



Council of the  
European Union

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**Interinstitutional File:**  
**2016/0041 (NLE)**

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**COEST 62**  
**ELARG 18**

## PROPOSAL

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From:	Secretary-General of the European Commission, signed by Mr Jordi AYET PUIGARNAU, Director
date of receipt:	18 February 2016
To:	Mr Jeppe TRANHOLM-MIKKELSEN, Secretary-General of the Council of the European Union
No. Cion doc.:	COM(2016) 69 final
Subject:	Proposal for a COUNCIL DECISION on the conclusion, on behalf of the European Union and its Member States, of the Protocol to the Partnership and Cooperation Agreement between the European Communities and their Member States, of the one part, and Turkmenistan, of the other part, to take account of the accession of the Republic of Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, the Republic of Estonia, the Republic of Croatia, the Republic of Cyprus, the Republic of Latvia, the Republic of Lithuania, Hungary, the Republic of Malta, the Republic of Poland, Romania, the Republic of Slovenia and the Slovak Republic to the European Union

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Delegations will find attached document COM(2016) 69 final.

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Encl.: COM(2016) 69 final



Brussels, 18.2.2016  
COM(2016) 69 final

2016/0041 (NLE)

Proposal for a

## **COUNCIL DECISION**

**on the conclusion, on behalf of the European Union and its Member States, of the Protocol to the Partnership and Cooperation Agreement between the European Communities and their Member States, of the one part, and Turkmenistan, of the other part, to take account of the accession of the Republic of Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, the Republic of Estonia, the Republic of Croatia, the Republic of Cyprus, the Republic of Latvia, the Republic of Lithuania, Hungary, the Republic of Malta, the Republic of Poland, Romania, the Republic of Slovenia and the Slovak Republic to the European Union**

## EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

The attached proposal constitutes the legal instrument for the conclusion of a Protocol to the Partnership and Cooperation Agreement between the European Communities and their Member States, of the one part, and Turkmenistan, of the other part, to take account of the accession of the Republic of Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, the Republic of Estonia, the Republic of Croatia, the Republic of Cyprus, the Republic of Latvia, the Republic of Lithuania, Hungary, the Republic of Malta, the Republic of Poland, Romania, the Republic of Slovenia and the Slovak Republic to the European Union (hereinafter referred to as 'the Protocol').

According to their Acts of Accession in 2003, 2005 and 2011 respectively, the Republic of Estonia, the Republic of Cyprus, the Republic of Latvia, the Republic of Lithuania, Hungary, the Republic of Malta, the Republic of Poland, the Republic of Slovenia and the Slovak Republic, the Republic of Bulgaria and Romania, the Republic of Croatia shall accede to the international agreements signed or concluded by the European Union and its Member States by means of a protocol to those agreements.

The Partnership and Cooperation Agreement between the European Communities and its Member States, of the one part, and Turkmenistan, of the other part, hereinafter referred to as 'the Agreement', was signed in Brussels on 25 May 1998 (*the Agreement is currently undergoing ratification and has not yet entered into force*).

Following the Council Decision of [...] on the signing, on behalf of the European Union and its Member States, of the Protocol to the Partnership and Cooperation Agreement between the European Communities and their Member States and Turkmenistan to take account of the accession of the Republic of Croatia to the European Union, the Protocol was signed in [...] on [...].

The proposed Protocol incorporates the Republic of Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, the Republic of Estonia, the Republic of Croatia, the Republic of Cyprus, the Republic of Latvia, the Republic of Lithuania, Hungary, the Republic of Malta, the Republic of Poland, Romania, the Republic of Slovenia and the Slovak Republic as contracting party to the Agreement and commits the EU to providing the authentic version of the Agreement in the Bulgarian, Croatian, Czech, Danish, Dutch, English, Estonian, Finnish, French, German, Greek, Italian, Latvian, Lithuanian, Hungarian, Maltese, Polish, Portuguese, Romanian, Slovak, Slovenian, Spanish, Swedish languages.

The Commission requests the Council to conclude, on behalf of the European Union and its Member States, the Protocol.

The European Parliament will be called upon to give its consent to the Protocol.

