European Parliament
2024-2029

TEXTS ADOPTED

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EU-Switzerland broad package of agreements to consolidate, deepen and expand their bilateral relations – interim report

European Parliament resolution of 25 November 2026 on the proposal for a Council decision on the conclusion of a broad package of agreements to consolidate, deepen and expand the bilateral relations with the Swiss Confederation (COM(2025)0309 – C10-0075/2026 – 2025/0162R(NLE))

The European Parliament,

– having regard to the proposal for a Council decision on the conclusion of a broad package of agreements to consolidate, deepen and expand the bilateral relations with the Swiss Confederation (COM(2025)0309)[1],

– having regard to the draft Amending Protocol to the Agreement between the European Community and its Member States, of the one part, and the Swiss Confederation, of the other, on the free movement of persons,

– having regard to the draft Institutional Protocol to the Agreement between the European Community and its Member States, of the one part, and the Swiss Confederation, of the other, on the free movement of persons,

– having regard to the draft Amending Protocol to the Agreement between the European Community and the Swiss Confederation on air transport,

– having regard to the draft Institutional Protocol to the Agreement between the European Community and the Swiss Confederation on air transport,

– having regard to the draft State aid Protocol to the Agreement

1 https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/HTML/?uri=CELEX:52025PC0309.

between the European Community and the Swiss Confederation on air transport,

– having regard to the draft Amending Protocol to the Agreement between the European Community and the Swiss Confederation on the Carriage of Goods and Passengers by Rail and Road,

– having regard to the draft Institutional Protocol to the Agreement between the European Community and the Swiss Confederation on the Carriage of Goods and Passengers by Rail and Road,

– having regard to the draft State aid Protocol to the Agreement between the European Community and the Swiss confederation on the Carriage of Goods and Passengers by Rail and Road,

– having regard to the draft Amending Protocol to the Agreement between the European Community and the Swiss Confederation on mutual recognition in relation to conformity assessment,

– having regard to the draft Institutional protocol to the Agreement between the European Community and the Swiss Confederation on mutual recognition in relation to conformity assessment,

– having regard to the draft Amending Protocol to the Agreement between the European Community and the Swiss Confederation on trade in agricultural products,

– having regard to the draft Protocol to the Agreement between the European Community and the Swiss Confederation on trade in agricultural products establishing a Common Food Safety Area,

– having regard to the draft Agreement between the European Union and the Swiss Confederation on electricity,

– having regard to the draft Agreement between the European Union and the Swiss Confederation on health,

– having regard to the draft Agreement between the European Union and the Swiss Confederation on Switzerland’s regular financial contribution towards reducing economic and social disparities in the European Union,

– having regard to the draft Agreement between the European Union and the European Atomic Energy Community, of the one part, and the Swiss Confederation, of the other part, on the participation of the Swiss Confederation in Union Programmes,

– having regard to the draft Agreement between the European Union and the Swiss Confederation on the terms and conditions for the participation of the Swiss Confederation in the European Union Agency for the Space Programme,

– having regard to the draft Protocol between the European Union and the Swiss Confederation on parliamentary cooperation,

– having regard to the draft Joint Declaration by the European Union and the Swiss Confederation on the establishment of a high-level dialogue on the broad bilateral package and the possible further development of the bilateral relations between the European Union and Switzerland,

– having regard to the draft joint declarations annexed to the agreements and the protocols,

– having regard to the Free Trade Agreement between the European Economic Community and the Swiss Confederation of 22 July 1972[2],

– having regard to the seven sectoral agreements between the European Union and Switzerland ('Bilateral Agreements I'), signed in 1999,

– having regard to the nine additional sectoral agreements between the European Union and Switzerland ('Bilateral Agreements II'), signed in 2004,

– having regard to the agreement of 26 October 2004 on Switzerland's participation in the Schengen area,

– having regard to Switzerland's participation in the European Border and Coast Guard Agency (Frontex) and in the European Union Asylum Agency (EUAA),

– having regard to the agreements between the Swiss Confederation and Europol of 24 September 2004, and with Eurojust of 27 September 2008,

– having regard to Switzerland's membership of the Council of Europe and participation in the European Convention on Human Rights,

– having regard to the decision by the Swiss Federal Council of 26 May 2021 to terminate the negotiations on an EU-Switzerland institutional framework,

– having regard to the Common Understanding between the Commission and the Swiss Federal Council of 15 December 2023,

– having regard to the Council Decision of 12 March 2024 authorising the opening of negotiations with the Swiss Confederation on institutional provisions in agreements between the European Union and the Swiss Confederation related to the internal market, on an

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[2] OJ L 300, 31.12.1972, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/agree_internation/1972/2840(1)/oj.

agreement on the Swiss Confederation's participation in Union programmes and on an agreement that forms the basis for the Swiss Confederation's permanent contribution to the Union's cohesion[3],

– having regard to the conclusion on 20 December 2024 of the negotiations on a broad package of agreements to consolidate, deepen and expand the bilateral relations with the Swiss Confederation,

– having regard to the joint statement of 24 June 2025 by the representatives of the European Union and of the Swiss Confederation on the level of partnership and cooperation in the period between the end of 2024 and the entry into force of the broad bilateral package,

– having regard to the signature on 10 November 2025 of the draft Agreement on the participation of the Swiss Confederation in Union programmes,

– having regard to the signature on 6 March 2026 of the other elements of the broad package of agreements between the European Union and the Swiss Confederation,

– having regard to the Council Decision on the signing and conclusion, on behalf of the European Union, of the Agreement between the European Union and the Swiss Confederation establishing a framework for the participation of the Swiss Confederation in European Union crisis management operations,

– having regard to the Joint Declaration, signed on 5 March 2026, on strengthened cooperation on foreign and security policy between Switzerland and the European Union, and the Framework Participation Agreement (FPA) facilitating Swiss contributions to EU common security and defence policy (CSDP) missions and operations,

– having regard to Council Decision (EU) 2025/2413 of 20 November 2025 on the conclusion of the Amending Protocol to the Agreement between the European Union and the Swiss Confederation on the automatic exchange of financial account information to improve international tax compliance[4],

– having regard to its recommendation of 26 March 2019 to the Council, the Commission and the Vice-President of the Commission / High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy concerning the Institutional Framework

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3 OJ L, 2024/995, 26.3.2024, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/dec/2024/995/oj.

4 OJ L, 2025/2413, 5.12.2025, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/dec/2025/2413/oj.

Agreement between the European Union and the Swiss Confederation,

– having regard to its resolution of 4 October 2023 on EU-Switzerland relations[5],

– having regard to Rule 107(5) of its Rules of Procedure,

– having regard to the opinions of the Committee on International Trade, the Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs, the Committee on Industry, Research and Energy, the Committee on the Internal Market and Consumer Protection and the Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs,

– having regard to the interim report of the Committee on Foreign Affairs (A10-0235/2026),

A. whereas the EU and Switzerland have a long-standing relationship based on shared values and interests, such as democracy, respect for the rule of law and for fundamental rights, social and environmental protection, and the upholding of international humanitarian law, and are close neighbours and like-minded partners closely linked by their history, geography and a common European culture; whereas the EU and Switzerland are key economic partners with an interest in shared economic prosperity;

B. whereas the European Union is Switzerland’s leading trading partner and Switzerland is the European Union’s fourth-leading trading partner, with the EU constituting a market of 460 million consumers; whereas it is important to look, across the broadest possible front, for ways of further strengthening trade relations between the European Union and Switzerland;

C. whereas close contacts and ties between citizens of the Member States and Swiss citizens are a key pillar of EU-Switzerland relations; whereas more than 1,5 million EU citizens currently reside in Switzerland, almost 450 000 Swiss nationals reside in the EU and more than 410 000 workers and citizens cross the border on a daily basis for work or other purposes;

