

## Cameron presents EU reform plans at EU summit

Prime Minister David Cameron has formally presented his proposals for EU reform at the European Council summit on Thursday. David Cameron briefed the EU's 28 national leaders about the reforms he plans to pursue ahead of the UK's upcoming referendum on EU membership. His reform proposals include an opt-out from the EU's commitment to "ever closer union", limiting access to benefits for EU migrants, increased role of national parliaments across the EU, arrangements for non-Eurozone member states, and a more competitive EU. The first half of the summit was dedicated to the Greek financial crisis. At the summit, European Council President Donald Tusk made it clear that British demands would be given due consideration, "but only in a way which is safe for Europe". An EU official said other European leaders would tell the British Prime Minister that a change to the EU Treaty before the British referendum was not on the cards. David Cameron has instead argued for "irreversible" and "legally binding" guarantees that EU law will be changed at some point in the future. It is expected that an exploratory phase to define the scope of the renegotiation would take place in the next six months with the December European Council summit the next milestone for leaders to agree the scope and timetable for renegotiation. (Source: Euractiv)

<http://www.euractiv.com/sections/uk-europe/camersons-eu-reform-plea-sidelined-brussels-summit-315767>



## European Commission senior management reshuffle

The European Commission announced a reshuffle of its senior management. Alexander Italianer has been appointed as the new Secretary-General from September when Catherine Day, the current Secretary-General will retire. Key changes include:

- Jonathan Faull (currently Director-General of DG Financial Stability, Financial Services and Capital Markets) will become the new Director-General reporting to Commission President Jean-Claude Juncker on strategic issues relating to the UK Referendum.
- Lowri Evans (currently Director-General of DG Maritime Affairs and Fisheries) will become the new Director-General for Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs at DG GROW, replacing Daniel Calleja Crespo who moves to DG ENV.
- Robert Madelin (currently Director-General of DG Connect) will move to become a Senior Adviser for Innovation in the Commission's European Political Strategy Centre.
- Stephen Quest (currently Director-General of DG Informatics) will become the new Director-General at DG Taxation and Customs.

(Source: European Commission)

[http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release\\_IP-15-5252\\_en.htm?locale=en](http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-15-5252_en.htm?locale=en)

## Greece debt crisis deepens amid deadlock

Eurozone finance ministers have met to discuss Greece's debt crisis amid deadlock between Athens and its creditors this week. Earlier talks between Greece's Prime Minister, Alex Tsipras, and the country's international lenders ended without agreement. Greece must repay a €1.6bn (£1.1bn) IMF loan by next Tuesday or face default, which could lead to Greece exiting the eurozone. Only once agreement is reached will the European Commission, the European Central Bank (ECB) and the International Monetary Fund (IMF) unlock the final €7.2bn tranche of bailout funds for Greece. (Source: BBC)

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-europe-33265923>

## ACEA – CV registrations up 6.0% in May

Figures released by the European Automobile Manufacturers' Association (ACEA) show an increased demand for commercial vehicles (CVs) in the EU (+6.0%) for the fifth consecutive month, totalling 160,550 units. Growth was sustained across all commercial vehicle segments. Results were diverse among the major markets, with Germany (-9.1%) and France (-5.6%) facing a downturn, while Spain (+30.1%) and the UK (+17.4%) posted double-digit growth. Five months into the year, the EU market expanded (+11.6%), totalling 832,782 commercial vehicles. During the same period, Spain (+34.1%), the UK (+22.6%) Italy (+7.5%) and Germany (+3.4%) all posted growth, while France recorded a slight decline (-1.0%).

(Source: ACEA)

<http://www.acea.be/press-releases/article/commercial-vehicle-registrations-11.6-over-five-months-6.0-in-may>

## European Fund for Strategic Investment validated

MEPs have adopted legislation that will establish a European Fund for Strategic Investments (EFSI). This fund will serve as the foundation upon which the €315 billion "Juncker Plan" will be built. Presented by European Commission President Jean-Claude Juncker in January this year, the investment plan is designed to stimulate €315 billion of investment in the European Union, and will primarily support innovative projects that would otherwise struggle to attract funding. EFSI, the financial basis of the plan, will comprise €16 billion in guarantees from Brussels and €5 billion from the European Investment Bank. The Commission expects to leverage this €21 billion in public money to lift €315 billion of investment capital.

(Source: Euractiv)

<http://www.euractiv.com/sections/euro-finance/juncker-plan-cleared-take-315741>

## Week ahead

### European Commission

Thursday 2 July

- Fostering SME's growth through digital transformation – the conference will present the results of the awareness campaign and the steps ahead of the EU initiative on the Smart use of ICT and the integration of SMEs in global industrial value chains.

### European Council

Monday 29 June

- EU-China Summit – 17<sup>th</sup> bilateral summit between the European Union and China to discuss EU-China political and economic relations.

### European Parliament

Monday 29 June

- INTA – Recommendations to the European Commission on the negotiations for TTIP – consideration of amendments and requests for a split of separate votes tabled to a report in Plenary
- IMCO – Towards Improved Single Market Regulation – consideration of amendments

