

General Affairs Council conclusions on information activities about the European Union (6 December 1998)

Caption: Conclusions of the 2148th meeting of the General Affairs Council held on 6 December 1998 concerning openness and cooperation in the field of information activities about the European Union.

Source: Press Releases. [ON-LINE]. [Brussels]: Council of the European Union, [12.02.2007]. 13677/98 (Presse 431). Disponible sur http://www.consilium.europa.eu/ueDocs/cms_Data/docs/pressdata/en/gena/ACF2D3.htm.

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**2148th Council meeting
- General Affairs -
Brussels, 6 December 1998**

[...]

Transparency

Openness and cooperation in the field of information activities about the European Union

The Council adopted the following conclusion on the openness and cooperation in the field of information activities about the European Union :

1. The Council emphasises the need to bring Europe closer to its citizens, inter alia by stepping up information activities on European Union issues.

As for its own activities, it wants to play an active part in this effort and intends, among other things, to boost the facilities provided by its General Secretariat for journalists and the public at large in the area of electronic means (audiovisual facilities and Internet).

2. The Council reiterates the importance of the June 1999 elections to the European Parliament for the democratic legitimacy of the European Union.

With a view to raising awareness about the elections among European citizens, the Council recommends close cooperation among the information services of the Member States and of the institutions of the European Union.

3. The Council notes with satisfaction the entry into force on 1 January 1999 of the Council's public register of documents, accessible on the Internet (<http://ue.eu.int>), and will make public the calendar of all of its meetings.

4. The Council notes the Member States' responsibility for information about the European Union.

5. The Council recognises the Commission's role in promoting the interinstitutional cooperation in the field of information about the European Union.

6. The Council notes the Commission's intention to establish mechanisms to allow those in charge of information in the Member States and the EU institutions to exchange their experiences, communicate with each other and hold consultations concerning information about the European Union, and to report regularly on progress achieved.

7. The Council notes the Commission's intention to make suggestions for interinstitutional cooperation in this field, in particular with the European Parliament and the Council.

[...]