D. whereas down through the years the relations between the European Union and Switzerland have been structured by the signing of more than 100 bilateral agreements, reflecting pragmatic and gradual sectoral cooperation, but cooperation based on a number of agreements that were not designed to last without being regularly adapted;

E. whereas numerous forms of local and regional cooperation are the

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5 OJ C, C/2024/1183, 23.2.2024, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/C/2024/1183/oj.

bedrock of EU-Switzerland relations, with EU regions along the border having cooperated with Swiss cantons for decades; whereas these structures reflect a relationship that has become deeply integrated and organised over time;

F. whereas the cross-border regions illustrate on a daily basis the intensity and grass-roots reality of cooperation between the EU and Switzerland; whereas such cooperation is often structured through institutionalised frameworks and long-standing partnerships between regions and cantons, which play a key role in addressing shared challenges and fostering integrated territorial development;

G. whereas the Agreement on the free movement of persons constitutes an essential element and one of the most tangible aspects of the cooperation between the European Union and Switzerland; whereas this agreement provides that EU citizens and Swiss nationals enjoy the rights of entry, residence, access to work and establishment, as well as protection against discrimination based on nationality in the exercise of those rights; whereas freedom of movement of persons, in an area without internal border controls, is a cornerstone of the Schengen area; whereas the free movement of persons is one of the fundamental pillars of the internal market;

H. whereas cooperation between the European Union and Switzerland in the field of justice and home affairs, based on Switzerland’s association to the Schengen and Dublin areas, its participation in Frontex and the EU Asylum Agency, and its agreements with Europol and Eurojust, plays a key role in addressing common challenges, which include ensuring effective management of migration and asylum, strengthening external border controls, allowing the smooth functioning of the Schengen area and enabling joint action against terrorism and serious and organised crime;

I. whereas a safe and stable Europe is a shared priority and common interest, built up over two decades of constructive cooperation between the European Union and Switzerland in security, defence, human rights, multilateralism, peacebuilding and mediation, and development, including Switzerland’s participation in CSDP instruments while respecting its neutrality;

J. whereas Switzerland has sought to align with the EU on sanctions against Russia, including its complete ban on the purchase and import of Russian liquefied natural gas; whereas sanctions are only effective if they are robustly enforced and when loopholes are identified and closed;

K. whereas cooperation in research, innovation and training is a major pillar of the relationship between the European Union and Switzerland, contributing to the scientific excellence and economic competitiveness of both parties;

L. whereas political negotiations on a broad package of agreements (‘Bilateral Agreements III’) for the stabilisation and development of bilateral relations between the EU and Switzerland were concluded in December 2024;

M. whereas the agreements envisaged mark an important step towards modernising the bilateral relationship, enhancing stability and mutual trust, and ensuring a clear and predictable framework for the benefit of the citizens and businesses of both parties;

N. whereas the proper functioning of the agreements relating to participation in the internal market requires homogenous implementation, legal certainty and the avoidance of unilateral measures that may create market fragmentation or distortions affecting operators that are active across borders; whereas safeguards are needed to preserve the integrity of the internal market and the EU’s financial system in the areas of taxation, State aid surveillance, financial services regulation, anti-money laundering and sustainable finance, in order to prevent regulatory arbitrage and distortions of competition within the internal market;

O. whereas the agreements contain horizontal and sectoral State aid rules with surveillance and enforcement mechanisms, notably in the areas of electricity, air transport and land transport, which means that Switzerland will extend the scope of its State aid surveillance and enforcement;

P. whereas bilateral relations between the European Union and Switzerland are founded on respect for each party’s sovereignty and the institutional and democratic processes of each party and of the EU Member States, including, for Switzerland, its federal system and long tradition of direct democracy and, for the European Union, the role of the European Parliament and the Council in its decision-making process;

Q. whereas Parliament is requested by the Council to give its consent to the broad package of agreements with Switzerland and therefore considers it necessary to assess the package as a whole, taking into account its overall balance and coherence;

State of EU-Switzerland relations

1. Emphasises that the relationship between the European Union and Switzerland occupies a special place in Europe, owing both to their geographical proximity and to the dense historic, economic, cultural, linguistic, human and political ties between the two parties, and that it is an important factor in the stability, prosperity and security of the continent;

2. Believes that, in a world marked by Russia’s war of aggression on the European continent, geopolitical tensions, instability, economic

uncertainty and coercion, and increasing fragmentation of global trade, the European Union and Switzerland must not let disengagement, alienation and mistrust take root; considers that closer relations and joint action to strengthen Europe’s internal and external security, including economic security and strategic resilience, are essential in the current geopolitical context;

3. Recalls that the European Union and Switzerland share a common vision of society, based on common values, including democracy, the rule of law, respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms; considers that these shared values constitute the foundation of their bilateral relationship;

4. Stresses that EU-Switzerland relations are an everyday reality in cross-border regions, where working, studying, training and doing business on either side of the border is now the norm rather than the exception; highlights the large number of cross-border commuters between the EU and Switzerland and of EU citizens and Swiss nationals who live and work in Switzerland or the EU respectively; emphasises that beyond the benefits for border regions, cooperation should aim to deliver benefits across Europe as a whole;

5. Considers that it is in the fundamental and common interest of the European Union and Switzerland to stabilise and maintain mutually beneficial bilateral relations in order to restore clarity, stability, legal certainty and clear political direction; stresses that these extend beyond commercial exchanges, through the fostering of people-to-people contacts through cultural, social, parliamentary, linguistic and industrial cooperation;

General remarks on the broad bilateral package of agreements to consolidate, deepen and expand EU-Switzerland relations

6. Notes that, for several decades, relations between the European Union and Switzerland have developed through successive bilateral agreements aimed at improving cooperation in specific areas and facilitating the lives of citizens and businesses operating on either side of the border; stresses that this cooperation must be upheld through effective and enforceable mechanisms within a stable and predictable legal framework;

7. Notes that, in the areas of the internal market in which Switzerland participates, some of the existing agreements are no longer suited to current realities; stresses that when rules evolve on one side but not on the other, this creates legal uncertainty and very real disruption for citizens and businesses, which may constrain economic momentum and thus competitiveness; considers that this situation could no longer continue and that an update of the common framework had become necessary;

8. Welcomes the balanced and coherent comprehensive package of

agreements based on a fair balance of rights and obligations, in particular those aimed at stabilising the relationship by updating the main pillars of Switzerland's participation in the internal market, namely the agreements on air transport, land transport, the free movement of persons, mutual recognition of conformity assessment, and trade in agricultural products;

9. Welcomes, furthermore, the fact that the broad package also marks a step forward in extending or deepening cooperation for the benefit of citizens, in particular with the new agreements on food safety, health and electricity, as well as the agreements on Switzerland's participation in EU programmes and the EU Agency for the Space Programme (EUSPA), the establishment of a regular Swiss financial contribution, and strengthened political and parliamentary dialogue; considers that these agreements consolidate the current partnership while opening new avenues for cooperation in strategic areas in an increasingly uncertain geopolitical environment;

10. Believes that the work on the broad bilateral package constitutes a deliberate and responsible political choice to strengthen cooperation between like-minded partners and not to allow a key relationship to gradually erode; considers that, following the failure of the 2021 discussions, the envisaged package of agreements reflects a shared willingness to move beyond a relationship that had become uncertain;

11. Considers that these agreements, freely concluded between two sovereign partners, reflect the shared choice by the European Union and Switzerland to deepen cooperation in a manner that strengthens their economic security and strategic cooperation and thereby reinforces their respective sovereignties;

