



**COUNCIL OF  
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

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from:	Presidency
to:	Strategic Committee on Immigration, Frontiers and Asylum (SCIFA)
on:	21 February 2013

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Subject:	Common European Asylum System
	- State of play

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Work on the recast proposals constituting the Common European Asylum System (CEAS) is progressing.

The Qualification Directive was published in the Official Journal in December 2011. During 2012, the Council and the European Parliament reached political agreements on the content of the Reception Conditions Directive and the Dublin Regulation. Negotiations on the recasts of the Asylum Procedures Directive and the Eurodac Regulation continue in their final phase.

The negotiations between the Council and the European Parliament on the Asylum Procedures Directive are in their end phase. The positions of the Council and the Parliament have converged on many issues and agreement will now be sought on the basis of a global compromise package in relation to the outstanding issues. The main issues outstanding concern the derogations for unaccompanied minors and victims of torture from procedures with fewer safeguards, in particular accelerated procedures, border procedures and non automatic suspensive effect to remain on the territory. The Presidency is exploring possible compromise suggestions that could be acceptable to all actors involved.

As regards the recast of the Eurodac Regulation negotiations between Council and Parliament are also ongoing. The main remaining issues in the negotiations between Council and Parliament are: i) the period of storage of data of third-country nationals apprehended in connection with irregular crossing of the border of a Member State, ii) the blocking / marking of data, iii) the conditions for access of the law-enforcement authorities to the Eurodac database, iv) the prohibition of transfers of data to third countries or organisations, v) the obligation to conduct a Prüm check before accessing the Eurodac data base, vi) the possibility of a prior check of the VIS data base.

Delegations are invited to take note of the progress achieved on the legislative proposals in the field of asylum. The Presidency aims to continue work in keeping with the commitment to complete the legislative framework for a Common European Asylum System as soon as possible.

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