

Conclusions of the Corfu European Council: extract concerning the signing of the Treaty of Accession (24–25 June 1993)

Caption: At the end of the Corfu European Council held on 24 and 25 June 1994, the Twelve welcome the signing by Austria, Finland, Norway and Sweden of the Treaty of Accession to the European Union (EU) and outline the challenges to be overcome by the EU and by its new Member States.

Source: Presidency Conclusions. Amsterdam European Council, 24 and 25 June 1994. [EN LIGNE]. [s.l.]: Council of the European Union, [02.11.2005]. 00150/94. Disponible sur http://ue.eu.int/ueDocs/cms_Data/docs/pressData/en/ec/00150.EN4.htm.

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http://www.cvce.eu/obj/conclusions_of_the_corfu_european_council_extract_concerning_the_signing_of_the_treaty_of_accession_24_25_june_1993-en-ea3cc082-f335-481d-a954-ad427c7ba382.html

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Corfu European Council (24 and 25 June 1994) Presidency Conclusions

Introduction

The signature at Corfu of the Treaty on Accession and the participation of the Heads of State or Government from Austria, Sweden, Finland and Norway in the work of the European Council constitute an important new landmark in the history of European integration.

The acceding countries will be joining a European Union faced with rapid development after the entry into force of the Treaty on European Union and with multiple demands addressed to it to play an ever increasing role in promoting security and prosperity on our continent and beyond. The preparatory process is soon to be launched for a new intergovernmental conference with a view to making the European Union better able to confront the challenges of the 21st century, including those arising from enlargement of the Union to the East and to the South.

The Austrian people have already confirmed their government's wish to participate in this unique endeavour, where independent and sovereign states decide freely to exercise in common some of their competences, in full respect of each country's history, culture and traditions. The European Council hopes that the decision of the population in the other candidate countries will be the same.

The new Member States will be in a position to make their influence felt in these endeavours, both with regard to day- to- day policy and on the long term strategic choices to be made. The European Council welcomes in this connection the additional impetus coming from these countries which are in the vanguard of the efforts to promote environmental and social protection, transparency and open government, areas considered essential by a large part of the Union's citizens during the recent election campaign for the European Parliament and echoed by the President of the Parliament in his intervention before the European Council.

[...]