



Council of the  
European Union

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## **LEGISLATIVE ACTS AND OTHER INSTRUMENTS**

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Subject: COUNCIL DECISION on the position to be adopted, on behalf of the European Union, within the Joint Committee established by the Regional Convention on pan-Euro-Mediterranean preferential rules of origin as regards the request of Ukraine to become a Contracting Party to that Convention

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**COUNCIL DECISION (EU) 2017/...**

**of**

**on the position to be adopted, on behalf of the European Union,  
within the Joint Committee established by the Regional Convention  
on pan-Euro-Mediterranean preferential rules of origin  
as regards the request of Ukraine to become a Contracting Party to that Convention**

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, and in particular Article 207(4) in conjunction with Article 218(9) thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the European Commission,

Whereas:

- (1) The Regional Convention on pan-Euro-Mediterranean preferential rules of origin<sup>1</sup> (the 'Convention'), which sets out the rules on the origin of goods traded under the relevant Agreements concluded between the Contracting Parties, entered into force on 1 December 2012.
- (2) Article 5(1) of the Convention provides that a third party may become a Contracting Party to the Convention, provided that the candidate country or territory has a free trade agreement in force, providing for preferential rules of origin, with at least one of the Contracting Parties.
- (3) To that end, Article 5(2) and (3) of the Convention require a third party to submit a written request for accession to the depositary of the Convention which, in turn, has to submit the request to the Joint Committee established by the Convention ('Joint Committee') for its consideration.
- (4) Pursuant to Article 4(3)(b) of the Convention, the Joint Committee adopts by decision invitations to third parties to accede to the Convention.
- (5) Ukraine submitted a written request for accession to the Convention on 12 September 2016.
- (6) Ukraine has a free trade agreement in force with several Contracting Parties to the Convention and therefore complies with the condition set out in Article 5(1) of the Convention to become a Contracting Party.

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<sup>1</sup> OJ L 54, 26.2.2013, p. 4.

- (7) The position of the Union within the Joint Committee should be to vote in favour of a decision inviting Ukraine to accede to the Convention,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

*Article 1*

The position to be adopted on behalf of the Union within the Joint Committee established by the Regional Convention on pan-Euro-Mediterranean preferential rules of origin, as regards the request of Ukraine to become a Contracting Party to that Convention, shall be based on the draft Decision of the Joint Committee attached to this Decision.

Minor changes to the draft Decision may be agreed to by the representatives of the Union in the Joint Committee without further decision of the Council.

*Article 2*

After its adoption, the Decision of the Joint Committee shall be published in the *Official Journal of the European Union*.

*Article 3*

This Decision shall enter into force on the date of its adoption.

Done at Brussels,

*For the Council*

*The President*

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DRAFT

**DECISION No 1/2017**  
**OF THE JOINT COMMITTEE ESTABLISHED BY THE REGIONAL CONVENTION**  
**ON PAN-EURO-MEDITERRANEAN PREFERENTIAL RULES OF ORIGIN**

**of**

**as regards the request of Ukraine to become a Contracting Party**  
**to the Regional Convention on pan-Euro-Mediterranean preferential rules of origin**

THE JOINT COMMITTEE,

Having regard to the Regional Convention on pan-Euro-Mediterranean preferential rules of origin<sup>1</sup>,

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<sup>1</sup> OJ L 54, 26.2.2013, p. 4.

Whereas:

- (1) Article 5(1) of the Regional Convention on pan-Euro-Mediterranean preferential rules of origin ('the Convention') provides that a third party may become a Contracting Party to the Convention provided that the candidate country or territory has a free trade agreement in force, providing for preferential rules of origin, with at least one of the Contracting Parties.
- (2) Ukraine submitted a written request for accession to the Convention on 12 September 2016.
- (3) Ukraine has a free trade agreement in force with several Contracting Parties to the Convention and therefore complies with the condition set out in Article 5(1) of the Convention to become a Contracting Party.
- (4) Article 4(3)(b) of the Convention provides that the Joint Committee is to adopt by decision invitations to third parties to accede to the Convention,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

*Article 1*

Ukraine shall be invited to accede to the Regional Convention on pan-Euro-Mediterranean preferential rules of origin.

*Article 2*

This Decision shall enter into force on the date of its adoption.

Done at Brussels,

*For the Joint Committee*

*The Chair*

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