



Council of the  
European Union

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**NOTE**

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From: General Secretariat of the Council

To: Delegations


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Subject: Intention to negotiate a Non-Binding Instrument ('NBI') in the form of a Joint Statement with the United States of America in the framework of the EU-U.S. Energy Council

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Delegations will find attached a note from the EEAS on the intention to negotiate a non-binding instrument ('NBI') in the form of a Joint Statement with the United States of America in the framework of the EU-US Energy Council.

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**SUBJECT:** Intention to negotiate a Non-Binding Instrument ('NBI') in the form of a Joint Statement with the United States of America in the framework of the EU-U.S. Energy Council

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### REMARKS:

- This note is to inform the Council of the intention to negotiate a Non-Binding Instrument ('NBI') with the United States of America in the context of the EU-U.S. Energy Council.
- A NBI in the form of a Joint Statement – though not legally binding and not entailing any financial commitments – would demonstrate the political commitment of both sides to further cooperation around the following key priorities:
  - Energy Security (including global energy markets, EU and its neighbourhood such as Ukraine and the Western Balkans);
  - Energy Policy (including methane, just transition, offshore wind);
  - Energy Technology and Innovation (including fusion and climate modelling).
- The signature/endorsement of the NBI is envisaged to take place in Brussels on 4 April 2023 during the next Ministerial meeting of the EU-U.S. Energy Council. This meeting comes at a crucial time characterised notably by unprecedented EU-U.S. coordination to support Ukraine against Russia's war of aggression and by the EU's efforts to implement the REPowerEU plan and accelerate its energy transition. There is also a continuous strategic interest to capitalise on the strong convergence of views on the importance of fighting climate change and ensuring a just energy transition.

### BACKGROUND:

- Launched in 2009, the EU-U.S. Energy Council is an annual Ministerial gathering with alternating EU and U.S. hosting arrangements. It is co-led by the HR/VP and the Commissioner for Energy on the EU side – with the participation of a representative of the rotating Council Presidency – and by the Departments of State and of Energy on the U.S. side.
- The EU-U.S. Energy Council Ministerial is prepared by three Working Groups:
  - Energy security (EU lead: EEAS and DG ENER);
  - Energy policy (EU lead: DG ENER);
  - Energy Technology (EU lead: DG RTD – DG JRC and DG ENER are associated).

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 Electronically signed on 30/01/2023 20:34 (UTC-01) in accordance with Article 11 of Commission Decision (EU) 2021/2121

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