12. Emphasises that the envisaged package has a straightforward objective: to safeguard the freedoms which citizens already enjoy each day – to work, study and cooperate – and to prevent political and legal obstacles from unnecessarily complicating the lives of people, businesses and cross-border regions;

13. Considers that the new agreements represent an important step towards ensuring legal certainty, a level playing field and a robust governance structure for all sectoral agreements, as well as for citizens, researchers and businesses on both sides; emphasises the strategic importance of these agreements for small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) across the EU and in Switzerland, as they rely heavily on predictable market conditions;

14. Stresses that selective implementation or unilateral measures in the context of the agreements should be avoided; notes that any necessary sectoral adaptations should be coordinated within the institutional framework of the agreements;

15. Recalls that the envisaged agreements constitute neither a ‘disguised accession’ of Switzerland to the European Union nor a challenge to its institutions, sovereignty, federalism or direct democracy, but are rather the continuation of a specific partnership path based on clearly defined rights and obligations accepted by both parties, including appropriate safeguards preventing any imbalance between the parties;

16. Welcomes the fact that the broad package of agreements reflects many of the expectations and recommendations clearly expressed by the European Parliament in its 2023 resolution, with a view to revitalising relations between the EU and Switzerland;

Participation of Switzerland in the internal market

17. Recalls that stable and predictable internal market cooperation between the EU and Switzerland contributes to economic resilience by safeguarding integrated supply chains, labour mobility and ensuring consumer access to goods and services, while preserving fair competition;

18. Notes that the broad bilateral package reflects Switzerland’s continued choice to pursue sectoral participation in the EU internal market in the areas it covers; underlines that such participation must safeguard internal market integrity through homogeneous application and robust enforcement, based on a genuine level playing field, as divergence quickly raises compliance costs and reduces predictability for economic operators, in particular SMEs, workers and consumers; stresses that effective implementation should ensure that SMEs can fully benefit from simplified administrative procedures, reduced compliance costs and better access to cross-border markets;

19. Stresses that Switzerland’s sectoral participation in the EU internal market is inseparable from its acceptance of the free movement of persons, which enables cross-border economic integration by ensuring worker mobility and temporary provision of services; underlines that Switzerland’s participation in certain areas of the market is intrinsically linked to respect for those principles, while not covering all of the internal market’s policies and sectors; stresses that broader participation could, in the future, make life even simpler for businesses, workers and consumers on both sides of the border; calls for the enforcement of EU consumer protection legislation and cross-border workers’ rights;

20. Stresses that Switzerland is not part of the customs union nor the common commercial policy and that its participation does not extend to several key EU policies; considers that clarity on these limitations is necessary to ensure transparency, manage expectations and strengthen the political legitimacy of Switzerland’s partial

participation in the EU internal market;

21. Emphasises the necessity of fully reciprocal, transparent and non-discriminatory access to public procurement markets at all administrative levels; calls for the integration of interoperable digital public procurement portals to ensure that EU companies can effectively compete for Swiss public contracts, particularly at the cantonal and municipal levels, and, equally, that Swiss companies can seamlessly bid for EU tenders without facing arbitrary administrative, technical, or localised barriers; encourages the EU and Switzerland to maintain open dialogue and coordination with regard to public procurement approaches;

22. Underlines that the seamless functioning of the shared areas of the internal market requires streamlining administrative procedures and reducing administrative burdens; urges the mutual application of the ‘once-only’ principle, ensuring that businesses and cross-border service providers are not required to repeatedly submit identical corporate or professional data to respective national, cantonal or municipal authorities, and calls for the full digitalisation of prior notification requirements; advocates the interoperability and mutual integration of the EU single window environment for customs and other EU customs rules with Swiss digital customs systems;

23. Notes that this targeted participation is based on respect for the choices made by the two parties, especially with regard to a number of sensitive sectors, in which the EU and Switzerland will continue to organise their own markets and policies independently;

Cross-cutting provisions

24. Notes that, under the current framework, Switzerland has in many instances aligned its national rules with evolving EU rules in order to facilitate smooth economic exchanges; welcomes the fact that the package addresses long-standing governance shortcomings that hindered the timely updating of the agreements and contributed to legal uncertainty;

25. Stresses that the cross-cutting institutional provisions are central to the stability of Switzerland’s participation in internal market areas, as they ensure a predictable and structured framework for dynamic alignment, effective monitoring and enforcement, and for addressing difficulties regarding interpretation or application;

26. Underlines the fact that the internal coherence of the package, negotiated and concluded as a balanced set, is particularly important in the border regions, where regulatory fragmentation would generate immediate economic and legal costs; stresses that regulatory gaps, weak enforcement or legal uncertainty risk distorting competition and increasing costs and unpredictability for all economic operators, in particular SMEs, as well as for workers

and consumers;

27. Welcomes the fact that when provided for by an agreement, a structured and predictable approach is introduced to keep relevant internal market rules up to date through dynamic alignment, including mechanisms ensuring the integration of relevant horizontal internal market acts where appropriate, thereby reducing regulatory gaps that have generated disruption and legal uncertainty, in particular for SMEs operating across borders; stresses that this dynamic alignment is neither automatic nor imposed, and that it aims to maintain the proper functioning of Switzerland's participation in the EU's internal market;

28. Welcomes the fact that the package links dynamic alignment to Switzerland's enhanced involvement in the preparation of EU acts to be integrated in the package, including the consultation of Swiss experts and, where relevant, participation in corresponding committees and expert groups without voting rights; considers that 'decision-shaping' can facilitate preparation for the implementation of the agreements and help anticipate practical implementation challenges;

29. Welcomes the creation of a clear and balanced dispute settlement mechanism, based on an arbitral tribunal with members appointed by the European Union and by Switzerland on equal terms, thus ensuring that disputes are handled in a neutral manner; notes that the package is conceived as a coherent whole and that, where necessary to remedy an imbalance resulting from non-compliance with an arbitral ruling, proportionate compensatory measures may apply across other internal market agreements covered by the package;

30. Underlines the fact that the dispute settlement mechanism provides a clear and predictable framework for resolving disagreements between the Parties and ensuring the consistent application of the rules; points out that this mechanism fully respects the autonomy of the respective legal orders, and, where relevant and necessary, the Court of Justice of the European Union may be called upon only to interpret provisions of EU law; stresses that Swiss courts, including the Swiss Federal Supreme Court, remain exclusively competent to decide individual cases and disputes in Switzerland; underlines that disputes between the European Union and Switzerland are not decided by national or EU courts, but only through the agreed arbitration mechanism;

31. Stresses that the institutional rules integrated into the envisaged agreements related to the internal market do not put Switzerland in a position to unilaterally apply the EU law contained in these agreements, but rather grant it a right of structured participation upstream of the drafting of EU legal acts; welcomes the fact that this

right, unprecedented for a country that is neither a member of the European Union nor of the European Economic Area, enables Switzerland to exercise its interests and its expertise while taking account of its specificities before the adoption of the legal acts concerned;

Free movement of persons

32. Emphasises that the proposed modernisation of the Agreement on the free movement of persons aims to improve the well-established mobility between the European Union and Switzerland through transparent and commonly agreed rules; welcomes the fact that quotas for nationals of EU Member States, which were discriminatory towards specific EU citizens, such as Croatian citizens, have been lifted;

33. Welcomes the dynamic alignment of Switzerland with the EU *acquis* on the free movement of persons and on the posting of workers, albeit with some limited exceptions, clarifying the rules applicable to cross-border and posted workers, safeguarding the rights and obligations of both employers and workers, and ensuring that they are applied in a predictable and fair manner; notes the bureaucratic hurdles faced by EU-based businesses when they wish to send posted workers to Switzerland, such as notification requirements in specific sectors;

