

EURO–LATIN AMERICAN PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY



Message to the First Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC) – European Union (EU) Summit Santiago, Chile 26-27 January 2013

Friday, 25 January 2013 – Santiago, Chile

EUROLAT– 25 January 2013 – Santiago, Chile

Message to the First CELAC – EU Summit of 26-27 January 2013, Santiago, Chile

The Euro-Latin American Parliamentary Assembly (EuroLat), the parliamentary institution of the Bi-Regional Strategic Partnership between the European Union (EU) and the Latin American and Caribbean States (LAC), hereby submits, on the basis of work undertaken at its Fifth and Sixth Ordinary Plenary Meetings, held at Montevideo from 17 to 19 May 2011 and at Santiago de Chile from 23 to 25 January 2013, the following recommendations and proposals with a view to strengthening the Bi-Regional Strategic Partnership.

MESSAGE TO THE SANTIAGO, CHILE SUMMIT

As regards the principles and priorities of the Bi-Regional Strategic Partnership

1. Reiterates the commitment made by the EuroLat Assembly at the Madrid Summit to continue promoting and strengthening the Bi-Regional Strategic Partnership based on common principles, values and interests;
2. Reaffirms its **support for the various regional integration processes** in Latin America and Europe, as a basic principle of the Bi-Regional Strategic Partnership;
3. Welcomes the ratification of the Association Agreement between the **European Union and Central America** by the European Parliament, the National Assembly of Nicaragua and the Honduran Congress, as well as the favourable elucidatory prior opinion given by the Central American Parliament; welcomes similarly the approval by the European Parliament and the Peruvian Congress of the **Multi-Party Agreement between the European Union and Colombia and Peru**; expresses its support for the process of negotiation to **conclude a comprehensive, balanced and ambitious Association Agreement between the European Union and Mercosur**; hopes, therefore that the Santiago Summit will lend fresh impetus to the negotiations enabling them to bear fruit earlier than expected;
4. Adopts the **Euro-Latin American Charter for Peace and Security** which, on the basis of the United Nations Charter, will enable the adoption of joint political, strategic, security and peace proposals;
5. Advocates **establishing a Euro-Latin American Global Interregional Partnership Area**, by 2015, in the fields of politics, economics, trade and social and cultural affairs with a view to ensuring sustainable development in both regions;
6. Calls for the **public profile** of the **Strategic Partnership** to be raised in Europe and Latin America by promoting joint projects which benefit people in those regions, including the development of the concept of Euro-Latin American citizenship;

7. Points out that **strengthening Euro-Latin American civil society** entails setting up appropriate open, participatory and democratic mechanisms, to include the channels the information society offers for the **direct expression of public opinion**, within the Strategic Partnership's various bodies;
8. Urges that measures be implemented to protect vulnerable groups, principally young children and adolescents among the indigenous peoples, whose human rights are violated;
9. Stresses the importance of achieving gender equality and the emancipation of women, of combating violence against women and femicide, by increasing their participation in political, social and economic activities and tackling the negative repercussions of the international financial crisis on their situation;

As regards the Alliance for Sustainable Development: Promoting Investments of Social and Environmental Quality

10. Stresses the **importance of investment** in fostering development, promoting economic growth, creating jobs and reducing inequalities, not forgetting combating poverty head on, as well as in improving education, training the workforce, protecting the environment and promoting the use of renewable energy sources;
11. Proposes that special priority be given to investment and cooperation projects in the fields of **research and development, technological innovation, infrastructure, energy, education and social cohesion, particularly in the less well developed countries of Latin America and the Caribbean**;
12. Calls on the CELAC-EU countries to promote the **legal security of investments** and to incline more towards **avoiding protectionist measures and supporting a fair and open, mutually beneficial and reciprocal multilateral trade system**;
13. Calls on those countries to work towards the **conclusion of the Doha Round of negotiations**, with the aim of reaching an inclusive and balanced agreement which can revitalise international trade to the benefit of all concerned;
14. Calls for closer **dialogue on employment and sustainable growth**, looking particularly at youth employment, equal pay, the social protection network and decent working conditions;
15. Calls for policies to be drawn up and implemented, with the active participation of all interested parties, to **improve the quality of, and facilitate public access to, formal and informal education, vocational training and lifelong learning**;
16. Advocates making greater efforts to enter into scientific and technological dialogue with a view to building a genuine **'EU-LAC knowledge and innovation area'**;
17. Recommends that governments take the measures needed to cut significantly the number of young people who leave school prematurely, for which a greater provision of alternative forms of education in which new technologies play a bigger role will be

required in order to help promote the right of children, adolescents, young people and adults to education;

18. Urges greater cooperation, the sharing of information and the exchange of best practice on **natural disaster risk reduction and the food security crisis**, with a view to drawing up and implementing risk prevention, reduction and correction strategies to minimise loss of life, economic goods, infrastructure, housing and communications and to safeguard the human and basic rights of those affected;

