

# Ending summer-time arrangements

Description of the current state and  
possible future regulation



# Background

Finland has continuously observed summer-time since 1981.

Summer-time begins on the last Sunday of March at 03.00 when the clocks are turned forward one hour.

Winter-time begins on the last Sunday of October at 04.00, when the clocks are turned back one hour.



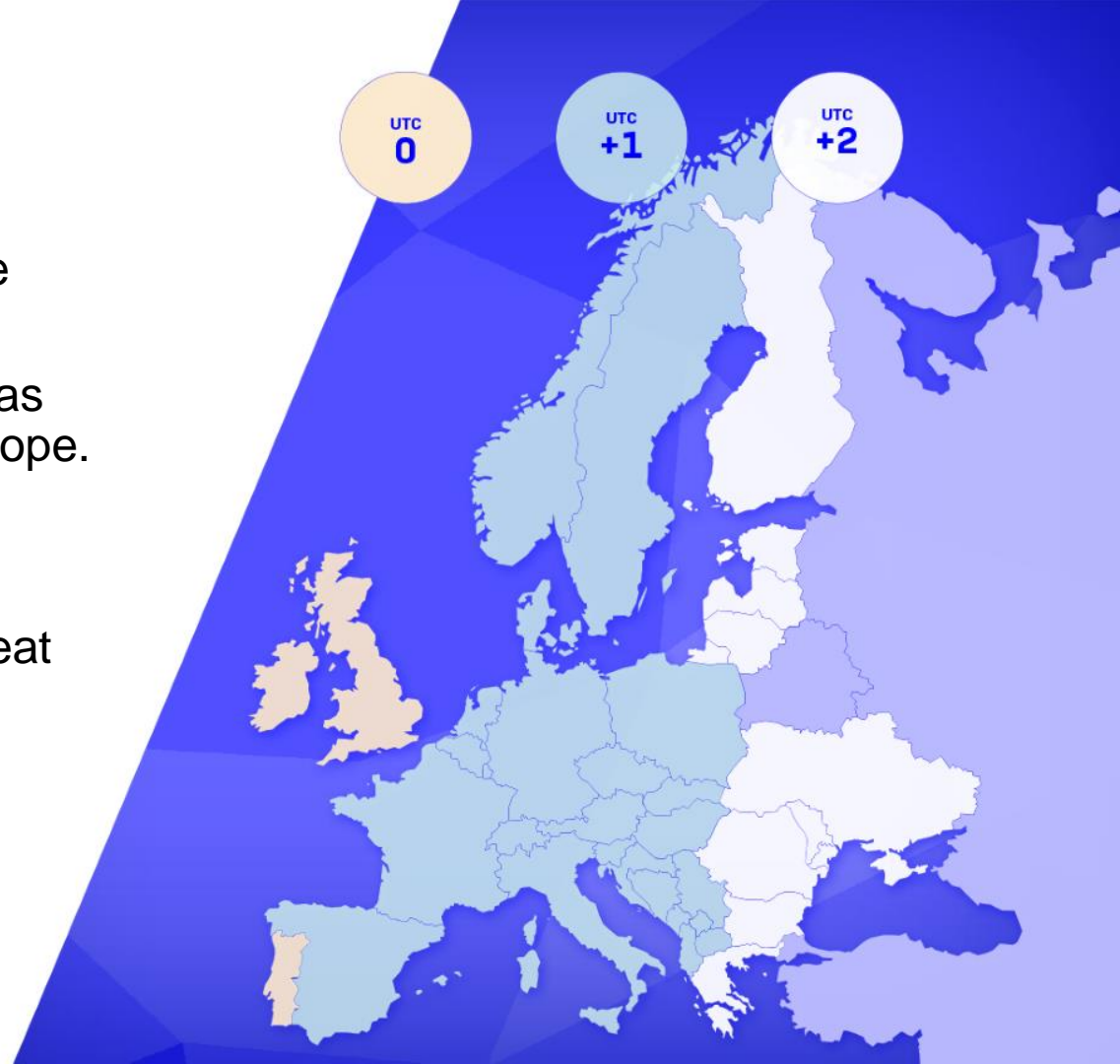
# Time zones

There are three time zones in use in the EU.

Finland is in the same time zone as the Baltic States and Eastern Europe.

Finland is one hour ahead of Scandinavia and Central Europe.