34. Notes that the proposed update of the Agreement on the free movement of persons includes specific provisions on expulsions, permanent residence and the posting of workers; emphasises, in this context, the inclusion of an adapted safeguard clause for cases of serious economic or social difficulties caused by the application of the agreement as requested by Switzerland; stresses that any measure adopted under the safeguard clause must remain proportionate, non-discriminatory, targeted, and limited in scope and duration to what is strictly necessary to remedy the difficulties identified or the imbalance they address, without undermining the overall functioning of the agreement and its core objective of ensuring the free movement of persons;

35. Stresses that the updated agreement strengthens social protection through a non-regression clause, clearer notification rules and the principle of ‘equal work for equal pay in the same place’, helping to combat fraud effectively while providing greater security for workers and long-term stability for EU and Swiss businesses, and ensuring equal and non-discriminatory treatment of citizens in the areas covered by the agreements;

36. Welcomes the fact that the updated Agreement on the free movement of persons renders the framework more predictable, facilitating the recognition of diplomas, qualifications and

professional experience; emphasises that the mutual recognition of professional qualifications is a key component of the free movement of persons;

37. Welcomes the fact that the updated agreement guarantees equal treatment between EU and Swiss students for tuition fees and support mechanisms at universities, most of which are funded publicly, while fully respecting national competences in education, thus promoting academic mobility and access to higher education;

38. Highlights the importance of strengthened cooperation between the EU and Switzerland on migration management, in the interest of both parties; recalls that Switzerland, as a Schengen-associated state, participates in certain aspects of the Pact on Migration and Asylum; anticipates, in that regard, Switzerland's full implementation of its obligations under the pact;

39. Notes that both the EU and Switzerland face similar security challenges, including those linked to cross-border organised crime; underlines the importance of effective information exchange, operational cooperation and mutual legal assistance in addressing these common threats and in strengthening security for both parties;

Mutual recognition in relation to conformity assessment

40. Stresses that mutual recognition in relation to conformity assessment remains a cornerstone of the internal market and a key instrument for reducing technical barriers to trade by preventing duplication of testing and certification; welcomes the update to the agreement, which safeguards a central pillar of market access for many EU and Swiss industrial sectors, covering more than a third of all traded goods;

41. Underlines the fact that mutual recognition in relation to conformity assessment also preserves product safety and consumer confidence; stresses the importance of consistent interpretation, effective cooperation on market surveillance and practical administrative coordination, so that mutual recognition is not weakened by diverging practices that could lead to fragmentation or de facto barriers to trade;

42. Emphasises that this mutual recognition has very specific effects for industry, particularly in key sectors such as machinery, precision engineering, pharmaceuticals, medical devices, toys and construction products, by bringing down administrative costs, reducing the time to market and giving businesses the required visibility for investing, innovating and exporting; stresses that improved market access, simplified procedures and mutual recognition of product and conformity assessment standards will strengthen the competitiveness of EU SMEs and expand their export opportunities in the Swiss market;

43. Underlines the fact that the effectiveness of the Agreement on mutual recognition in relation to conformity assessment depends on the timely updating of applicable legislation, robust market surveillance, and clear procedures for the verification and, where necessary, suspension of the recognition of the conformity assessment bodies; welcomes strengthened cooperation on market surveillance and stresses that it is indispensable for maintaining trust in mutual recognition, ensuring product safety and preventing non-compliant products from entering the internal market;

Financial services, anti-money laundering and taxation

44. Notes that Switzerland is a major financial centre and considers that closer integration of the Swiss and EU markets for financial services could benefit both sides; regrets the fact that the package does not include an overarching agreement on the financial services sector, which is dynamically aligned with the EU frameworks; points out that without such a framework Swiss financial market participants cannot be granted general passporting rights unless they are established in the EU;

45. Welcomes the fact that, in 2024, Switzerland and the EU resumed their regulatory dialogue on financial services matters; calls on the Commission and the relevant European supervisory authorities to continue and intensify this structured regulatory dialogue with Switzerland on financial services, including with a view to advancing market integration; calls on the Commission to keep Parliament fully informed of any future steps that could affect EU financial stability, investor protection or supervisory autonomy;

46. Welcomes the fact that both the EU and Switzerland have recently updated their respective frameworks on anti-money laundering (AML) and countering the financing of terrorism (CFT); highlights the fact that the international standards of the Financial Action Task Force constitute the international baseline, while stressing that closer alignment and enhanced supervisory cooperation between both parties are necessary to ensure a level playing field and prevent regulatory arbitrage in the light of the high degree of financial integration and cross-border activity between the European Union and Switzerland;

47. Takes note of the fact that the package does not contain a dedicated cooperation agreement on AML/CFT matters; calls for the establishment of a structured cooperation framework between the EU’s Anti-Money Laundering Authority and the competent Swiss authorities in order to ensure effective coordination, information exchange and supervisory cooperation in AML/CFT matters;

48. Welcomes the recent update of the bilateral Agreement on the automatic exchange of information between the EU and Switzerland,

allowing the implementation of the latest international standards on tax transparency and the effective exchange of information, as well as the entry into force on 1 January 2026 of parts of the amending protocol to strengthen the current tax cooperation agreement with Switzerland, which expands automatic exchanges of financial account information and establishes a new framework for cooperation on the recovery of value-added tax claims;

49. Encourages both parties to maintain proactive cooperation on international tax matters in relevant bilateral and multilateral forums, including the OECD/G20 Inclusive Framework, and to promote good tax governance, advance fair and sustainable tax systems and strengthen revenue collection;

Competition policy and State aid control

50. Highlights the importance of effective and robust State aid control mechanisms in order to prevent distortions of competition and safeguard a level playing field; welcomes the fact that Switzerland will adopt State aid rules, including several horizontal and sectoral State aid provisions as part of the package, notably as part of the agreements on air transport, land transport and electricity;

51. Stresses that the package can only be credible if the State aid framework is effectively enforced in practice; notes that the agreements establish a two-pillar system under which the European Union and Switzerland are each responsible for the surveillance and enforcement of State aid rules within their respective jurisdictions; notes that Switzerland is afforded a five-year transition period to establish its State aid surveillance system; calls on the Commission to closely monitor its implementation and to engage in regular dialogue with Switzerland in the relevant joint bodies in order to ensure robust and independent supervision, effective remedies and enforcement outcomes equivalent to those applied in the EU, thereby ensuring fair competition and preserving the integrity of the agreements and the internal market;

52. Calls on the Commission to continue the dialogue and cooperation at international level, and to strive towards effective information exchange between competition authorities; highlights the importance of the Agreement concerning cooperation on the application of the Contracting Parties’ competition laws, and trusts that this agreement will continue to be applied effectively to support the cooperation between the Commission and the Swiss competition authority in the enforcement of competition rules and in investigation and infringement procedures; stresses that efforts should be undertaken to avoid duplication and overlap and to ensure coherent and consistent outcomes in the application of competition rules; calls for the competition authorities of the EU and Switzerland to continue their dialogue and exchange of best practice, including in

areas not covered under the agreement;

Air, road and rail transport

53. Notes that EU-Switzerland transport links – including air travel, cross-border rail or road transport for passenger mobility and business supply chains – are essential to both daily life and economic activity and that major transit corridors crossing Switzerland are of strategic importance for the resilience of European supply chains and the functioning of the internal market, while noting that some connections remain fragile or poorly coordinated, leading to transfers, disruptions and longer journey times for passengers and goods;

