

COUNCIL OF THE EU



**WHO** 27 ministers for the particular topic of discussion, one from each member state. If the law discussed deals with transportation for example, all 27 EU transportation ministers meet. Member states hold the presidency of the Council of Ministers for six months. Ireland is presiding from January to June 2013, in July 2013, presidency is assumed by Lithuania and in January 2014, by Greece. The scheme is known as the “presidency trio.”

**WHAT** Consultative assembly with law-voting power. Limited legislative initiative power. Budgetary power of the Union. Some control over foreign policy and macroeconomic coordination.

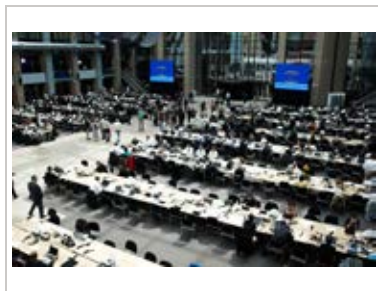
**WHEN** About a hundred meetings per year, depending on the needs.

**WHERE** Justus Lipsius and Lex buildings in Brussels; see below.

**Homepage** [www.consilium.europa.eu/](http://www.consilium.europa.eu/)



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Justus Lipsius Building Atrium © EU 2013



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Irish Presidency of the Council of the EU © EU 2013

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