Finland is two hours ahead of Great Britain, Ireland and Portugal.





# What it means to switch to permanent summer-time

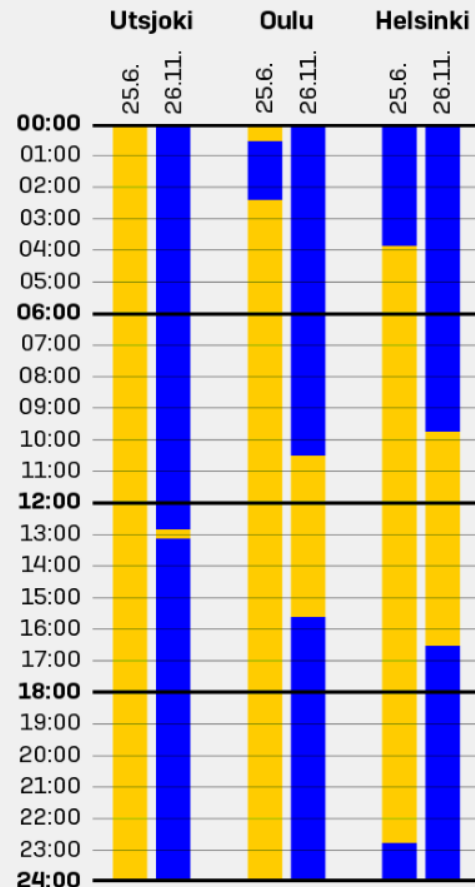
During the months of **summer-time**, daylight lasts one hour longer in the evenings and, correspondingly, daylight begins one hour later in the mornings than in the months of winter-time.

Currently, summer-time is in place for seven months of the year.



Sunrise and sunset on 25 June and 26 November when permanent summer-time is in place.

Light hours of the day   
Dark hours of the day 





# What it means to switch to permanent winter-time

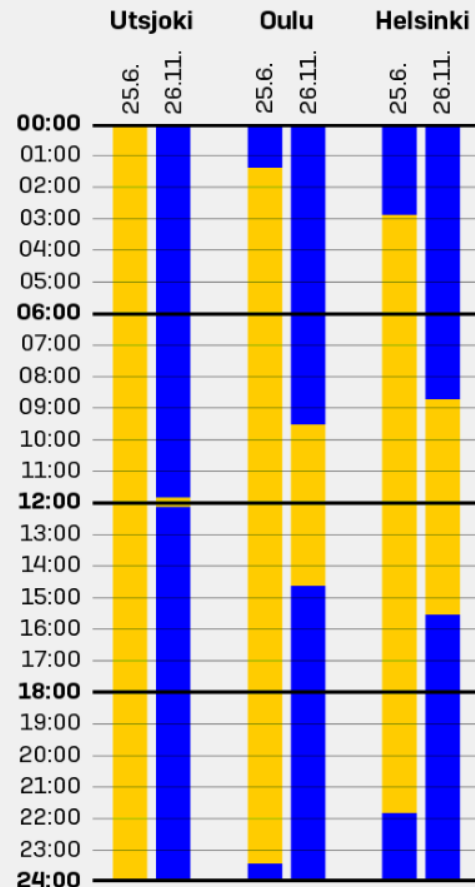
During the months of **winter-time**, daylight begins one hour earlier in the mornings than in the months of summer-time. Correspondingly, it gets dark in the evening one hour earlier than in summer-time.

Currently, winter-time is in place for five months of the year.



Sunrise and sunset on 25 June and 26 November when permanent winter-time is in place.

Light hours of the day   
Dark hours of the day 



# The process in Europe

A decision on ending the summer-time arrangements will be made in the European Union. The Directive proposal of the Commission will be discussed in the European Council and the European Parliament.

They will jointly decide on the adoption of the Directive.

If the Directive is adopted, Finnish legislation will be amended accordingly.



# National discussion

In Finland, Parliament has taken the view that the abandonment of time changes should be taken forward within the EU. No decisions have been made as to which time zone Finland should adopt.

If a decision is reached to end the summer-time arrangements, the permanent standard time in Finland will be decided by Parliament. A decision will be made on the matter, if the Directive is adopted in the EU.

The Directive proposal will next be discussed in Government and Parliament. Finland's official position on the proposal will be formed in the discussions.

