



## Sweden to preside over the Council of the European Union from 1 January to 30 June 2023

2 January 2023

### News

From 1 January to 30 June 2023 Sweden is in charge of the rotating presidency of the Council of the European Union, 15 years after the signing of the Lisbon Treaty.

The **Presidency of the Council of the European Union** is held in turn by the EU Member States for a six-month period. The country holding the Presidency leads the different formations in which the Council of the European Union meets and chairs meetings at all levels within the Council, helping to ensure continuity of work.

At a time of great concern about the international situation and Covid-19 evolution, the Swedish government will focus on four priorities during its third Council Presidency:

- **Security – Unity**
- **Competitiveness**
- **Green and energy transition**
- **Democratic values and the rule of law – Our foundations**

The Swedish Presidency will place key emphasis on European competitiveness, reducing the risks of volatile energy prices, energy market reform, green transition, and respect for the rule of law. In continuity with the previous Czech presidency, it will also ensure economic and military support for Ukraine, as well as the latter's path towards European Union membership.

In his speech to the Riksdag, the Swedish parliament, Prime Minister Kristersson stated that building up security for EU citizens, strengthening support for Ukraine and addressing the climate transition are now crucial tasks, and the Swedish Presidency will also prioritise maintaining strong European leadership in the transition to a fossil fuel-free economy and a clear agenda to boost competitiveness.

For more information see:

- [Swedish Presidency website](#)
- [Swedish Presidency programme](#)
- [EC Representation in Italy](#)
- [EU Council portal](#)