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**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**



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3102nd Council meeting

General Affairs

Luxembourg, 21 June 2011

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Main results of the Council

*The Council discussed preparations for the June meeting of the **European Council**, which is due to discuss economic policy, including the European Semester, the Euro Plus Pact and the EU's comprehensive response to the sovereign debt crisis, as well as migration issues, the southern Mediterranean and accession negotiations with Croatia.*

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- Where declarations, conclusions or resolutions have been formally adopted by the Council, this is indicated in the heading for the item concerned and the text is placed between quotation marks.
- Documents for which references are given in the text are available on the Council's Internet site (<http://www.consilium.europa.eu>).
- Acts adopted with statements for the Council minutes which may be released to the public are indicated by an asterisk; these statements are available on the Council's Internet site or may be obtained from the Press Office.

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Mr David LIDINGTON

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ITEMS DEBATED**PREPARATION OF THE JUNE EUROPEAN COUNCIL****Draft conclusions**

The Council examined draft conclusions for the European Council meeting to be held on 23 and 24 June.

The European Council is due to focus on:

- Economic policy: conclusion of the 2011 European Semester (annual monitoring of budgetary policies and structural reforms), and review of progress on the Euro Plus Pact and on the EU's comprehensive response to the sovereign debt crisis.
- Migration: review of progress in implementing asylum and migration policies, and issues raised by recent developments in the southern Mediterranean.
- Croatia: review of progress in negotiations on its accession to the EU.

The European Council will also be called on to decide on the appointment of a new president of the European Central Bank. It will take note of the outcome of work on the means to promote the inclusion of the Roma population and on the launch of a strategy for the Danube region.

The draft conclusions will be reviewed in the light of the Council's discussion. An annotated draft agenda was approved by the Council at its meeting on 23 May ([9786/11](#)).

European Semester

The Council examined recommendations on national reform programmes submitted by the member states under the Europe 2020 strategy for jobs and growth.

This follows an agreement reached on 17 June by the Employment, Social Policy, Health and Consumer Affairs Council on a general approach as regards the employment aspects.

The Council agreed to forward the texts to the European Council, with a view to its meeting on 23 and 24 June. The recommendations will be adopted at a subsequent Council meeting, thus concluding the European Semester.

The European Semester involves simultaneous monitoring of the member states' economic and budgetary policies, in accordance with common rules, during a six-month period every year. It is being implemented this year for the first time as part of an ongoing reform of the EU's economic governance.

COUNCIL WORK PROGRAMME - TRIO OF PRESIDENCIES

The Council took note of the presentation by the Polish, Danish and Cypriot delegations – the "trio" of presidencies for the period from July 2011 to December 2012 – of a draft 18-month programme for the Council ([11447/11](#)).

Implementation of the work programme will require close cooperation with the President of the European Council, as European Council meetings are prepared by the General Affairs Council, and with the High Representative, who chairs the Foreign Affairs Council.

OTHER ITEMS APPROVED

GENERAL AFFAIRS

Maritime policy

The Council took note of a report on progress in work on a draft regulation aimed at establishing a programme to support the further development of an integrated maritime policy ([10916/11](#)).

FOREIGN AFFAIRS

EU relations with Andorra, Monaco and San Marino

The Council took note of a report from the presidency on relations with the Principality of Andorra, the Principality of Monaco and the Republic of San Marino ([11466/11](#)).
