



Brussels, 31 January 2024
(OR. en)

5953/24

LIMITE

CSC 48
AG 14
JUR 63

NOTE

From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Security Committee
No. prev. doc.:	15574/23, WK 16772/2023
Subject:	Draft Arrangement between the European Parliament, the Council and the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy concerning access by the European Parliament to classified information held by the Council and the European External Action Service in the area of the common foreign and security policy - Draft opinion of the Council Security Committee

DOCUMENT PARTIALLY ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC (24.06.2024)

1. Delegations will find in the Annex a draft opinion on the issues raised by the Working Party on General Affairs (GAG) for discussion and possible endorsement at the meeting of the Council Security Committee (CSC) on 6-7 February 2024.
2. The draft opinion was prepared on the basis of written comments received from delegations (WK 829/2024). It also addresses one additional point raised by the Luxembourg delegation.
3. Furthermore, the GSC would like to draw attention to a change that had been agreed by the negotiation teams, as set out in Article 7(2) compared to the Council mandate, but does not necessarily warrant mention in the draft opinion. The proposed modified provision would allow the European Parliament (EP) to handle and store the information classified at the level RESTREINT UE/EU RESTRICTED and received under the Draft Arrangement, in accordance with the EP's security rules. This could be acceptable, since the EP's security rules are quite strict in this regard and contain only one main difference concerning the storage of such information, which is compatible with the Council's security rules.

The aim of the CSC meeting on 6-7 February 2024 is to examine the draft opinion and endorse the text.

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