



D-ME(2026)0303

MINUTES

of the meeting of 3 March 2026, 13.00-14.00

Brussels

The meeting opened at 13.00 on Tuesday, 3 March 2026, with Thomas Waitz (Chair) presiding.

1. Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted as drafted.

2. Approval of minutes of meeting of 10 September 2025

The minutes were adopted as drafted.

3. Chair's announcements

The Chair reminded Members that the next EU-Montenegro SAPC meeting was scheduled on 29 and 30 April 2026, in Strasbourg.

4. Exchange of views on EU-Montenegro relations and on the status of accession negotiations, with Ambassador Petar MARKOVIĆ, Head of the Mission of Montenegro to the EU

Ambassador MARKOVIĆ outlined his country's reform efforts, including two packages of a total of 45 laws passed by the Montenegrin parliament in recent weeks. He said that accession preparations were in full swing, including on the issue of administrative capacity. He stressed that there was broad political consensus on accession in the country and awareness of the importance of the Rule of Law closing benchmarks. He argued that Montenegro's accession in 2028 made sense also in terms of the timing of the EU's Multiannual Financial Framework and told Members that Montenegro counted on their help for the ratification process.

Ms Barbara JÉSUS-GIMENO, Head of the Montenegro unit in the European Commission's DG ENEST, said that in the coming weeks Montenegro was expected to close its 14th negotiation chapter, and that such dynamism has not been seen since Croatia's' accession process. She also warned that the coming months will be intense and acknowledged that there were forces unsupportive of Montenegro's EU path.

Mr Clive RUMBOLD, Senior Expert on Western Balkans at the European External Action Service, acknowledged Montenegro's full alignment with the EU's Common Foreign and Security Policy and informed Members that the EU had recently sent a needs assessment mission to the country to counter foreign malign interference. He also noted the pending judiciary appointments, including at the Constitutional Court.

Members' questions focussed on certain Montenegrin political parties' links with Belgrade, disinformation campaigns by actors in Serbia and Russia, and the bilateral dialogue with Croatia on restitution and compensation of the Morinj camp detainees.

5. Any other business

None.

6. Next meeting

The next meeting was scheduled on Wednesday 15 April 2026, in Brussels.

The meeting closed at 14.00

**ПРИСЪСТВЕН ЛИСТ/LISTA DE ASISTENCIA/PREZENČNÍ LISTINA/DELTAGERLISTE/
ANWESENHEITSLISTE/KOHALOLIJATE NIMEKIRI/KATAΣΤΑΣΗ ΠΑΡΟΝΤΩΝ/RECORD OF ATTENDANCE/
LISTE DE PRÉSENCE/POPIS NAZOČNIH/ELENCO DI PRESENZA/APMEKLĒJUMU REĢISTRŠ/DALYVIŲ SAŖAŠAS/
JELENLÉTI ÍV/REGÍSTRU TA' ATTENDENZA/PRESENTIELIJST/LISTA OBECNOŠCI/LISTA DE PRESENÇAS/
LISTĂ DE PREZENȚĂ/PREZENČNÁ LISTINA/SEZNAM NAVZOČIH/LÄSNÄOLOLISTA/NÄRVAROLISTA**

<p>Бюро/Mesa/Předsednictvo/Formandskabet/Vorstand/Juhatus/Προεδρείο/Bureau/Predsjedništvo/Ufficio di presidenza/Prezidijs/ Biuras/Elnökség/Prezydium/Birou/Predsednictvo/Predsedstvo/Puheenjohtajisto/Presidiet (*)</p>
<p>WAITZ Thomas</p>
<p>Членове/Diputados/Poslanci/Medlemmer/Mitglieder/Parlamendiliikmed/Βουλευτές/Members/Députés/Zastupnici/Deputati/Deputāti/ Nariai/Képviselek/Membri/Leden/Posłowie/Deputados/Deputați/Jäsenet/Ledamöter</p>
<p>BELERIS Fredis, BRAUN Grzegorz, GLAVAK Suncana, HAVA Mircea-Gheorghe, SAEIDI Arash, SAREC Marjan,</p>
<p>Заместници/Suplentes/Náhradníci/Stedfortrædere/Stellvertreter/Asendusliikmed/Αναπληρωτές/Substitutes/Suppléants/Zamjenici/ Supplenti/Aizstājēji/Pavaduojantysnariai/Póttagok/Sostituti/Plaatsvervangers/Zastępcy/Membros suplentes/Supleanți/Náhradníci/ Namestniki/Varajäsenet/Suppleanter</p>
<p>LOPATKA Reinhold, SOKOL Tomislav</p>

<p>216 (7)</p>
<p>222 (3)</p>
<p>57 (8) (Точка от дневния ред/Punto del orden del día/Bod pořadu jednání (OJ)/Punkt på dagsordenen/Tagesordnungspunkt/ Päevakorra punkt/Σημείο της ημερήσιας διάταξης/Agenda item/Point OJ/Τοčka dnevnoĝ reda/Punto all'ordine del giorno/Darba kārtības punkts/Darbotvarkēs punktas/Napirendi pont/Punt Aĝenda/Agendapunt/Punkt porządku dziennego/Ponto OD/Punct de pe ordinea de zi/Bod programu schôdze/Τοčka UL/Esityslistan kohta/Punkt på föredragningslistan)</p>

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<p>Съвет/ Consejo/ Rada/ Rådet/ Rat/ Nõukogu/ Συμβούλιο/ Council/ Conseil/ Vijeće/ Consiglio/ Padome/ Taryba/ Tanács/ Kunsill/ Raad/ Conselho/ Consiliu/ Svet/ Neuvosto/ Rådet (*)</p>
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<p>Кабинет на генералния секретар/Gabinete del Secretario General/Kancelář generálního tajemníka/Generalsekretærens Kabinet/Kabinett des Generalsekretärs/Peasekretäri büroo/Γραφείο του Γενικού Γραμματέα/Secretary-General's Office/Cabinet du secrétaire général/Ured glavnog tajnika/Gabinetto del Segretario generale/Generalsekretära kabinets/Generalinio sekretoriaus kabinetas/Főtitkári hivatal/Kabinett tas-Segretarju Ġenerali/Kabinet van de secretaris-generaal/Gabinet Sekretarza Generalnego/Gabinete do Secretário-Geral/Cabinet Secretar General/Kancelária generálneho tajomníka/Urad generalnega sekretarja/Pääsihteerin kabinetti/Generalsekreterarens kansli</p>	

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