54. Notes that divergences in regulatory requirements in cross-border transport can create compliance costs and operational barriers, and hence stresses the need for proportionate, transparent and non-discriminatory cross-border service conditions, and for fair and predictable conditions for transport operators on both sides of the border;

55. Welcomes the modernisation of transport agreements and calls for alignment with relevant EU transport legislation, including sustainability objectives, fair competition rules and state aid surveillance¸ noting that the updated agreements help safeguard and improve the highly used transport links on both sides of the border and also improve industrial cooperation; welcomes in particular the fact that the updated land transport agreement strengthens the integration of EU and Swiss passenger and freight transport markets, while providing greater legal certainty and institutional clarity;

56. Calls for the changes to the agreements on land transport to be fully implemented in order to improve cross-border links in practice, by facilitating more direct, coordinated and reliable journeys, reducing unnecessary disruptions and complex reorganisations affecting passengers and businesses, and supporting the movement of goods and the economic attractiveness of cross-border regions, while respecting the infrastructure and transport policy choices of both parties;

57. Stresses the fact that efficient cross-border transport infrastructure is crucial for well-functioning EU-Switzerland relations, particularly along strategic corridors such as the Rhine-Alpine corridor, and welcomes the fact that the updated agreement will facilitate new international rail services and additional cross-border connections for the benefit of passengers and freight; welcomes, in this regard, the prospect of Switzerland’s strengthened cooperation in the European Union Agency for Railways, which would further strengthen interoperability, safety and technical harmonisation;

58. Recalls that these transport agreements are based on the principle of non-discrimination and stresses that shared challenges, such as road congestion in Alpine valleys, require coordinated responses; considers that joint solutions, particularly to strengthen rail links, support progress towards a single European railway area, shift freight to rail and ensure fair infrastructure funding, are the only sustainable way forward, as unilateral approaches risk undermining the balance of the relationship;

59. Recalls that the closure of the Gotthard Base Tunnel following the 2023 derailment caused major disruptions to Alpine transit and highlighted the importance of continuous dialogue on transport safety; expresses concern about unilateral Swiss measures which were adopted before the conclusion of the joint European process established to assess the causes of the accident and identify common safety solutions, affecting cross-border rail operations following this accident, and stresses that rail safety challenges should, wherever possible, be addressed through common European approaches and multilateral cooperation in order to preserve interoperability and avoid fragmentation of the European rail system;

60. Warns that restrictions affecting international rail operations may weaken efforts to shift freight from road to rail and increase pressure on already congested Alpine corridors; recalls that the smooth functioning of these corridors is essential for European supply chains, economic competitiveness and sustainable transport objectives;

61. Regrets the announced transit charge for private passengers travelling through Switzerland; recognises the legitimate challenges linked to congestion and transit traffic in Alpine valleys, but considers that these challenges are best addressed through joint and non-discriminatory solutions developed together by the European Union and Switzerland; calls on Switzerland to avoid measures that could create unjustified discrimination between road users, particularly those from neighbouring countries, and to ensure that any such measures remain proportionate and consistent with the spirit of the bilateral agreements;

62. Notes Switzerland’s significant investment in public and rail transport, and calls for the EU, the Commission, the Member States and regional authorities to increase investment and coordination to ensure effective, reliable and attractive cross-border links and to maximise the benefits of major investments made in strategic cross-border transport infrastructure, particularly along key European freight and passenger corridors such as the Rhine-Alpine corridor;

Industrial, energy, digital research and innovation cooperation

63. Highlights Switzerland’s long-standing role as a reliable partner in

industrial, energy, scientific and digital cooperation; reiterates that cooperation with Switzerland in these areas deliver clear mutual benefits, and that stable governance conditions are essential to continued investment, innovation and cross-border collaboration;

64. Stresses that a modernised internal market requires robust, interoperable digital infrastructure and seamless cross-border data flows; notes that Switzerland does not currently participate in the digital single market and that no specific agreement in this area is included in the current package; recalls that citizens and businesses in the EU and Switzerland increasingly rely on cross-border digital services; considers that deeper cooperation on digital matters, notably in the fields of data, cybersecurity and artificial intelligence, could bring tangible benefits on both sides; invites the Commission and the Swiss authorities to explore, where mutually beneficial, closer cooperation and possible future cooperation in selected areas of the digital single market;

65. Highlights the need for deeper and more strategic cooperation between the EU and Switzerland in the field of industrial policy for better complementarity in strategic industrial areas, especially in the light of the evolving geopolitical landscape, marked by supply chain vulnerabilities, technological competition and the imperative of the green and digital transitions;

66. Recognises the importance of EU-Switzerland cooperation in research, innovation and development; underlines the mutual benefits of this cooperation between the EU and Switzerland and their long history of scientific excellence; notes that Swiss science and innovation are an integral part of the European science and innovation ecosystem; emphasises that cooperation with highly innovative partner countries strengthens European scientific leadership, cross-border research networks and technological competitiveness;

67. Stresses the importance of facilitating the mobility of researchers, doctoral candidates and highly skilled professionals between the EU and Switzerland; calls for streamlined procedures, including for third-country researchers participating in joint projects and for improved mutual recognition of qualifications; emphasises the need to safeguard scientific and academic freedom;

68. Encourages closer cooperation between EU and Swiss research infrastructures, recognising that these infrastructures should be considered critical in order to ensure interoperable standards, open access policies and high scientific impact through, among other things, the European Strategy Forum on Research Infrastructures; highlights the importance of close cooperation with Switzerland within the European Research Area (ERA) and encourages the further integration of Swiss research institutions into ERA initiatives;

69. Notes that persistent high roaming charges between the EU and Switzerland create disproportionate burdens for citizens, cross-border workers and SMEs, particularly in border regions; encourages further efforts to reduce these costs, in line with the internal market principles of the EU internal market, while ensuring fair competition; recognises the current political momentum towards an expanded European roam-like-at-home area, notably following the integration of Ukraine and Moldova and the prospect of further inclusion of the Western Balkans on the basis of dynamic alignment with the EU telecommunications *acquis*; invites the Commission to explore, on the same basis, the possibility of Switzerland's participation in the roam-like-at-home framework, with a view to strengthening the coherence of the European digital space;

Switzerland's participation in Union programmes

70. Welcomes strongly the agreement on Switzerland's participation in EU programmes; emphasises that the participation in EU programmes is a core pillar of broader EU-Switzerland relations and provides a stable and predictable framework for long-term cooperation between Switzerland and the European Union in research, innovation, education, digital technologies and scientific cooperation for the benefit of citizens, universities and businesses on both sides of the border; emphasises, in this context, the significant benefits that such participation brings to all parties involved;

71. Welcomes the fact that this agreement grants Switzerland early access to a number of programmes and underlines the importance of its full implementation and timely ratification by both parties in order to ensure continuity, legal certainty and predictability beyond the current transitional arrangements; stresses the importance of reciprocal access for EU entities in Swiss support programmes, and of facilitating the participation of SMEs in EU programmes;

72. Welcomes the fact that the agreement enables Switzerland's full association with Horizon Europe as of the beginning of 2025; expresses its support for Switzerland's continued association with the next Framework Programme for Research and Innovation, Horizon 2028-2034, subject to the entry into force of the agreement and the adoption of the relevant legal bases, with Parliament's full involvement through the consent procedure, in line with its resolution on association agreements for the participation of non-EU countries in EU programmes, in order to provide long-term planning certainty for researchers, research institutions and cross-border consortia, and to guarantee clarity and predictability regarding the conditions of this association;

73. Welcomes the fact that the agreement enables Switzerland's participation in Euratom Research and Training, and Digital Europe programmes as of 2025, and has allowed Switzerland to be involved

in the European Joint Undertaking for ITER and the Development of Fusion Energy since 2026;

