Europe in May 2019
Preparing for a more united, stronger and more democratic Union in an increasingly uncertain world

ANNEX V
Key figures for the EU 2014-2019
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**Support for the EU**
- 2014: 50%
- 2019: 62%

62% are in favour of the EU – compared to 50% before this Commission took office.

**Euro**
- 175 million people in 60 countries across the world use the euro or have their currency linked to it.

**Employment**
- Q4 2014 - 228 million
- Q4 2018 - 240 million

240 million are working in the EU – compared to 228 million in Q4 2014.

**Unemployment**
- 2014: 10.6%
- 2019: 6.4%

6.4% were unemployed in March 2019 compared to 10.6% in February 2014.

**Economic growth**
- 6 years of uninterrupted growth.

**Youth unemployment**
- 2014: 21.7%
- 2018: 14%

Youth unemployment decreased from 21.7% in 2014 to 14% at the end of 2018 in the EU.
**Trade agreements**

New agreements with **15 partners** (+4 concluded with an additional 13 countries)

**Exports**

36 million jobs in the EU — **1 in 7** — are supported by exports

**Wages**

Wages declined in the aftermath of the crisis, but have seen a strong upward trend in particular since 2017. Wages have grown **5.7%** in the EU and **3.9%** in the euro area between 2014 and 2019

**Stable prices**

since the introduction of the euro in 1999, inflation in the euro area has **averaged** **1.7%**

**Geographical indications**

232 more wines, spirits or food products (Choucroute d’Alsace – France, Salam de Sibiu – Romania, Cornish Pasty – UK) have been protected under EU rules against unfair competition since 2014; a **19%** increase

**Largest trading partner**

The EU is the largest trading partner and the **1st** for **80 countries**, while the United States is the top trading partner of just 20 countries
Support for children in need
Since 2014, EU funding gave education opportunities to over **6.5 million children** in 55 countries facing conflicts and disasters.

Gender-diverse management
**39.9%** of management positions in the European Commission are now occupied by women, in comparison to 30% in November 2014; an increase of 30%.

Migration

- **90%** reduction in irregular arrivals since 2015

Greater use of the Schengen Information System
Police officers and border guards consulted Schengen Information System more than 6 billion times in 2018 — a **200%** increase compared to 2014. This lead to 267,239 hits with a wanted person or object located.

European Research Council
**5,500** top scientists have been funded by the European Research Council (ERC), 4 of them have been awarded the Nobel Prize.

EU Civil Protection Mechanism
In 2017 and 2018, the EU Civil Protection Mechanism was activated **52** times.
**Greenhouse gas emissions**

Reduced by **22%** between 1990 and 2017, while gross domestic product grew by **58%** over the same period.

**Sustainable fisheries**

2014 - 27 Quotas fished sustainably

2019 - 59 Quotas fished sustainably

The number of quotas harvested sustainably in the Atlantic, North Sea and Baltic Sea has more than **doubled** since 2014.

**Citizens’ Dialogues**

2012 - 51

2014 - close to 1,600

2019

**More European Citizens’ Initiatives registered**

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**EU humanitarian aid**

With less than **€4** per citizen, the EU helps save lives of **130 million people** stranded in humanitarian crises around the world each year.

**The EU as the world’s biggest development donor**

€74.4 billion in 2018

EU with Member States - **57%**
We have now reached 10 million students, apprentices and teachers since 1987.

The Commission has proposed to double the budget of Erasmus for the EU’s next long-term budget. This should enable us to support an additional 12 million people between 2021 and 2027.