

# **Agenda of the European Commission**

## ***8 – 14 September 2014***

**Background notes from the Spokespersons' service for journalists.  
The European Commission reserves the right to make changes.**

### **Monday 8 and Tuesday 9 September:**

The Commission launches the Sixth Cohesion Forum

### **Thursday 11 September:**

EU and Member States' industrial competitiveness

### **Saturday 15 and Sunday 16 November:**

The EU at the G20 Summit in Brisbane, Australia – **media accreditation open**

**Monday 8 and Tuesday 9 September:**

***The Commission launches the Sixth Cohesion Forum***

**The news:**

The Sixth Cohesion Forum debates will take place in Brussels on 8-9 September 2014. EU Cohesion Policy's mission of supporting growth, job creation and good governance is at the core of the event. With a total budget of around €352 billion for the 2014–2020 financial period, Cohesion Policy will play a vital role in key areas for sustainable, long-term growth such as innovation, support to SMEs, improving people's qualifications, social inclusion and energy. The Forum comes at a vital time when the so called Partnership Agreements and Operational Programmes are being agreed.

**The background:**

The Cohesion Forum is a high level event which takes place every three years following the publication of the Report on Economic, Social and Territorial Cohesion. The two day event gathers top policy-makers and political players from the EU Member States to assess the success of Cohesion Policy in delivering on its aims.

**The event:**

- This year's theme is "Investment for jobs and growth: promoting development and good governance in EU regions and cities". Launching the event, Commissioner for Regional Policy, Johannes Hahn will be joined by Laimdota Straujuma, Prime Minister of Latvia, and Sandro Gozi, Representative of the EU Presidency and Secretary of State for European Affairs, Italy. José Manuel Barroso, President of the European Commission, Martin Schulz, President of the European Parliament, Herman Van Rompuy, President of the European Council, Michel Lebrun, President of the Committee of the Regions, Jyrki Katainen, Vice-President of the European Commission responsible for Economic and Monetary affairs. A. Michael Spence, Nobel Laureate for Economic Sciences will also take part in the forum. For the press it is mandatory to register for attending the event. A press release will be available on the day.
- EbS will be covering the event <http://ec.europa.eu/avservices>
- Cohesion Policy stock shots available on [EbS](#)

**The sources:**

- [Sixth Cohesion Forum](#)
- Video stock shots of Sixth Cohesion Forum available on Ebs <http://ec.europa.eu/avservices>

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Thursday 11 September:

## *EU and Member States' industrial competitiveness*

### **The news:**

On 11 September, the European Commission will release two annual publications on the current state of EU industrial competitiveness: The European Competitiveness Report and the Member States' Competitiveness Report. The aim of the reports is to give an overview of the performance of EU manufacturing industries so as to provide evidence-based indicators for the evaluation of EU industrial policy targets.

The European Competitiveness Report gives a quantitative assessment of the competitive performance of EU industries. It focuses on policies that help firms grow. In particular, it looks at drivers of growth of firms such as access to various forms of funding, the role of public administration, the role of innovation, the impact and drivers of SME internationalization, and the impact of energy costs.

The Member States' Competitiveness Report outlines the current situation of European industry and compares progress achieved by Member States. This scoreboard, which gives a country by country breakdown, is based on indicators in the area of investment and access to finance; innovation and skills; energy, raw materials and sustainability; and access to markets infrastructure and services. It also looks at how industrial policy has been implemented at European level and in the Member States. This year's report focuses on improving the business environment through growth friendly public administration.

### **The background:**

The results of the reports are used in evidence-based policy-making and will serve as an input into the discussion of the Competitiveness Council on 25-26 September 2014 and in the European Semester process.

### **The event:**

- European Commissioner for Industry and Entrepreneurship Ferdinando Nelli Feroci, will present the main findings of the reports in a press conference. A technical briefing will also be held. A press release and two press memos (one for each report) will be available on the day.
- Available on EbS

### **The sources:**

- Information on previous European Competitiveness Reports:  
[http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/policies/industrial-competitiveness/competitiveness-analysis/european-competitiveness-report/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/policies/industrial-competitiveness/competitiveness-analysis/european-competitiveness-report/index_en.htm)
- Information on previous Member States competitiveness performance and policies:  
[http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/policies/industrial-competitiveness/monitoring-member-states/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/policies/industrial-competitiveness/monitoring-member-states/index_en.htm)

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**Saturday 15 and Sunday 16 November:**

***The EU at the G20 Summit in Brisbane, Australia – media accreditation open***

**The news:**

The President of the European Commission and the President of the European Council will represent the EU at this year's G20 Summit, which will take place on 15 and 16 November in Brisbane, Australia. Leaders are expected, amongst others, to adopt the Brisbane Action Plan, putting in place concrete short and medium-term actions to develop comprehensive strategies to stimulate growth. These will include infrastructure investments, trade barrier reductions, employment and development measures. Furthermore, G20 leaders will discuss measures to make the global economy more resilient to deal with future shocks.

The Australian Presidency has now opened the procedure for media accreditation. Journalists can apply for official accreditation until 21 October 2014, 9:00 Brussels time, at [https://www.g20.org/accreditation/media\\_registration](https://www.g20.org/accreditation/media_registration). As the Australian government points out, it is important that media register for accreditation via the online accreditation portal as early as possible and then apply for their visa. Accreditation will only be confirmed once the applicant has an approved visa.

**The background:**

The Brisbane Summit is the 9th edition of the Group of 20 (G20) Summit of the world's major advanced and emerging economies. Its members are Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, France, Germany, Italy, India, Indonesia, Japan, Mexico, Republic of Korea, Russia, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Turkey, the United Kingdom, the United States and the European Union. Together, they represent around 90% of global GDP, 80% of global trade and two-thirds of the world's population. This year, Australia welcomes Spain as a permanent invitee; Mauritania as the 2014 chair of the African Union; Myanmar as the 2014 Chair of the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN); Senegal, representing the New Partnership for Africa's Development; New Zealand; and Singapore. The 10<sup>th</sup> edition of the G20 Summit will be hosted by Turkey in 2015.

**The event:**

- 15 and 16 November 2014: 9<sup>th</sup> edition of the G20 Summit in the Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre, Brisbane, Australia, with the participation of the Presidents of the European Commission and the European Council.
- Press events ahead of and during the G20 Summit are to be confirmed. Press material about the EU at the G20 will be made available in the week before and during the Summit
- Available on EbS

**The sources:**

- G20 2014 Media accreditation: [https://www.g20.org/accreditation/media\\_registration](https://www.g20.org/accreditation/media_registration)
- G20 website of the Australian Presidency: <https://www.g20.org/>
- G20 section on President Barroso's website: [http://ec.europa.eu/commission\\_2010-2014/president/g20/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/commission_2010-2014/president/g20/index_en.htm)

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