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*Delegation for relations with Iran*

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**D-IR\_PV(2013)0619**

**MINUTES**

of the meeting of 19 June 2013, from 11.45 to 12.45  
Brussels

The meeting opened at 11h45 on Wednesday, 19 June 2013, with Ms Tarja Cronberg (Chair of Iran delegation) in the Chair

**1. Adoption of draft agenda**

The agenda was adopted

**2. Adoption of the minutes of the meetings of 22 May 2013**

The minutes were adopted.

**3. Communications by the Chair**

The Chair announced that Mr Ali Bagheri, deputy nuclear negotiator, had asked to meet MEPs during a possible visit to Brussels 26 June. The exact format of the meeting would be communicated to MEPs by e-mail.

4. **Analysis and discussion on the Iranian presidential elections of 14 June 2013 in the presence of Steven Blockmans, Senior Research Fellow and Head of the EU Foreign Policy Unit at the Centre of European Policy Studies**

▪ **Iranian presidential elections - 14 June 2013**

Dr Ali Vaez from the ICG in Washington DC had said during a meeting on 15 May, that elections in Iran are "unfair, unfree and unpredictable".

The elections this year had certainly proved to be unpredictable, and by democratic Western standards were unfair and unfree. The candidates had been cherry-picked by the Guardian Council, newspapers have been shut down, media coverage was limited, internet access was limited and controlled, there were no international observers.

For Steve Blockmans - senior policy analyst from CEPS - summed up the elections  
"plus ça change, rien ne change"

▪ **The election result**

Cleric **Hassan Rohani** was the surprise first round victor. The voters' choice had finally been between 5 "conservative" candidates, and one "pragmatist centrist" candidate.

Although Rohani is portrayed as "moderate", he has come up through the system and is not to be associated with the Green Reform Movement. He had received the strong backing of former Presidents Khatami and Rafsanjani. During Rohani's election campaign he had pledged to release political prisoners, to rein in the military police, to allow more freedom of internet, to bring back dignity to the nation and to re-engage with the West.

His main priority will be to invigorate the economy and to relax sanctions. However, Rohani will be "boxed in" by the system and his room for manoeuvre is limited.

His victory is a "win-win" situation for both voters and the Supreme Leader.

for the **voters** - the vote was a protest vote against Ahmadinejad and Khomeini, and a vote against the nuclear negotiations approach of Jalili. The candidate who received the majority of their votes will become President. They now have hope for reform, relaxing of sanctions and an easing of the dire economic situation they find themselves in.

for the **Supreme Leader** - he had allowed Rohani to run as he met all the Supreme Leader's criteria, his election can seem to give legitimacy to a theocratic state, and a cleric has again been returned to the Presidency.

Allowing Rohani to become President is less of a problem for the Supreme Leader than having allowed him to run and manipulating the election result.

## ▪ Nuclear negotiations and the EU and Iran

Jalili's, Iran's nuclear negotiator's, hardline campaign failed miserably. Due to this, and the scathing attacks he made during the campaign about Rohani, it will be difficult for the Supreme Leader to keep him in the Rohani cabinet.

Rohani still considers Iran should have nuclear capability. During the campaign he had said "centrifuges should spin, so should people's livelihood and occupations".

(NB: During his time as Iran's nuclear negotiator from 2003-2005 he had agreed to a suspension of nuclear activities.)

His attitude towards the nuclear talks may be more transparent and he may allow IAEA inspectors to visit sites where access has hitherto been denied.

Rohani has indicated he will consult with the individual P5+1 members, possibly a divide and rule tactic. The HRVP has made great efforts to keep all EU MS on board regarding the imposition of sanctions on Iran. Keeping this hardline on sanctions when dealing with a soft-spoken cleric extending an unclenched hand rather than the hard-line Ahmadinedad could prove more challenging.

Iranian embassy representatives pointed out that the Iranian people had voted, and the result of their vote had been respected. They further argued that the confidence building measures need to come from both sides. What is the West doing to build confidence and trust? Can Rohani trust the EU - never mind the US? Will the EU make its own decisions or continue to let the US dictate actions regarding the nuclear dossier?

MEPs concurred that there is now a window of opportunity for both sides and there should be **prudent** movement towards restoring trust and confidence. However, a careful watch needs to be kept, notably on the composition of the Rohani Cabinet and the future cooperation between President Rohani and Supreme Leader Khomeini.