74. Calls for strengthened engagement with Switzerland within relevant components of the Digital Europe Programme, in particular in the fields of cybersecurity, semiconductor technologies and artificial intelligence, provided that such participation fully complies with EU rules on security, data protection and the EU's strategic autonomy, and is subject to appropriate safeguards;

75. Welcomes the fact that the Agreement on Switzerland's participation in Union programmes, which is already being provisionally applied, provides for Switzerland to take part in the Erasmus+ programme from 2027 onwards and looks forward to its full and timely implementation for the benefit of students, teachers, apprentices and young people on both sides, which is a vital investment in young people and enhances mutual understanding and the cultural influence of Europe;

76. Notes that the Creative Europe programme is not covered by the envisaged agreements; underlines the high level of cooperation in the artistic, audiovisual and creative sectors; is of the opinion that Switzerland should consider taking part in Creative Europe and its successor AgoraEU as envisaged in the Common Understanding in 2023; notes that Swiss and EU public television and radio channels are not more widely available to citizens on the other side of the border despite the close cultural and linguistic ties between their societies; calls for enhanced cultural and media cooperation, including measures facilitating cross-border access to public service television and radio content;

77. Underlines the good cooperation between the EU and Switzerland in the space sector, in particular Switzerland's participation in and financial contribution to the European global navigation satellite systems (GNSS), including Galileo, and its long-standing full membership of the European Space Agency, a key partner in the implementation of the EU Space Programme; welcomes, in particular, the envisaged agreement on Switzerland's participation in EUSPA; considers such participation a major step towards closer cooperation in the European space programme;

78. Calls for this cooperation in space policy to be deepened, notably through the Infrastructure for Resilience, Interconnectivity and Security by Satellite programme (IRIS2) and other future EU space initiatives; underlines the mutual benefits of closer cooperation in secure satellite communications, connectivity, resilience and technological sovereignty;

79. Regrets strongly the decision of the Swiss Federal Council not to pursue participation in the Copernicus component of the EU Space

Programme; recalls the strategic importance of Copernicus for environmental monitoring, weather and climate services, disaster management and emergency response at a time of growing geopolitical and climate-related challenges; notes that non-participation will deprive Switzerland of a voice in shaping the future of the programme, limit its access to certain operational services and crisis-response capabilities, including the rapid activation of emergency services, and reduce opportunities for Swiss companies to participate in EU-funded contracts; encourages the Swiss authorities to reconsider this position and stresses the importance of further strengthening EU-Switzerland space cooperation;

80. Supports closer coordination between the EU and Switzerland in civil protection and disaster response; stresses that activation of the EU Civil Protection Mechanism during the tragic Crans-Montana incident illustrated the strength of European solidarity; calls on the Commission and the Swiss Federal Council to find solutions to allow Switzerland to participate fully in the mechanism, for instance through integration via the Agreement on Union programmes, with prior consent given by Parliament;

81. Notes that the next multiannual financial framework is expected to introduce a renewed architecture for several EU programmes and funding instruments; encourages Switzerland and the EU to explore opportunities for expanded cooperation and association with these future programmes, including the proposed European Competitiveness Fund, wherever this is in the mutual interest of both parties;

Trade

82. Stresses the strategic importance of the trade and investment partnership between the EU and Switzerland, noting that the EU is Switzerland’s largest trading partner, accounting for 53 % of its trade in goods and services, while Switzerland was the EU’s fourth largest trading partner in 2024; underlines that this interdependence is felt most directly in border regions;

83. Highlights that total trade in goods between the EU and Switzerland reached EUR 328,3 billion in 2024, with EU exports amounting to EUR 193,4 billion and imports to EUR 134,9 billion; notes that Switzerland accounted for 5,5 % of the EU’s total goods imports and 7,5 % of its total goods exports in 2024, representing 6,5 % of the EU’s overall trade in goods; underlines that Switzerland is also an important EU partner for trade in services, accounting for nearly 9 % of the EU’s total trade in services in 2023;

84. Emphasises the depth of the investment ties between the two partners, recalling that businesses from the EU account for more than two thirds of foreign direct investment (FDI) in Switzerland,

while Swiss companies have invested approximately EUR 588 billion in the EU, which represents nearly half of total Swiss outward FDI, making Switzerland one of the largest non-EU investors in the EU;

85. Reaffirms that an open, rules-based trade policy, combined with the diversification of partners, suppliers and transport routes, remains one of the EU's most effective instruments for reducing structural vulnerabilities to external shocks and supply disruptions; stresses that deepened and modernised relations with Switzerland contribute directly to this objective;

86. Calls for enhanced dialogue on specific shared challenges to economic security, such as overcapacity, unfair competition from non-market economies and economic coercion, through the newly established high-level dialogue between the EU and Switzerland, with the aim of coordinating approaches and exchanging information and best practice;

87. Reaffirms that the EU and Switzerland share a strong commitment to a rules-based multilateral trading system, which remains a cornerstone of their trade policies and that, as highly open and globally integrated economies, both partners depend on stable, transparent and enforceable international trade rules; calls for enhanced cooperation between the EU and Switzerland in advancing the reform of the World Trade Organization (WTO), including a permanent solution for the WTO moratorium on customs duties on electronic transmissions;

88. Stresses the high degree of economic integration between the EU and Switzerland in the steel sector; takes note of the steel quota allocated to Switzerland following negotiations with the EU;

89. Calls for close cooperation between the Commission and the Swiss authorities to ensure that the application of steel safeguard measures, including 'melt and pour' requirements, does not create loopholes that could be exploited by third-country producers seeking to circumvent tariff rate quotas; underlines that effective information exchange, transparency and coordinated enforcement are essential to prevent quota evasion, while safeguarding the integrity of the EU trade defence instruments and preserving the smooth functioning of highly integrated EU-Switzerland value chains;

90. Highlights the role of the Chief Trade Enforcement Officer in ensuring proper oversight, monitoring and enforcement of trade with Switzerland, including tackling potential market access barriers and ensuring the faithful fulfilment of commitments under the updated framework; calls on the Commission to raise awareness among SMEs of the opportunities in the Swiss market and provide market access information to facilitate their market entry;

Agricultural products and the Common Food Safety Area

91. Notes that the EU and Switzerland already share, in practice, a common food chain, with products crossing the border daily and reaching consumers on both sides under largely the same quality and safety requirements;

92. Highlights the fact that Switzerland is the EU's fourth largest agri-food partner and that in 2023, 50 % of Swiss exports in this sector went to the EU, while 74 % of Swiss imports originated in the EU, making the daily trade between both sides essential for both producers and consumers;

93. Welcomes the establishment of a Common Food Safety Area between the EU and Switzerland, as it introduces a single rulebook and an integrated and more efficient control system covering the entire food chain, including sanitary and phytosanitary rules, food and feed safety, plant health and plant protection products, and animal health and welfare, as well as robust protection of EU and Swiss denominations and geographical indications; considers this a significant step towards deeper regulatory cooperation, enhanced legal certainty and stronger economic integration in the agri-food sector;

94. Welcomes the fact that the establishment of the Common Food Safety Area includes Switzerland's dynamic alignment with the relevant EU *acquis* to ensure that the same high standards on food and feed safety and plant and animal health are applied simultaneously in both the EU and Switzerland, providing reassurance to consumers and guaranteeing a consistently high level of protection across both markets, as well as ensuring high food safety standards for consumers and a level playing field both for foodstuffs on the market and for farmers on both sides of the border; highlights the fact that clearer and harmonised rules and the removal of non-tariff trade barriers will facilitate smoother trade flows in agri-food products, reducing administrative burdens for producers and businesses on both sides and strengthening integrated value chains;

