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From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Permanent Representatives Committee/Council
Subject:	Fight against Antisemitism: acquisition by the European Union of Permanent International Partner status with the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA)

At the JHA Counsellors meeting on 8 November 2018, delegations examined on the basis of an explanatory note set out in WK 12681/2018, the request of the Commission that the Union responds positively to the invitation to acquire a Permanent International Partner (PiP) status with the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA).

During the meeting, it was clarified that IHRA does not take decisions that have legal effects and that if the Union were to acquire PiP status, it would become an observer to IHRA without a right to vote. Furthermore, it was explained that PiP status would not entail legal or financial commitments on the part of Union. There is, therefore, no need for the procedure according to Article 218(9) TFEU to be used. However, because of the political importance, political approval by the Council of the acquisition of PiP status with IHRA of the Union is considered necessary.

At the meeting on 8 November, the Presidency concluded that the proposal by the Commission that the Union should acquire PiP status with IHRA received overall support from delegations subject to scrutiny reservations by seven delegations due to the short deadline for examining the Commission request.

In the light of the above, the Presidency invites Coreper:

- to agree on the acquisition by the European Union of a Permanent International Partner status with IHRA, and
 - to ask the Council to approve it.
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