VP Salatto had published a press release on behalf of MEPs Scurria, Rossi and Tatarella, whereby they now consider that the time is right for the delegation to visit Iran.

However, any attempt for another delegation visit to Iran will only happen if there is broad consensus and support from the majority of the political parties.

## **5. Any other business**

No other business.

## **6. Date and place of next meeting**

Wednesday 10 July to discuss the situation of minorities in Iran.

The meeting closed at 12:50.

**ПРИСЪСТВЕН ЛИСТ/LISTA DE ASISTENCIA/PREZENČNÍ LISTINA/DELTAGERLISTE/  
ANWESENHEITSLISTE/KOHALOLIJATE NIMEKIRI/ΚΑΤΑΣΤΑΣΗ ΠΑΡΟΝΤΩΝ/RECORD OF ATTENDANCE/  
LISTE DE PRÉSENCE/ELENCO DI PRESENZA/APMEKLĒJUMU REĢISTRŠ/DALYVIŲ ŠARŠAS/JELENLĒTI ĪV/  
REGISTRU TA' ATTENDENZA/PRESENTIELIJST/LISTA OBECNOŠCI/LISTA DE PRESENÇAS/LISTĂ DE  
PREZENȚĂ/ PREZENČNÁ LISTINA/SEZNAM NAVZOČIH/LĀSNĀOLOLISTA/DELTAGARLISTA**

Биоро/Меса/Pfedsednictvo/Formandskabet/Vorstand/Juhatus/Προεδρείο/Bureau/Ufficio di presidenza/Prezidijs/Biuras/Elnökség/ Prezydium/Birou/Predsednictvo/Predsedstvo/Puheenjohtajisto/Presidiet (*)
Tarja Cronberg (P), Cornelia Ernst
Членове/Diputados/Poslanci/Medlemmer/Mitglieder/Parlamendiliikmed/Μέλη/Members/Députés/Deputati/Deputāti/Nariai/Képviselők/ Membri/Leden/Posłowie/Deputados/Deputați/Jäsenet/Ledamöter
Oreste Rossi, Marco Scurria
Заместници/Suplentes/Náhradníci/Stedfortrædere/Stellvertreter/Asendusliikmed/Αναπληρωτές/Substitutes/Suppléants/Supplenti/ Aizstājēji/Pavaduojantys nariai/Póttagok/Sostituti/Plaatsvervangers/Zastępcy/Membros suplentes/Supleantī/Náhradníci/Namestniki/ Varajäsenet/Suppleanter
George Cutas, Lena Kolarska-Bobinska, Pavel Poc, Marietje Schaake, Marita Ulvskog

187 (2)
193 (3)
49 (6) (Точка от дневния ред/Punto del orden del día/Bod pořadu jednání (OJ)/Punkt på dagsordenen/Tagesordnungspunkt/Päevakorra punkt/Ημερήσια Διάταξη Σημείο/Agenda item/Point OJ/Punto all'ordine del giorno/Darba kārtības punkts/Darbotvarkés punktās/ Napirendi pont/Punt fuq l-agenda/Agendapunt/Punkt porządku dziennego/Ponto OD/Punct de pe ordinea de zi/Bod programu schôdze/ Točka UL/Esityslistan kohta/Föredragningslista punkt)

Наблюдатели/Observadores/Pozorovatelé/Observatörer/Beobachter/Vaatlejad/Παρατηρητές/Observers/Observateurs/Osservatori/ Novērotāji/Stebētājai/Megfigyelők/Osservatori/Waarnemers/Obserwatorzy/Observadores/Observatori/Pozorovatelia/Opazovalci/ Tarkkailijat/Observatörer
Sven Tshppainz, Nicolas Servrankckx, Moshani Mercadah, Anwar Mir Sattari Sylvie Wiest, Souheir Edelbi, Mahtab Dadarsefatmahboob, Andrew Hillman; Aini Souri, Abbas Golriz

