



European Council

Brussels, 18 October 2024
(OR. en)

EUCO 35/24

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MINUTES

Subject: Special meeting of the European Council (1 and 2 October 2020)

At its meeting on 17 October 2024, the European Council approved the minutes of its meeting on 1 and 2 October 2020, 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 on the basis of document EUCO 14/20, to which it decided to add COVID-19.

3. COVID-19

The European Council discussed the handling of the COVID-19 pandemic, focusing on the overall coordination effort and the work on the development and distribution of a vaccine at the EU level. The European Council will regularly come back to this issue.

4. Single Market, industrial policy and digital

The European Council provided guidance on the EU's Single Market, industrial and digital policies. It will return to these topics in March 2021, and will also assess in this context the situation regarding the work on digital taxation. The Luxembourgian member of the European Council requested the entry of a statement in the minutes of the meeting (see Annex).

5. External Relations

The European Council held an in-depth discussion on the situation in the Eastern Mediterranean and relations with Turkey. It reaffirmed its solidarity with Cyprus and Greece.

The European Council invited its President, in cooperation with the President of the Commission and with the support of the High Representative, to develop a proposal for re-energising the EU-Turkey agenda, provided constructive efforts to stop illegal activities vis-à-vis Greece and Cyprus were to be sustained.

The European Council will continue to closely monitor developments and will revert accordingly and take decisions as appropriate at the latest at its December meeting.

The European Council called for a Multilateral Conference on the Eastern Mediterranean and invited the High Representative to engage in talks about its organisation.

The European Council also discussed China, Belarus, the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict and the assassination attempt on Alexei Navalny.

6. Adoption of the conclusions

The European Council adopted the conclusions, reflecting the outcome of its discussions, as set out in document EUCO 13/20.

Statement by Luxembourg

"In the context of paragraph 4 of the European Council conclusions the Luxembourgian Member of the European Council stressed the need to create a fully functioning Single Market as soon as possible.

In the context of paragraph 12 of the European Council conclusions, he underlined the need to take into account high health and environmental standards when it comes to the rapid deployment of 5G across the EU."