95. Calls on the Commission to closely and continuously monitor trade flows in agricultural and agri-food products between the EU and Switzerland, with particular attention to market access conditions, price developments, and compliance with applicable standards; stresses the need for effective control on both sides, and for inspection and enforcement mechanisms, including audit and verification procedures, to ensure that agreed standards are applied consistently, reliably and in a transparent manner by both parties;

96. Points out that recent crises, such as the 2025–2026 infant formula crisis, have shown that in the event of a public health-related alert, acting separately slows down the reaction and weakens the protection of consumers both in Switzerland and the European

Union; welcomes the fact that Switzerland will have full access to the EU rapid alert system, which will enable faster and more coordinated responses to food safety risks to the benefit of consumers and producers;

Electricity

97. Recognises Switzerland's strategic geographical position at the centre of the European continent, its importance for cross-border infrastructure, particularly electricity networks, interconnectors and energy transit routes linking several Member States and its important role for the stability and efficiency of the European electricity system;

98. Notes that, in a context of geopolitical instability, enhanced operational and regulatory cooperation in the energy sector may strengthen security of supply and promote market integration, grid stability and clean energy integration, thereby contributing to more stable and affordable energy prices and security of supply, while respecting the democratic choices of each party;

99. Notes that the EU and Switzerland are already exchanging electricity on a daily basis, and that their networks have been physically interconnected for several decades; welcomes the progress made in strengthening the integration of the EU and Swiss electricity markets; notes, however, that this interdependence still rests on an incomplete legal framework which does not allow the significant benefits of electricity cooperation for consumers to be reaped;

100. Recognises that the full implementation of the electricity agreement will bring synergies to both the EU and Switzerland by strengthening market integration, harnessing the potential of clean energy sources and of the optimisation of trade, strengthening cross-border energy solidarity, and providing a level playing field for EU and Swiss companies; emphasises that State aid and market rules should be applied in a manner that protects citizens and prevents distortions of competition;

101. Stresses that the envisaged agreement does not modify the fundamentals of Switzerland's organisation of the sector, and does not contain any specific rules aimed at interfering with the current process as regards hydropower concessions and their content, water fees, or the role of public utilities, and preserves universal service and does not impose privatisation of the energy sector;

102. Further recalls that Regulation (EU) 2019/943[6] requires Member

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6 Regulation (EU) 2019/943 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 5 June 2019 on the internal market for electricity (OJ L 158, 14.6.2019, p. 54, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2019/943/oj).

States to reserve at least 70 % of the capacity of their very high voltage transmission lines for cross-border trade within the internal market; believes that the envisaged electricity agreement aims to establish a clear and predictable framework for these existing exchanges, reducing the risks of shortages and contributing to lower energy prices through more efficient energy flows;

103. Underlines that applying EU network codes at the EU-Switzerland border will allow increased cross-border electricity flows and greater transparency and predictability in EU-Switzerland electricity trade; notes that the Commission and the Agency for the Cooperation of Energy Regulators will play a key role in the swift implementation of the network codes; notes the current regional cooperation platforms, such as the Pentalateral Energy Forum, where several European countries work together to improve how their electricity systems function across borders, showing that regional cooperation with Switzerland already exists and can be further facilitated;

104. Takes note that the EU-Switzerland agreement is limited to the electricity sector; regrets that the planned agreement does not cover the gas sector; is of the opinion that both the EU and Switzerland would benefit from stronger integration across all energy sectors, enhanced regulatory dialogue and mutual resilience, a higher degree of transparency in cross-border energy trade and a reduced level of dependencies in a world marked by increasing geopolitical tension; underlines that Switzerland could further contribute to system stability and reliability through its flexible generation capacity and balancing services, thereby supporting the integration of clean energy sources and contributing to the EU’s energy and climate objectives in line with the European Green Deal; calls for closer alignment of international climate commitments between the EU and Switzerland, particularly in the context of the EU’s withdrawal from the Energy Charter Treaty;

Health and crisis response

105. Notes that crises have shown that public health goes beyond national borders, and that Switzerland and the European Union are exposed to the same epidemic risks; notes that with millions of citizens travelling from both sides of the border, coordination facilitates preventing, informing and responding in the event of a health emergency; stresses that cooperation between the EU and Switzerland should ensure rapid and coordinated responses to cross-border health emergencies, and to safeguarding the resilience of integrated supply chains and the internal market during crisis;

106. Welcomes the fact that the agreement on health strengthens cooperation in the areas of crisis preparedness, early warning systems, epidemiological surveillance and coordinated responses to cross-border health threats, in the interest of inhabitants of both

Switzerland and the EU, while fully respecting national competences and the health systems of each party; welcomes, in particular, Switzerland's participation in the EU's Early Warning and Response System (EWRS), which will contribute to faster information sharing and more coordinated responses during cross-border health emergencies;

107. Underlines the fact that cooperation in health should contribute to strengthening the EU's strategic resilience and reducing critical dependencies, including in pharmaceutical supply chains and essential medicinal products; encourages closer EU-Switzerland cooperation on medical countermeasures, including the development and stockpiling of vaccines, therapeutics and essential medicinal supplies, building on current EU instruments; welcomes, in this regard, Switzerland's participation in joint procurement mechanisms for medical countermeasures, which can help strengthen preparedness and security of supply during future crises; encourages continued dialogue and exchange of best practices in public health policy, innovation and digital health solutions;

108. Welcomes Switzerland's participation in the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control, which will strengthen cooperation on disease surveillance and preparedness; notes that the agreements also improve cooperation on medical devices and pharmaceutical manufacturing standards, helping to ensure high levels of patient safety and security of supply on both sides; notes however, that Switzerland will not participate in the European Medicines Agency (EMA), which remains outside the scope of the agreements;

109. Calls for enhanced interoperability and the timely exchange of health data between the EU and Switzerland, in full compliance with EU and Swiss standards on data protection and cybersecurity, and stresses the need to strengthen cooperation in addressing threats to public health systems, including cyberattacks on health infrastructure, disinformation and supply chain disruptions, in order to ensure effective monitoring, preparedness and response to cross-border health threats, and to avoid delays in the detection of health risks, medicine shortages or disruptions affecting patients and healthcare systems;

110. Welcomes, in the context of the updated Agreement on mutual recognition in relation to conformity assessment, the long-awaited strengthening of cooperation on medical devices and other health-related products; recalls that the stagnation of EU-Switzerland relations had led to unnecessary obstacles for patients, hospitals and manufacturers; welcomes the fact that the broad package of agreements provides a pragmatic solution that restores legal certainty, facilitates access to healthcare products and strengthens health security on both sides;

Financial contribution mechanism

111. Welcomes the envisaged establishment of a permanent mechanism for a regular and fair financial contribution from Switzerland to reducing economic and social disparities within the EU, constituting the logical counterpart to the close cooperation provided for by the package of agreements, including Switzerland's privileged access to the EU's internal market; stresses that this contribution would be managed by Switzerland in association with the partner EU Member States;

112. Welcomes the fact that the contribution supports targeted measures for cohesion, better management of migration and economic stability that also benefit Switzerland; stresses that the level of this contribution is directly linked to the level of partnership between Switzerland and the European Union, and that it cannot be equated with a membership fee;

Parliamentary oversight and cooperation

113. Recalls Parliament's concerns regarding its ability to exercise meaningful democratic scrutiny and consent over a broad package of agreements, and emphasises that Parliament must be kept systematically and fully informed throughout the negotiation, adoption and implementation phases, and with regard to any potential suspension of agreements;

