



Council of the  
European Union

Brussels, 31 August 2015  
(OR. en)

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EXT 1

AND 4  
MC 4  
SM 4  
MI 466  
AELE 41  
FISC 223

#### **PARTIAL DECLASSIFICATION**

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Subject: COUNCIL DECISION authorising the opening of negotiations on one or several Association Agreement(s) between the European Union and the Principality of Andorra, the Principality of Monaco and the Republic of San Marino

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Delegations will find attached the partially declassified version of the above-mentioned document.



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**LEGISLATIVE ACTS AND OTHER INSTRUMENTS**

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**COUNCIL DECISION**

**authorising the opening of negotiations on one or several Association Agreement(s) between the European Union and the Principality of Andorra, the Principality of Monaco and the Republic of San Marino**

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU), and in particular Article 217 in conjunction with 218(3) and (4) thereof,

Having regard to the Recommendation from the European Commission,

Whereas:

- (1) The Principality of Andorra, the Principality of Monaco and the Republic of San Marino are neighbours of the EU and have close ties to one or more EU Member State(s). Article 8 of the Treaty on European Union (TEU) states that the EU ‘shall develop a special relationship with neighbouring countries, aiming to establish an area of prosperity and good neighbourliness, founded on the values of the Union and characterised by close and peaceful relations based on cooperation’. The Declaration No 3 on Article 8 TEU states that ‘the Union will take into account the particular situation of small-sized countries which maintain specific relations of proximity with it.’

- (2) The European Union has concluded a number of agreements with Andorra, Monaco and San Marino, including Monetary Agreements with all three countries and customs union agreements with Andorra and San Marino. Monaco is part of the EU customs territory by virtue of its customs union with France. However, despite these agreements, there are obstacles to unimpeded movement of persons, goods, services and capital between the EU and these countries. There is also potential to enhance cooperation with Andorra, Monaco and San Marino on policy areas beyond the internal market, taking into account the division of competence between the EU and its Member States.
- (3) On 18 November 2013, the Commission adopted a Report on options for the participation of the three countries in the internal market<sup>1</sup>. The Council adopted conclusions on 16 December 2013<sup>2</sup> welcoming the Commission's Report and inviting the Commission to submit a Recommendation for the opening of negotiations on one or several Association Agreement(s).
- (4) In order to provide for the participation of Andorra, Monaco and San Marino in the internal market and related horizontal and flanking policies, as well as possibly enhance cooperation in other areas, it is necessary to negotiate one or several Association Agreement(s) with these countries.

**NOT DECLASSIFIED**

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<sup>1</sup> Report from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions — EU Relations with the Principality of Andorra, the Principality of Monaco and the Republic of San Marino: Options for their Participation in the Internal Market (doc. 16074/13).

<sup>2</sup> Council conclusions on EU relations with the Principality of Andorra, the Republic of San Marino and the Principality of Monaco (doc. 16075/13).

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HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

*Article 1*

The Commission is hereby authorised to negotiate, on behalf of the Union, either a single Association Agreement with Andorra, Monaco and San Marino, or separate Association Agreements with each of these countries, as appropriate.

*Article 2*

The Commission shall negotiate the provisions of the Agreement on the basis of the negotiating directives set out in the Addendum.

*Article 3*

The negotiations shall be conducted in consultation with the Working Party on European Free Trade Association (EFTA) acting as special committee in accordance with Article 218(4) TFEU.

*Article 4*

This Decision is addressed to the Commission.

Done at Brussels,

*For the Council*

*The President*

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