



Brussels, 23.8.2016  
COM(2016) 527 final

2016/0253 (NLE)

Proposal for a

## **COUNCIL DECISION**

**on the conclusion, on behalf of the European Union and its Member States, of a Protocol to the Euro-Mediterranean Agreement establishing an Association between the European Communities and their Member States, of the one part, and the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, of the other part, to take account of the accession of the Republic of Croatia to the European Union**

## EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

### **1. CONTEXT OF THE PROPOSAL**

#### **• Reasons for and objectives of the proposal**

According to its Act of Accession, the Republic of Croatia undertakes to accede to the international agreements signed or concluded by the European Union and its Member States by means of a protocol to those agreements.

By its Decision of 14 September 2012<sup>1</sup>, the Council authorised the Commission to open negotiations with the third countries concerned, in order to conclude the relevant protocols.

The Euro-Mediterranean Agreement establishing an Association between the European Communities and their Member States, of the one part, and the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, of the other part, ('the Agreement'), was signed in Brussels on 24 November 1997 and entered into force on 1 May 2002.

The proposed Protocol incorporates the Republic of Croatia as a contracting party to the Agreement and commits the Union to providing an authentic version of the Agreement in Croatian. The attached proposal constitutes the legal instrument for the conclusion of the Protocol.

The negotiations on the Protocol with the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan were formally concluded on 6 May 2014. The Commission judges the results of the negotiations to be satisfactory and requests that the Council adopt the attached Decision on the conclusion of the Protocol after obtaining the consent of the European Parliament.

### **2. LEGAL BASIS, SUBSIDIARITY AND PROPORTIONALITY**

#### **• Legal basis**

Article 217 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, in conjunction with Article 218(6)(a) thereof, and Article 6(2) of the Act of Accession of the Republic of Croatia.

### **3. OTHER ELEMENTS**

A separate proposal on the signing and provisional application of this Agreement is also being submitted.

---

<sup>1</sup> Council Decision authorising the opening of negotiations for the adaptation of agreements signed or concluded between the European Union, or the European Union and its Member States, with one or more third countries or international organisations, in view of the accession of the Republic of Croatia to the European Union (Council document 13351/12 LIMITED).

Proposal for a

## COUNCIL DECISION

**on the conclusion, on behalf of the European Union and its Member States, of a Protocol to the Euro-Mediterranean Agreement establishing an Association between the European Communities and their Member States, of the one part, and the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, of the other part, to take account of the accession of the Republic of Croatia to the European Union**

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, and in particular Article 217, in conjunction with Article 218(6)(a) thereof,

Having regard to the Act of Accession of the Republic of Croatia, and in particular Article 6(2) thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the European Commission,

Having regard to the consent of the European Parliament,

Whereas:

- (1) The Euro-Mediterranean Agreement establishing an Association between the European Communities and their Member States, of the one part, and the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, of the other part<sup>2</sup>, ('the Agreement') was signed in Brussels on 24 November 1997 and entered into force on 1 May 2002.
- (2) The Republic of Croatia became a Member State of the Union on 1 July 2013.
- (3) In accordance with Article 6(2) of the Act of Accession of the Republic of Croatia, the accession of the Republic of Croatia to the Agreement is to be agreed by means of a protocol to the Agreement ('the Protocol'). A simplified procedure is to apply to such accession, whereby a protocol is to be concluded between the Council, acting unanimously on behalf of the Member States, and the third country concerned.
- (4) On 14 September 2012, the Council authorised the Commission to open negotiations with the third countries concerned in view of the accession of the Republic of Croatia to the Union. The negotiations with the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan were successfully concluded by exchange of letters on 6 May 2014.
- (5) In accordance with Council Decision [XXX]<sup>3</sup> the Protocol to the Euro-Mediterranean Agreement establishing an Association between the European Communities and their Member States, of the one part, and the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, of the other part, to take account of the accession of the Republic of Croatia to the European Union was signed on behalf of the Union and its Member States in [...] on [...], subject to conclusion of the Protocol at a later date.
- (6) The Protocol should be approved on behalf of the Union and its Member States,

---

<sup>2</sup> OJ L 129 (15/05/2002), p.1.

<sup>3</sup> OJ L..., of., p. ..

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

*Article 1*

The Protocol to the Euro-Mediterranean Agreement establishing an Association between the European Communities and their Member States, of the one part, and the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, of the other part, to take account of the accession of the Republic of Croatia to the European Union, is approved on behalf of the Union and its Member States<sup>4</sup>.

*Article 2*

The President of the Council shall designate the person empowered to provide, on behalf of the Union and its Member States, the notification provided for in Article 7(1) of the Protocol, expressing the consent of the Union and its Member States to be bound by the Protocol.

*Article 3*

This Decision shall enter into force on....

Done at Brussels,

*For the Council  
The President*

---

<sup>4</sup> The text of the Protocol has been published in the [OJ reference] together with the decision on its signing.