



Meeting of the Expert Group on Public Administration and Governance 14 March 2024

Minutes

The objective of the online Expert Group meeting was to present and receive feedback on the ComPact draft implementation plan. 26 Member States attended alongside colleagues from DG REFORM and other Commission services.

Kjartan BJÖRNSSON, Deputy Director and Head of Unit, DG REFORM opened the meeting, welcomed the participants and explained the objective of the meeting. He referenced the EUPAN Ghent ministerial declaration ⁽¹⁾, and the recent General report on the activities of the Union ⁽²⁾. He underlined that the draft implementation plan had not been presented to senior management or our cabinet but that it reflected extensive consultation of other Commission services, in particular regarding the proposed activities related to Pillars II and III.

Johannes BOERMANN, presented the structure of the draft ComPact implementation plan and explained the logic behind the 77 ComPact activities.

13 Member States took the floor after the introduction by the Commission. The discussion focused on the specialised nature of Pillars II and III in combination with the mandate of the Expert Group, the voluntary nature of ComPact, the specific scope of certain activities requiring further specification, proposals to enhance PACE based on the feedback from successful previous exchanges and finally, the correlation between TSI and the implementation of ComPact actions.

In his replies, Kjartan BJÖRNSSON underlined the following points: The draft implementation plan has a multi-annual perspective, and the Commission does not plan to implement everything at once, therefore the importance to indicate MS priorities TSI support will continue to be demand driven and thus only cover the reform requests submitted by MS. The specialised nature of Pillars II and III was noted and will require collaboration from a range of other stakeholders. It is important to keep these pillars to ensure a consistent approach across the public administration.

The Commission thanked the participants for their interventions and asked for written comments from Member States **by close of business Friday 22/3.**

The next meeting of the Expert Group on Public Administration and Governance will take place in person on **15-16 May in Malta.**

⁽¹⁾ Available here: [SKM_C250i24022717100 \(belgium.be\)](https://skm.c250i24022717100.belgium.be)

⁽²⁾ [The EU in 2023 - Publications Office of the EU \(europa.eu\)](https://europa.eu)