

List of EU priorities 2020

Nr.	Priority	Expected publication	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Parl. reservation	Subsidiarity check	Rapporteur
INTERIOR									
5	Renovation wave	non-legislative							
38	European Democracy Action Plan	non-legislative and legislative							
FOREIGN TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION									
24	Signature and conclusion of the Agreement between the EU and the countries of Africa, the Caribbean and the Pacific	legislative							
30	WTO reform initiative	non-legislative							
FOREIGN AFFAIRS									
26	Towards a comprehensive Strategy with Africa	non-legislative							
28	Eastern Partnership post 2020	non-legislative							
29	Action Plan on Human Rights and Democracy (2020-2024)	legislative and non-legislative							
29	EU Action Plan on Gender Equality and Women Empowerment in External Relations for 2021-2025	non-legislative							
EUROPEAN AFFAIRS									
27	Enhancing the accession process – A credible EU perspective for the Western and The Commission’s contribution to the EU-Western Balkans Summit	non-legislative							
39	Shaping the Conference on the Future of Europe	non-legislative							
40	2020 Annual Rule of Law Report	non-legislative							
ECONOMIC AFFAIRS AND CLIMATE POLICY									
10	Follow-up to the White Paper on Artificial Intelligence	legislative	2021						
11	Digital Services Act	legislative							
1	Communication on the European Green Deal	non-legislative				2019			
1	European Climate Law enshrining the 2050 climate neutrality objective	legislative							
3	2030 Climate Target	non-legislative							
2	Just Transition Fund	legislative							
2	Industrial Strategy	non-legislative							
FINANCE									
2	Renewed Sustainable Finance Strategy	non-legislative							
17	Action Plan on FinTech including a Strategy on an Integrated EU Payments Market	non-legislative							
17	Proposal on Crypto Assets	legislative							
18	European Unemployment Reinsurance Scheme	legislative							
19	Review of the Economic Governance Framework	non-legislative							
20	Action Plan on the Capital Markets Union	non-legislative							
21	Action Plan on Anti-Money Laundering	non-legislative							
21	Review of the Capital Requirements legislation	legislative							
22	Business Taxation for the 21st century	non-legislative							
22	Action Plan to fight tax evasion and to make taxation simple and easy	legislative and non-legislative							
23	Proposal on Customs Single Window	legislative							
25	Strengthening Europe’s Economic and Financial Sovereignty	non-legislative							

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INFRASTRUCTURE AND WATER MANAGEMENT									
8	Strategy for sustainable and smart mobility	non-legislative							
8	FuelEU Maritime - Green European Maritime Space	legislative							
6	New Circular Economy Action Plan	non-legislative							
7	Chemicals strategy for sustainability	non-legislative							
JUSTICE AND SECURITY									
32	A New Pact on Migration and Asylum and accompanying legal proposals	non-legislative and legislative							
33	Strengthening of Europol's mandate	legislative							
41	Report on the application of the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)	non-legislative							
41	Alignment of relevant Union law enforcement rules with regard to data protection	non-legislative							
AGRICULTURE, NATURE AND FOOD QUALITY									
4	'Farm to Fork' Strategy	non-legislative							
EDUCATION, CULTURE AND SCIENCE									
37	European Gender Equality Strategy	non-legislative							
37	LGBTI Equality Strategy	non-legislative							
SOCIAL AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT									
18	Fair minimum wages for workers in the EU	legislative							
37	Binding pay transparency measures	legislative							
HEALTH, WELFARE AND SPORT									
34	Europe's Beating Cancer Plan	non-legislative							
34	A Pharmaceutical Strategy for Europe	non-legislative							
41	Evaluation of Paediatric Regulation (EC) No 1901/2006 and of Orphan Medicinal Products Regulation (EC) No 1411/2000	REFIT-initiative							

The Numbers of the EU proposals correspond with Annex I (new initiatives) and Annex II (REFIT) of the the European Commissions’ work programme 2020.

The priorities can be divided into three categories:

General priority

General priority refers to proposals formulated in the European Commission Work Programme 2020 that receive extra attention from the Netherlands House of Representatives. These EU initiatives can either be legislative or non-legislative in nature. Upon publication of a prioritized proposal, the sectoral parliamentary committee dealing with the proposal will decide whether to hold hearings, technical briefings, debates or other activities in order to assess the Commission's proposal.

Parliamentary scrutiny reservation

A parliamentary scrutiny reservation on a legislative proposal may be placed when the House of Representatives wants to influence the position of

the Netherlands at an early stage and stay closely informed on the Government's course of actions taken throughout the negotiations. If the House foresees that it wishes to place a parliamentary reservation on the basis of the Commission Work Programme, it is so indicated on the priorities list. Once such a legislative proposal is presented by the Commission, the House will take a final decision whether to place the reservation.

The House's decision is followed by a debate with the government within four weeks. In this debate, the proposal's political importance and the objectives of the Netherlands in the negotiations are discussed, with the purpose of coming to a written agreement with the Government on the provision of information to parliament during the negotiation process. The government is expected to present its provisional

position to parliament within a (shortened) period of three weeks after the publication of the proposal.

Subsidiarity review (reasoned opinion)

A subsidiarity review may be conducted on legislative proposals in order to determine whether the matter at hand should be dealt with at EU level or national level. If the House foresees a subsidiarity concern on the basis of the Commission Work Programme, it is so indicated on the priorities list.

Once a proposal is published, the House will take a final decision on whether to perform a subsidiarity review. Based on this review, the House renders a judgement on whether the European Commission's subsidiarity arguments are conclusive. A subsidiarity judgement can turn out to be either negative or positive. In case of a negative subsidiarity judgement,

the House issues a reasoned opinion in which the House declares that the desired objective can be more effectively achieved at a national level. This reasoned opinion is sent to the European Commission. If at least one third of all national parliaments issue a negative judgement, the European Commission must reconsider the proposal (yellow-card procedure).

If a subsidiarity review is foreseen, the government will present its initial assessment of the proposal to the House within a (shortened) period of three weeks of the publication of the proposal.

