοδώρα Πλιάτσικα, FR-EL	1ο Γενικό Λύκειο Τρικάλων, Τρίκαλα Θεσσαλίας	21	91
Hungary	Emese Tóth, IT-HU	Debreceni Csokonai Vitéz Mihály Gimnázium, Debrecen	21	98
Ireland	Alex Burke, DE-EN	Christian Brothers College, Cork	10	38
Italy	Gianluca Brusa, FR-IT	I.I.S. “Carlo Emilio Gadda”, Paderno Dugnano	73	352
Latvia	Reinards Jānis Saulītis, EN-LV	Saldus novada pašvaldības Druvas vidusskola, Saldus pagasts	8	38
Lithuania	Uosis Nojus Galkevičius, EN-LT	Alytaus Adolfo Ramanausko- Vanago gimnazija, Alytus	11	53
Luxembourg	Julie Oé, FR-DE	Athénée de Luxembourg, Luxembourg	3	12
Malta	Andrè Mifsud, EN-MT	St Aloysius College, Birkirkara	6	30

The Netherlands	Maud Rinkes, NL-EN	Stedelijk Gymnasium Haarlem, Haarlem	26	110
Poland	Michał Martinez Dzedzej, ES-PL	CXXII Liceum Ogólnokształcące im. Ignacego Domeyki, Warszawa	51	238
Portugal	Catarina Rodrigues, EN-PT	Colégio Internato dos Carvalhos, Pedroso-Carvalhos – V.N. Gaia	21	98
Romania	Cosmin Ionuț Lazăr, FR-RO	Colegiul Național „Costache Negri”, Galați	32	155
Slovakia	Katarína Kráľová, EN-SK	Piaristická spojená škola F. Hanáka – gymnázium, Prievidza	13	57
Slovenia	Ana Šubic, EN-SL	Škofijska klasična gimnazija, Ljubljana	8	39
Spain	Pablo Villar Abeijón, EN-ES	IES De Brión, A Coruña	54	263
Sweden	August Falkman, EN-SV	Tyska Skolan, Stockholm	20	87
The United Kingdom	Daniel Farley, ES-EN	The Manchester Grammar School, Manchester	73	312
<b>Total</b>			<b>744</b>	<b>3 348</b>

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