General Secretariat of the Council

Directorate-General for Communication and Information Management

Directorate for Information and Knowledge Management

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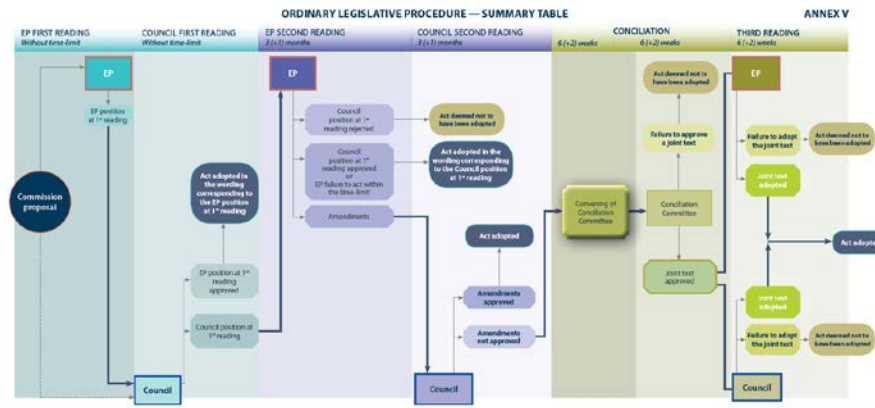# Designing a Knowledge Management Platform for the Council of the EU and its Member States

A changing environment

- EU Council as co-legislator with European Parliament

- From intergovernmental forum to co-decision

- European Council as central driver of developments in EU

- Growing requests for information from civil society

Changing role, higher scrutiny, growing demands

- Decision-making and crisis resolution

- Wicked policy problems

- Need for the most comprehensive information and knowledge on process and substance

The General Secretariat of the Council

- Provides advice to
  - the ministers in their political deliberations
  - experts in substantive discussions
- Is the permanent structure at EU level at the service of member states.
- Holds a trove of EU knowledge through its 60 years of experience

Challenges for the General Secretariat

- Small organisation
- Limited resources
- Conceived as secretariat, note taker and archivist
- Role challenged in a digitalised world: how can we still be relevant? And how can we continue to fulfil our original role in a digital age?

A knowledge management platform for the EU Council and EU Member States

What does that mean?

- Connecting point for 28 national government systems

- Add context and connections to Council information

- Link information among EU institutions and bodies

- Bring national knowledge together for EU-wide benefits

- Add a thin layer for discovery

→ Maximise value added and respect subsidiarity and national sovereignty

How

- Building interoperable and from the outset connected information and knowledge management

- Focus on areas where we can add real value

- Identify connections and provide context

- Leave content responsibility with author/owner

Challenges

- Building the right system (esp. for interoperability at EU and with national level)

- Building trust (to share information)

- Resources

- Adapt the GSC's way of working: from bespoke butler to procedural advisor to knowledge broker