



**EUROPEAN COUNCIL**

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**DRAFT MINUTES**

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Subject: Meeting of the EUROPEAN COUNCIL  
held on 23 October 2011

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### **1. Exchange of views with the President of the European Parliament**

The President of the European Parliament was heard by the European Council.

### **2. Adoption of the agenda**

The European Council adopted its agenda (doc. EUCO 51/11).

### **3. Economic policy**

The European Council held a discussion on economic policy, in particular as regards growth-enhancing measures to achieve sustainable and job-creating growth, economic governance and how to ensure that the required measures are taken to pull Europe out of the crisis, and external aspects of economic policy that can contribute to boosting EU's growth potential.

### **4. G-20**

The European Council discussed the preparations for the G20 Summit in Cannes on 3 and 4 November 2011.

### **5. Climate change**

The European Council discussed the preparation of the European Union's position for the conference on climate change in Durban, from 28 November to 9 December 2011.

### **6. Information on the meeting of the Euro area Heads of State or Government of 23 October 2011**

The European Council was informed by its President on the state of preparations regarding the Euro Summit of 23 and 26 October and discussed the need for coherence of the activities of the Euro area and the European Union.

### **7. External relations**

The European Council discussed the situation in the Southern Neighbourhood as well as the Eastern Partnership summit.

## **8. Other issues**

The European Council:

- = decided to consult the EP and the Commission on the proposal of the Irish Government, regarding the Protocol on the concerns of the Irish people on the Treaty of Lisbon (doc. EUCO 92/11) and to request the consent of the European Parliament not to convene a Convention;
- = decided to consult the EP and the Commission on the proposal of the Czech Government regarding the protocol on the application of the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the EU to the Czech Republic (doc. EUCO 91/11) and to request the consent of the European Parliament not to convene a Convention.
- = adopted the decision appointing a member of the Executive Board of the ECB (doc. EUCO 88/1/11 REV 1).
- = agreed to enter in its minutes the statement done by the President of the European Council on Schengen accession (c.f. Annex).

## **9. Approval of the conclusions**

The European Council approved its conclusions, setting out the outcome of its discussions (doc. EUCO 52/11).

## **10. Approval of the minutes of the European Council meeting on 23-24 June 2011**

The European Council approved the minutes of its meeting held on 23 and 24 June 2011 (doc. EUCO 22/11 + COR 1).

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**Statement by the President of the European Council**

"Regarding the **Schengen accession** of Bulgaria and Romania, I recall the Council conclusions from 9 June regarding their evaluation and the agreement reached at the European Council in June this year. This is an issue of particular importance for Bulgaria and Romania. A decision should be taken without further delay. I am sure that the Polish Presidency will put all the efforts to allow this issue to be concluded hopefully on time before the December European Council meeting. I invite all the Member States concerned to support these efforts in view of lifting the control at the internal sea and air borders by end of March 2012, and taking a decision on lifting the control at the internal land borders no later than 31 July 2012. If by the time of the December European Council meeting the decision would still be open, I will put it on the agenda of the European Council."