По покана на председателя/Por invitación del presidente/Na pozváni předsedy/Efter indbydelse fra formanden/Auf Einladung des Vorsitzenden/Esimehe kutsel/Με πρόσκληση του Προέδρου/At the invitation of the Chair(wo)man/Sur l'invitation du président/ Su invito del presidente/Pēc priekšsēdētāja uzaicinājuma/Pirmininkui pakvietus/Az elnök meghívására/Fuq stedina tal-President/ Op uitnodiging van de voorzitter/Na zaproszenie Przewodniczącego/A convite do Presidente/La invitația președintelui/Na pozvanie predsedu/Na povabilo predsednika/Puheenjohtajan kutsusta/På ordförandens inbjudan
Steven Blockmans

Съвет/Consejo/Rada/Rådet/Rat/Nõukogu/Συμβούλιο/Council/Conseil/Consiglio/Padome/Taryba/Tanács/Kunsill/Raad/Conselho/ Consiliu/Svet/Neuvosto/Rådet (*)
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Комисия/Comisión/Komise/Kommissionen/Kommission/Euroopa Komisjon/Επιτροπή/Commission/Commissione/Komisija/Bizottság/Kummissjoni/Commissie/Komisja/Comissão/Comisie/Komisja/Komissio/Kommissionen (*)	
Европейска служба за външна дейност/Европска служба про vnější činnost/EU-Udenrigstjenesten/Europäischer Auswärtiger Dienst/Euroopa väliteenistus/Ευρωπαϊκή Υπηρεσία Εξωτερικής Δράσης/European External Action service/Servicio Europeo de Acción Exterior/Service européen pour l'action extérieure/Servizio europeo per l'azione esterna/Eiropas Ārējās darbības dienests/Europos išorės veiksmų tarnyba/Európai Külügyi Szolgálat/Servizz Ewropew ghall-Azzjoni Esterna/Europese dienst voor extern optreden/Europejska Służba Działań Zewnętrznych/Serviço Europeu para a Acção Externa/Serviciul european pentru acțiune externă/Európska služba pre vonkajšiu činnost'/Evropska služba za zunanje delovanje/Euroopan ulkosuhdehallinto/Europeiska avdelningen för yttre åtgärd (*)	
Roberto Olmi	
Други институции/Otras instituciones/Ostatní orgány a instituce/Andre institutioner/Andere Organe/Muud institutsioonid/Άλλα θεσμικά όργανα/Other institutions/Autres institutions/Altre istituzioni/Citas iestādes/Kitos institucijos/Más intézmények/Istituzzjonijiet oħra/Andere instellingen/Inne instytucje/Outras Instituições/Alte instituii/Iné inštitúcie/Druge institucije/Muut toimielimet/Andra institutioner/organ	

Други учесници/Otros participantes/Ostatní účastníci/Endvidere deltog/Andere Teilnehmer/Muud osalejad/Επίσης Παρόντες/Other participants/Autres participants/Altri partecipanti/Citi klātesošie/Kiti dalyviai/Más résztvevők/Partecipanti oħra/Andere aanwezigen/Inni uczestnicy/Outros participantes/Alți participanți/Inii účastnici/Drugi udeleženci/Muut osallistajat/Övriga deltagare	

Секретариат на политическите групи/Secretaría de los Grupos políticos/Sekretariát politických skupin/Gruppernes sekretariat/Sekretariat der Fraktionen/Fraktsioonide sekretariaat/Γραμματεία των Πολιτικών Ομάδων/Secretariats of political groups/Secrétariat des groupes politiques/Segreteria gruppi politici/Politisko grupu sekretariāts/Frakciju sekretoriat/Képviseleti csoportok titkársága/Sekretarjat gruppi polițici/Fracțiesecretariat/Sekretariat Grup Politycznych/Secr. dos grupos políticos/Sekretariate grupuri politice/Sekretariát politických skupin/Sekretariat političnih skupin/Poliittisten ryhmien sihteeristöt/Gruppernas sekretariat	
PPE	Jan-Villem Vlasman, David Stellini,
S&D	Eldar Mamedov
ALDE	
ECR	Anna Daureux
Verts/ALE	Ali Yurttagül Nora Westerlund
GUE/NGL	Karin Schüttpelz
EFD	
NI	

