



EUROPEAN COUNCIL
THE PRESIDENT

Brussels, 16 October 2012

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&form of address

It is my pleasure to invite you to the meeting of the European Council on 18 and 19 October 2012 in Brussels.

Further to our June 2012 European Council meeting, I sent you last week the interim report on the Economic and Monetary Union which I prepared in close cooperation with the Presidents of the Commission, the Eurogroup and the European Central Bank. The report constitutes a second step on the way to setting out our vision to complete a genuine EMU and contains several ideas which need to be explored further. After our traditional meeting with the President of the European Parliament, I intend to use our first working session to discuss the report. The President of the ECB will join us for this discussion as well as for the dinner.

Over dinner, we should look more specifically at our draft conclusions on the EMU. The aim is to give an impulse to ongoing work on important legislative proposals, in particular as regards the Single Supervisory Mechanism for the banking sector. But we should also give guidance on the work ahead as regards further integration of our budgetary and economic policy frameworks as well as the strengthening of democratic legitimacy and accountability which must accompany this process. My objective is to reach agreement on that section of the conclusions already Thursday evening.

On Friday morning, in the context of our discussion on the EU's relations with its strategic partners, I will debrief you on the recent summit we held with China. We will also adopt conclusions on Syria, Iran and Mali prepared in the light of discussions at the Foreign Affairs and General Affairs Councils.

We will then approve the rest of our draft conclusions. These should help provide momentum where required in the implementation of the Compact for Growth and Jobs we decided last June. As I explained in my recent letter to you, there are indeed some areas where there is a risk of progress lagging behind. This was in fact discussed at the General Affairs Council on Tuesday. All members of the European Council should ensure that the content of the Compact is rapidly implemented, both at the level of the EU and at the national level.

&salutations

H. VAN ROMPUY