114. Notes that, under the agreement on Switzerland's participation in EU programmes, the Joint Committee is empowered to adopt or amend protocols that determine Switzerland's terms of participation; notes also that, under the draft Council decision on conclusion submitted to Parliament for consent, it is envisaged that the Commission will represent the EU in this Joint Committee, in accordance with the procedure set out in Article 218(9) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, and that the Commission will inform the Council in a timely manner about the discussions and the outcome of the meetings and of the acts adopted therein, without any reference made to Parliament; recalls Parliament's concerns that such empowerment must not undermine Parliament's prerogatives nor limit its ability to oversee substantive changes, and urges the Commission to launch negotiations on an interinstitutional agreement that would lay down the general principles of democratic scrutiny by Parliament of the implementation of agreements on the participation of non-EU countries in EU programmes;

115. Notes that the Joint Parliamentary Committee to be established by the Protocol on Parliamentary Cooperation must be regularly informed of all decisions and recommendations adopted by the Joint Committee under any agreement forming part of the package, including updates affecting market access, programme participation

and governance arrangements; stresses that Parliament should also have the ability to request all relevant implementation information directly from the Commission, including technical documentation, Joint Committee agendas and minutes, and draft decisions, in a timely and accessible manner;

116. Welcomes ongoing parliamentary exchanges between Parliament and the Swiss Federal Assembly and recognises the importance of regular dialogue between directly elected representatives; stresses that continuous contacts between Members of the European Parliament and members of the Swiss Federal Assembly are essential to building trust and mutual understanding and to ensuring that the implementation of the agreements responds to citizens' expectations;

117. Welcomes the proposed establishment of a Joint Parliamentary Committee between Parliament and the Swiss Federal Assembly as a pillar of the political dialogue between the European Union and Switzerland and as a positive step towards enhancing interparliamentary dialogue, transparency and democratic oversight;

118. Stresses that the Joint Parliamentary Committee should serve as a structured forum for dialogue, information exchange and debate between Parliament and the Swiss Federal Assembly on the broad bilateral package and its development, thereby fostering mutual understanding, transparency and trust between the EU and Switzerland and ensuring parliamentary scrutiny of the implementation of the agreements; is of the opinion that the Members of the European Parliament and the Swiss Federal Assembly gathered in this forum could make recommendations to the Joint Committees established under any of the agreements that form part of the broad package of agreements;

Monitoring of agreements

119. Emphasises the importance of rigorous, continuous and transparent monitoring of the implementation of the broad bilateral package after its ratification; underlines that the credibility and stability of the package depend on the faithful implementation of the agreements and on respect for the agreed institutional and coordination mechanisms, in particular where measures may affect market access in sectors covered by those agreements;

120. Calls on the Commission to ensure close monitoring of the broad package of agreements and, where necessary, the *acquis* contained therein, together with the Swiss authorities, in order to anticipate any difficulties, ensure timelines are respected and ensure that the commitments made have concrete effects for citizens, workers and businesses on both sides of the border without delay; emphasises the importance of fully involving regional and local authorities in the implementation of the agreements;

121. Welcomes the prospect of establishing a high-level political dialogue between the Commission and the Swiss Federal Council, focused not only on bilateral agreements but also on the possibility of further developing relations between the EU and Switzerland, with the aim of maintaining a clear political direction, swiftly resolving difficulties and sustaining a climate of lasting trust; calls for the close involvement of regions, cantons and economic and social partners, so that the effects of the agreements are visible where they count most;

Cooperation on foreign and security policy

122. Notes that permanent neutrality has been a principle of Swiss foreign policy, and therefore that the promotion of peace, mediation and peaceful conflict resolution have likewise been an important part of Swiss foreign policy; underlines Switzerland's strong role in peace building and its involvement in helping to find solutions to crises, dialogue facilitation, the development of confidence-building measures and reconciliation; appreciates, in this regard, Switzerland's support for Ukraine in the context of the Russian aggression against Ukraine, including the organisation of the Bürgenstock Summit on Peace in Ukraine and the trilateral US-Ukraine-Russia meeting in Geneva, and the provision of humanitarian and refugee support; welcomes Switzerland's active participation in the European Political Community, which provides an important platform for dialogue, coordination and cooperation on shared European challenges;

123. Recalls that the security and territorial integrity of Switzerland are closely linked to the security and stability of the European continent as a whole; positively notes Switzerland's growing interest in further cooperation on security and defence; welcomes the recent update of Switzerland's Administrative Agreement with the European Defence Agency and its participation in the Hub for Defence Innovation, as well as the Council's approval of Switzerland's joining the PESCO projects on military mobility and cyber ranges; welcomes, furthermore, Switzerland's joining the PESCO projects on military mobility and cyber ranges; encourages both parties to explore further opportunities for cooperation in the field of security and defence, where mutually beneficial and in line with their respective interests;

124. Appreciates the growing EU-Switzerland cooperation on foreign and security policy and welcomes the signing, on 5 March 2026, of the Joint Declaration on strengthened cooperation on foreign and security policy between the European Union and Switzerland, which underscores a shared commitment to deepening the partnership, reinforces strong bilateral ties, and highlights cooperation on evolving geopolitical priorities and in multilateral contexts; in this regard, also welcomes the conclusion of the FPA, which will facilitate Switzerland's contributions to EU CSDP missions and operations and

enable it to play an even more active and constructive role in promoting international peace and security alongside the EU and its Member States;

125. Welcomes Switzerland’s alignment with EU restrictive measures, including those against Russia, and the systematic adoption by Switzerland of successive EU sanctions packages adopted in this regard; stresses the importance of continued close coordination on sanctions policy, to strengthen effective measures, including enhanced monitoring, information exchange and cooperation, to prevent circumvention; stresses that continuous alignment on sanctions regimes and the prevention of any circumvention strengthens Europe’s collective economic resilience and international credibility; calls for enhanced cooperation between the EU and Switzerland to strengthen export control systems, improve monitoring and traceability of high-risk goods and address emerging supply-chain evasion schemes; underlines the need for timely, effective and coordinated enforcement mechanisms to prevent the diversion of critical components to Russia’s military industrial base;

126. Notes with concern the forthcoming Swiss popular vote on the ‘Neutrality Initiative’; notes that constitutionalising the prohibition on adopting sanctions beyond UN obligations against belligerent states would mean that it would no longer be possible for Switzerland to align with EU restrictive measures against belligerent states and severely restrict the EU and Switzerland’s mutual cooperation in response to grave breaches of international law;

Final assessment of the broad package of agreements to consolidate, deepen and expand bilateral relations with the Swiss Confederation

127. Welcomes the successful conclusion of the negotiations between the EU and Switzerland; considers that by stabilising cooperation and deepening the bilateral partnership, the comprehensive package marks a new chapter in EU-Switzerland relations;

128. Considers that, although cooperation could and should be further deepened in areas of mutual interest, the overall package constitutes a balanced, responsible and useful political compromise; stresses that the agreements will deliver tangible benefits for citizens, workers, students, researchers and businesses on both sides;

129. Calls for the continuation of a constructive and structured dialogue with Switzerland; stresses that trust, reliability and the faithful implementation of common commitments are essential to the success of the bilateral relationship and of the package itself;

130. In the light of the considerations set out in this report, considers that these agreements bring real added value for the European Union and Switzerland; recommends that Parliament give its consent to the

conclusion of the broad package of agreements, and calls for its swift ratification and implementation;

131. Calls on both parties to seize this opportunity to build a stable, ambitious and forward-looking partnership for the decades to come;

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132. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council, the Commission, the Vice-President of the Commission / High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy, and the Government and Parliament of the Swiss Confederation.