As regards the fight against drug trafficking and organised crime

19. Calls for the competent national, subregional, regional and bi-regional authorities of the states and institutions that comprise the Bi-Regional Strategic Partnership to step up the **exchange of information in the fight against drug trafficking and organised crime**;
20. Strengthens the commitment made at the EU-LAC summits to intensify cooperation in regard to the challenges posed by terrorism, transnational organised crime, corruption, illegal trafficking in drugs, arms and money, money laundering, human trafficking, particularly of women and children, the involvement of certain sectors of children in selling drugs, and illegal smuggling;
21. Recommends holding a **balanced, wide-ranging debate on whether to consider legalising the consumption of certain drugs, as well as the potential ramifications of such a decision**, focusing in particular on public health;
22. Calls for close political, judicial, police and scientific cooperation to **combat corruption, money laundering** and the flow of illicit capital in the domestic and global financial system;

As regards migration

23. Calls for the **Migration Observatory** to be established, in close cooperation with the EU-LAC Foundation, with the mission of permanently and closely monitoring all issues relating to migratory flows in the Euro-Latin American area;
24. Recommends stepping up the **General Bi-Regional Structured Dialogue on Migration** between the EU and Latin America and the Caribbean, which began in June 2009, with the formal involvement of the Assembly;
25. Reiterates that migration policies and practices in the EU-CELAC area must ensure that the **fundamental rights of all migrants** are upheld and that the management of migration flows is orderly, informed and safe and based on the **principles of legality and shared responsibility**;
26. Stresses that the **Association Agreements in the EU-CELAC area must include, *inter alia*, provisions on migration**, such as clauses on non-discrimination, integration, the transfer of pension rights and other social entitlements and the combating of illegal migration; adds that such agreements must also provide for dialogue specifically on migration policy;

As regards globalisation and the financial crisis

27. Urges the CELAC-EU countries to apply **coordinated policies and mechanisms to promote the adoption of monetary and fiscal measures** which guarantee the sustainability of public funds and lay the foundations for a solid recovery based on growth, job creation, inclusion, social cohesion, the sustainability of natural resources and the promotion of a sustainable economy;
28. Calls on those countries to adopt measures aimed at ensuring the **efficient and responsible use of public funds**, and to reorientate their use of resources towards growth and employment-generating investment, without such rationalisation precluding the provision of high-quality public services;
29. Proposes that all **financial markets, products and players become subject to regulation and supervision**, without exceptions and regardless of their country of origin; considers that this calls for the creation and approval, by all countries, of a common list of offshore tax havens; considers it a matter of urgency to introduce regulation of hedge funds, speculative funds and credit-rating agencies, in the same vein as recent European rules in the field; **calls on all the EU-LAC countries to undertake to dismantle any tax havens** on their territory and to argue internationally for their eradication by all necessary means, including **sanctions** against them and the companies and individuals who use their services;
30. Calls on the CELAC-EU countries to work together to consider the scope for **introducing a global financial transactions tax**;

As regards climate change

31. Stresses that **the fight against climate change and global warming** must be a priority on the political agenda between the EU and the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean; adds that agreement on common positions is required in the various forums for dialogue on the environment and climate change;

As regards renewable energy sources

32. Emphasises that **energy security and supply has to be one of the basic priorities of the Partnership**, implying a need to enhance energy efficiency and diversify energy suppliers and sources;
33. Calls for the Association Agreements between the EU and the various parts of Latin America to include **energy cooperation, with particular reference to clean and renewable energy sources** such as solar, wind and water power, biomass and sustainably produced biofuels, ensuring that the consultation mechanisms and the lands of indigenous peoples are fully respected;

Other matters of bi-regional interest

34. Welcomes the dialogue begun between the Colombian Government and the FARC guerillas and the role of the facilitating and friend countries, and hopes that it will soon be possible to bring the ELN guerillas to the negotiating table and that all parties will continue negotiations until a framework agreement is concluded that will allow the establishment of an inclusive, firm and lasting peace process;
35. Reiterates its solidarity with the Republic of Haiti and follows up on the agreements and resolutions adopted at the various summits in order to provide suitable support for a return to normality for the population and for the rebuilding of infrastructure and the medical, education and social services;
36. The Eurolat Assembly has discussed within its various bodies the Falkland Islands issue and supports dialogue for a peaceful, fair and lasting solution within the context of the UN resolutions pertaining thereto (including Resolution 2065 (XX)) and will address this issue again in future meetings;

As regards reinforcing the institutional status of the Bi-Regional Strategic Partnership

37. Supports the judicial collaboration and the involvement of high-level representatives of the judiciary in the Strategic Partnership, as reflected in the holding of the **First CELAC-EU Judicial Summit**, which builds on the institutional arrangements of the Strategic Partnership;
38. States that it would be appropriate, within the context of the EU-Central America Association Agreement, to promote ministerial political dialogue and provide support in that regard for the Central American Integration System and all the other integration institutions;
39. Urges that the actions necessary to ensure the effective functioning of the **EU-LAC Foundation** be adopted soon;