

Courtesy translation

Summary of statement by the Committee on Foreign Affairs 2017/18:UU4 Commission Work Programme for 2018

In this statement, the Committee considers the Commission Work Programme for 2018. The Commission adopted the Work Programme on 24 October 2017. The Chamber has, in accordance with Chapter 9, Art. 20 of the Riksdag Act, referred the Commission's Work Programme to the Committee on Foreign Affairs for examination and a statement. The Committee proposes that the Riksdag file the statement.

In its annual Work Programme, the Commission presents the political priorities for the coming year. This year, the Work Programme consists of two parts: one part containing initiatives that are to be presented before May 2018 in order to be considered by the Council and European Parliament in time for the elections to the European Parliament in 2019, and another part containing more forward-looking proposals which have a horizon of 2025 or even later.

The Committee considers it positive that the Commission is presenting a Work Programme with specific initiatives, as this will facilitate member states' planning of EU work and will contribute to openness surrounding the Commission's priorities. The Committee is also positive to the Commission maintaining its focus on the ten priorities established for its electoral period. It is welcome that the Commission is prioritising the conversion of proposals that have already been promised into legislation and that it will then implement these. The Committee considers that the EU must fulfil its obligations in the areas in which the Union has pledged to act and where there is a clear European added value. It is also important for the Commission to continue to promote efforts relating to better regulation and the implementation of the interinstitutional agreement.

Opinions have been submitted by the Committee on the Constitution, the Committee on Finance, the Committee on Taxation, the Committee on Justice, the Committee on Defence, the Committee on Environment and Agriculture and the Committee on the Labour Market.

The Statement contains ten explanatory reservations (from the Social Democratic Party, the Sweden Democrats, the Green Party, the Left Party and the Liberal Party.).

The examined document

Commission Work Programme 2018: An agenda for a more united, stronger and more democratic Europe, COM(2017) 650.