Proposal for a

## COUNCIL DECISION

**on the conclusion, on behalf of the European Union and its Member States, of the Protocol to the Partnership and Cooperation Agreement between the European Communities and their Member States, of the one part, and Turkmenistan, of the other part, to take account of the accession of the Republic of Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, the Republic of Estonia, the Republic of Croatia, the Republic of Cyprus, the Republic of Latvia, the Republic of Lithuania, Hungary, the Republic of Malta, the Republic of Poland, Romania, the Republic of Slovenia and the Slovak Republic to the European Union**

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, and in particular Articles 207 and 209 in conjunction with Article 218(6)(a) thereof,

Having regard to the 2003 Act of Accession of the Czech Republic, the Republic of Estonia, the Republic of Cyprus, the Republic of Latvia, the Republic of Lithuania, the Republic of Hungary, the Republic of Malta, the Republic of Poland, the Republic of Slovenia and the Slovak Republic, and in particular Article 6 (2) thereof,

Having regard to the 2005 Acts of Accession of the the Republic of Bulgaria and Romania, and in particular Article 6 (2) thereof,

Having regard to the 2011 Act of Accession of the Republic of Croatia, and in particular Article 6 (2) thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the European Commission,

Having regard to the consent of the European Parliament;

Whereas:

- (1) In accordance with Article 6(2) of the 2003, 2005 and 2011 Acts of Accession of the Republic of Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, the Republic of Estonia, the Republic of Croatia, the Republic of Cyprus, the Republic of Latvia, the Republic of Lithuania, the Republic of Hungary, the Republic of Malta, the Republic of Poland, Romania, the Republic of Slovenia and the Slovak Republic, the accession of the the Republic of Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, the Republic of Estonia, the Republic of Croatia, the Republic of Cyprus, the Republic of Latvia, the Republic of Lithuania, Hungary, the Republic of Malta, the Republic of Poland, Romania, the Republic of Slovenia and the Slovak Republic to the Partnership and Cooperation Agreement between the European Communities and its Member States, of the one part, and Turkmenistan, of the other part ('the Agreement') is to be agreed by means of a protocol to the Agreement. In

accordance with Article 6(2) of the Acts of Accession, a simplified procedure is to apply to such accession, whereby a protocol is to be concluded by the Council, acting unanimously on behalf of the Member States, and by the third countries concerned.

- (2) On 8 December 2003, the Council authorised the Commission, on behalf of the Community and its Member States, to negotiate with Turkmenistan a Protocol to the Partnership and Cooperation Agreement between the European Communities and their Member States, of the one part, and Turkmenistan, of the other part to take account of the accession of the Czech Republic, the Republic of Estonia, the Republic of Cyprus, the Republic of Latvia, the Republic of Lithuania, Hungary, the Republic of Malta, the Republic of Poland, the Republic of Slovenia and the Slovak Republic, to the European Union.
- (3) On 23 October 2006, the Council authorised the Commission, on behalf of the Community and its Member States, to negotiate with Turkmenistan a Protocol to the Partnership and Cooperation Agreement between the European Communities and their Member States, of the one part, and Turkmenistan, of the other part, to take account of the accession of the Republic of Bulgaria and Romania to the European Union.
- (4) On 14 September 2012, the Council authorised the Commission to open negotiations with the third countries concerned<sup>1</sup> on the adaptation of agreements signed or concluded between the European Union, or the European Union and its Member States, in view of the accession of the Republic of Croatia to the European Union.
- (5) The negotiations were successfully concluded and the Protocol to the Partnership and Cooperation Agreement between the European Communities and their Member States, of the one part, and Turkmenistan, of the other part, to take account of the accession of the Republic of Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, the Republic of Estonia, the Republic of Croatia, the Republic of Cyprus, the Republic of Latvia, the Republic of Lithuania, Hungary, the Republic of Malta, the Republic of Poland, Romania, the Republic of Slovenia and the Slovak Republic to the European Union has been signed on behalf of the European Union and its Member States in [...] on [...].
- (6) The Protocol should be approved,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

#### *Article 1*

1. The Protocol to the Partnership and Cooperation Agreement between the European Communities and their Member States, of the one part, and Turkmenistan, of the other part, to take account of the accession of the the Republic of Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, the Republic of Estonia, the Republic of Croatia, the Republic of Cyprus, the Republic of Latvia, the Republic of Lithuania, Hungary, the Republic of Malta, the Republic of Poland, Romania, the Republic of Slovenia and the Slovak Republic

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<sup>1</sup> Council Decision authorising the opening of negotiations for the adaptation of agreements signed or concluded between the European Union, or the European Union and its Member States, with one or more third countries or international organisations, in view of the accession of the Republic of Croatia to the European Union (Council doc. 13351/12 LIMITED)

to the European Union is hereby approved on behalf of the European Union and its Member States.

2. The text of the Protocol is attached to this Decision.

#### *Article 2*

The President of the Council shall designate the person empowered to give, on behalf of the European Union and its Member States, the notification provided for in Article 4(1) of the Protocol.

#### *Article 3*

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

Done at Brussels,

*For the Council  
The President*