



European Council

Brussels, 17 January 2018  
(OR. en)

EUCO 21/17

CO EUR 25  
PV/CO EUR 13

## MINUTES

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Subject: Meeting of the EUROPEAN COUNCIL  
held on 19 October 2017

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At its meeting on 14 December 2017, the European Council adopted the minutes of its meeting on 19 October 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 15/17. France requested that the declaration set out in Annex be attached to the minutes of the meeting.

## **3. Migration**

The European Council discussed the approach to ensure full control of the external borders and reviewed measures to consolidate it on all routes. It looked in particular at developments on the Central Mediterranean route and at funding needs to underpin migration-related actions in North Africa. The European Council also decided to return to the reform of the Common European Asylum System at its meeting in December and to seek to reach a consensus during the first half of 2018.

## **4. Digital Europe**

Following the Digital Summit in Tallinn on 29 September 2017, the European Council discussed measures necessary for the EU to successfully build a Digital Europe. It provided guidance for work ahead, including on the completion of the Digital Single Market.

## **5. Security and Defence**

The European Council reviewed the follow-up given to its June 2017 conclusions on Security and Defence. It reaffirmed on this occasion the objective of launching a Permanent Structured Cooperation before the end of the year.

## **6. External relations**

The European Council held a debate on relations with Turkey. It also exchanged views on recent developments in relation to DPRK and the Iran nuclear deal.

## **7. Approval of the conclusions**

The European Council approved the conclusions, reflecting the outcome of its discussions, as set out in document EUCO 14/17.

## **8. Adoption of the minutes of the European Council on 22-23 June 2017 and decision to make them public**

The European Council adopted the minutes of its meeting held on 22-23 June 2017 as set out in document EUCO 13/17 and decided to make them public.

**Declaration by France endorsing Declaration 52**  
**on the symbols of the European Union annexed to the final act**  
**of the intergovernmental conference which adopted the Treaty of Lisbon,**  
**signed on 13 December 2007**

"The flag with a circle of twelve golden stars on a blue background, the anthem based on the "Ode to Joy" from the Ninth Symphony by Ludwig van Beethoven, the motto "United in diversity", the euro as the currency of the European Union and Europe Day on 9 May are, for France, symbols to express the sense of community of the people in the European Union and their allegiance to it."

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