

Medlemmerne af Folketingets Europaudvalg
og deres stedfortrædere

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Bilag
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Journalnummer
400.C.2-0

Kontor
EU-sekr.

13. september 2001

Til underretning for Folketingets Europaudvalg vedlægges konklusion samt erklæring vedtaget på det ekstraordinære rådsmøde (udenrigsministre) i Bruxelles den 12. september 2001.

COUNCIL CONCLUSIONS

The Council expressed the profound solidarity of the European Union with the American people and approved a declaration condemning the terrorist attacks in the United States.

The Council was informed of the security measures taken by the Member States. To ensure maximum cooperation between the latter, the Council asks its Justice and Home Affairs and Transport compositions to take all the necessary measures as soon as possible to maintain the highest level of security, particularly in the field of air transport, and any other measure needed to combat terrorism and prevent terrorist attacks. The Justice and Home Affairs Council meeting on 27 and 28 September, or if necessary earlier, and the informal Transport Council meeting on 14 and 15 September will evaluate the measures which will already have been taken and those which should supplement them. The Council reaffirms its determination to combat all forms of terrorism with all the resources at its disposal. The Council also took note of the declaration by the Commission and the President of the ECOFIN Council.

The Council has requested the Presidency, the High Representative for the Common Foreign and Security Policy and the Commission to submit, as soon as possible, a report on concrete measures that may be recommended to speed up the implementation and the strengthening of the operational instruments of both the Common Foreign and Security Policy and Justice and Home Affairs. These measures will be aimed at increasing the capacity of the European Union to effectively fight, together with the United States, international terrorism.

The Council intends to return to this regularly in order to ensure coordination of all the European Union's action.

DECLARATION BY THE EUROPEAN UNION

The Council of the European Union, meeting in special session today, in the presence of the Secretary General of the Atlantic Alliance, expressed its horror at yesterday's terrorist attacks in the United States. The Council stressed its complete solidarity with the government of the United States and the American people at this terrible time and extended its deepest sympathy to all the victims and their families. We ask all Europeans to observe 3 minutes of silence Friday, 14 September at 12h00 and we also declare 14 September 2001 a day of mourning.

These horrendous acts are an attack not only on the United States but against humanity itself and the values and freedoms we all share. The life and work of our open and democratic societies will continue undeterred.

The Union utterly condemns the perpetrators and sponsors of these acts of barbarism. The Union and its Member States will spare no efforts to help identify, bring to justice and punish those responsible: there will be no safe haven for terrorists and their sponsors.

The Union will work closely with the United States and all partners to combat international terrorism. All international organisations, particularly the United Nations, must be engaged and all relevant international instruments, including on the financing of terrorism, must be fully implemented.

The Community and its Member States have offered to the United States all possible assistance with search and rescue operations. Discussions are underway to establish what help would be most useful.

Recalling the strong and enduring ties which exist between the European Union and the United States, the Council has asked the Presidency to stay in close contact with the government of the United States in order to convey this message of solidarity.

