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# Conference of EU Ministers for Public Sector Transformation and the Civil Service

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Outside view of the Debré amphitheatre and the Commandery's belltower

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Held on 16 and 17 March 2022 at the newly created French National Institute of Public Service, this meeting will allow the EU ministers for public sector transformation and the civil service to address common challenges for 21st century public administrations: digital

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transformation, the transparency and openness of public administrations, new ways of working, and cross-border mobility for European civil servants.

This conference will further the momentum created by the meeting of European ministers of public administration held in Lisbon on 22 June 2021, which was the first meeting of its kind since 2014. The EU Member States retain exclusive competence regarding public sector transformation and the civil service, for which they have developed various models. The public health crisis, however, shed light on the unstinting mobilisation and pivotal role of public administrations, and exacerbated the common challenges they face (digital transformation, transformation of public services, attractiveness, new ways of working, etc.). In light of these challenges, a more regular political dialogue must be established on public sector transformation and the civil service, in conjunction with the work carried out by structured networks dedicated to public administration. What's more, public services and officials can fully contribute to a more sovereign and people-focused Europe as well as a new growth model, in line with the ambitions of the European Pillar of Social Rights.

In this context, the conference of EU ministers for public sector transformation and the civil service will be held on 16 and 17 March 2022 in the European capital of Strasbourg, attended by Johannes Hahn, European Commissioner for Budget and Administration. Held at the newly created French National Institute of Public Service, the day of meetings on 17 March will be divided into three parts:

- 1. A presentation of the innovative digital solutions proposed by the finalists of the "Tech for Government: Pitch Session" competition, which was held on 10 January 2022 by the French Presidency of the Council of the European Union
- 2. Workshops dedicated to the cross-border mobility of civil servants in the EU, which will help set guidelines for future exchanges at European level, based on a long-term European framework programme
- **3.** A ministerial debate on the topic "What can our public services do to better meet the needs of citizens?"

To conclude the meeting, the ministers will adopt a declaration defining the framework for a common foundation for public administrations in Europe, based on shared challenges and values. This framework may revolve around three main pillars: exemplary, modern and innovative civil service; transparent and resilient civil services that meet the needs of citizens; and high-quality, inclusive and sovereign digital civil services. This common foundation will take the form of an initiative dedicated to the cross-border mobility of civil servants in the EU, and a new strategy of the European Public Administration Network (EUPAN).

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