



European Council

Brussels, 25 October 2017  
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## MINUTES

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Subject: Meeting of the EUROPEAN COUNCIL  
held on 22-23 June 2017

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At its meeting on 19 October 2017, the European Council adopted the minutes of its meeting on 22-23 June 2017, as set out in this document, and decided to make them public.

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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 as set out in document EUCO 9/17.

## **3. Security and Defence**

The European Council discussed cooperation at EU level to enhance internal security. It focused in particular on the fight against terrorism and on how to combat terrorism online. It also provided strategic guidance to strengthen EU cooperation on external security and defence, notably as regards the European Defence Fund, the need to launch an inclusive and ambitious Permanent Structured Cooperation and the deployment of EU Battlegroups.

## **4. The Paris Agreement on Climate Change**

The European Council reaffirmed the commitment of the EU and its Member States to the Paris Agreement on Climate Change.

## **5. Jobs, Growth and Competitiveness**

The European Council exchanged views on economic matters with the President of the European Central Bank. On trade, it reaffirmed that the EU will actively promote an ambitious free trade agenda on the global scene, while expressing its conviction that trade and investment can only be free if it is also fair and mutually beneficial. In that context, the European Council discussed trade defence instruments and called on the Commission and the Council to deepen and take forward the debate on how to enhance reciprocity in the fields of public procurement and investment. The European Council also took stock of progress on the different Single Market Strategies and called for work to be taken forward. It generally endorsed the integrated country-specific recommendations as discussed by the Council.

## **6. Migration**

The European Council took stock of progress in the implementation of the Union's comprehensive approach to migration, with a particular focus on the Central Mediterranean route. Reaffirming its previous conclusions on the reform of the Common European Asylum System, it provided guidance, invited the Council to continue negotiations on that basis and decided to revert to these issues.

## **7. Digital Europe**

The European Council briefly touched upon the necessity to take a holistic approach to digital issues, also in view of the Digital Summit in Tallinn on 29 September 2017.

## **8. Approval of the conclusions**

The European Council approved the conclusions, reflecting the outcome of its discussions, as set out in document EUCO 8/17.

## **9. Adoption of the minutes of the European Council on 9 March 2017 and decision to make them public**

The European Council adopted the minutes of its meeting held on 9 March 2017 as set out in document EUCO 3/17 and decided to make them public.

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