Кабинет на председателя/Gabinete del Presidente/Kancelář předsedy/Formandens Kabinet/Kabinett des Präsidenten/Presidendi kantselei/Γραφείο Προέδρου/President's Office/Cabinet du Président/Gabinetto del Presidente/Priekšsēdētāja kabinets/Pirmininko kabinetas/Elnöki hivatal/Kabinett tal-President/Kabinet van de Voorzitter/Gabinet Przewodniczącego/Gabinete do Presidente/Cabinet Președinte/Kancelária predsedu/Urad predsednika/Puhemiehen kabinetti/Talmannens kansli	
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Кабинет на генералния секретар/Gabinete del Secretario General/Kancelář generálního tajemníka/Generalsekretærens Kabinet/Kabinett des Generalsekretärs/Peasekretäri büroo/Γραφείο Γενικού Γραμματέα/Secretary-General's Office/Cabinet du Secrétaire général/Gabinetto del Segretario generale/Generalsekretära kabinets/Generalinio sekretoriaus kabinetas/Főtitkári hivatal/Kabinett tas-Segretarju Ġenerali/Kabinet van de secretaris-generaal/Gabinet Sekretarza Generalnego/Gabinete do Secretário-Geral/Cabinet Secretar General/Kancelária generálneho tajomníka/Urząd generalnego sekretarza/Pääsihteerin kabinetti/Generalsekreterarens kansli

Генерална дирекция/Dirección General/Generální ředitelství/Generaldirektorat/Generaldirektion/Peadirektoraat/Γενική Διεύθυνση/Diretorate-General/Direction générale/Direzione generale/Generāldirektoriāts/Generalinis direktoratas/Főigazgatóság/Direttorat Ġenerali/Direktoraten-generaal/Dyrekcja Generalna/Direcção-Geral/Direcții Generale/Generálne riaditeľstvo/Generalni direktorat/Pääosasto/Generaldirektorat	
DG PRES	
DG IPOL	
DG EXPO	Sandro D'Angelo, François Massoulie
DG COMM	
DG PERS	
DG INLO	
DG TRAD	
DG INTE	
DG FINS	
DG ITEC	
Правна служба/Servicio Jurídico/Právní služba/Juridisk Tjeneste/Juristischer Dienst/Öigusteenistus/Νομική Υπηρεσία/Legal Service/Service juridique/Servizio giuridico/Juridiskais dienests/Teisės tarnyba/Jogi szolgálat/Servizz legali/Juridische Dienst/Wydział prawny/Servizo Jurídico/Serviciu Juridic/Právny servis/Pravna služba/Oikeudellinen yksikkö/Rättstjänsten	
Секретариат на комисията/Secretaría de la comisión/Sekretariát výboru/Udvalgssekretariatet/Ausschusssekretariat/Komisjoni sekretariaat/Γραμματεία επιτροπής/Committee secretariat/Secrétariat de la commission/Segreteria della commissione/Komitejas sekretariāts/Komiteto sekretoriatas/A bizottság titkársága/Sekretarjat tal-kumitat/Commissiesecretariaat/Sekretariat komisji/Sekretariado da comissão/Sekretariat comisie/Sekretariat odbora/Valiokunnan sihteeristö/Utskottssekretariatet	
Morag Donaldson	
Сътрудник/Asistente/Asistent/Assistent/Assistenz/Βοηθός/Assistant/Assistente/Palīgs/Padējējas/Asszisztens/Asystent/Pomočnik/Avustaja/Assistenten	
Ainhoa Markuleta	

- \* (P) = Председател/Presidente/Předseda/Formand/Vorsitzender/Esimees/Πρόεδρος/Chair(wo)man/Président/Priekšsēdētājs/Pirmininkas/Elnök/President/Voorzitter/Przewodniczący/Preşedinte/Predseda/Predsednik/Puheenjohtaja/Ordförande
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- (M) = Член/Мiembro/Člen/Medlem./Mitglied/Parlamendiliige/Μέλος/Member/Membre/Membro/Deputāts/Narys/Képviselő/Membri/Lid/Członek/Membro/Membri/Člen/Poslanec/Jäsen/Ledamot
- (F) = Длъжностно лице/Funcionario/Úředník/Tjenestemand/Beamter/Ametnik/Υπάλληλος/Official/Fonctionnaire/Funzionario/Ierēdnis/Pareigūnas/Tisztviselő/Ufficial/Ambtenaar/Urządnic/Funcionário/Funcionar/Úradník/Urädnik/Virkamies/Tjänsteman