



**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**



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**EU TROIKA-CHILE SUMMIT
Guadalajara, Mexico, 29 May 2004**

Joint Communiqué

Under the institutionalised political dialogue between Chile and the European Union, a meeting was held on 29 May 2004 between the President of Chile, Mr. Ricardo Lagos, and a European Union troika headed by the Prime Minister of Ireland (Taoiseach), Mr Bertie Ahern, as current President of the European Union, and the President of the European Commission, Mr Romano Prodi.

1. This was the first institutionalised political dialogue meeting between Chile and the European Union at Head of State or Government level since the approval of the Association Agreement, signed in Brussels on 18 November 2002.
2. The political dialogue was conducted in a very frank, open, trusting and constructive atmosphere, characteristic of the various aspects of relations between Chile and the European Union.

P R E S S

3. President Ricardo Lagos and the European Union troika expressed their satisfaction at the results achieved in implementing the Association Agreement, which has turned into an instrument imparting considerable impetus to relations between Chile and the European Union, not just in trade but also in highly significant areas such as science and technology or cooperation.
4. On this last point, President Lagos welcomed the present levels of bilateral cooperation and the stepping up of such cooperation, using the new scope afforded by the Association Agreement.
5. Progress in approving the Association Agreement was reviewed and the European Union troika undertook to ask those countries which have not yet completed their domestic ratification procedures to do so as soon as possible.
6. In the same connection, both sides expressed satisfaction at the early conclusion of the Additional Protocol to the Association Agreement, for the purpose of adjusting it to reflect the enlargement of the European Union to include ten new Member States.
7. The Heads of State or Government reiterated the political willingness, shown at the first meeting of the Association Council and at the first meeting of the Association Committee, to devise suitable arrangements enabling Chile and the European Union to coordinate their positions and take joint initiatives in appropriate international forums and cooperate in foreign and security policy and in combating terrorism.
8. They further agreed to engage in political cooperation in the seven priority areas identified at the Association Council meeting on 27 March 2003, centring on promoting democracy and upholding human rights, with the aim of concerted action in international forums.
9. President Ricardo Lagos also pointed to the role being played by Chile within the Security Council and to the involvement of Chilean military forces in Haiti, with an exchange of views ensuing on European Union participation in action to assist that country
10. President Ricardo Lagos then turned to the regional situation in Latin America and the Caribbean and pointed to the importance of across-the-board cooperation programmes aimed at strengthening democratic institutions and establishing mechanisms making for greater social cohesion and political governability in the countries of the region.

11. The European Union troika in turn commented on the challenge posed by the recent accession of ten new Member States and the forthcoming adoption of a new European Constitution, to govern the affairs of a new 25-member Europe.

12. Both sides agreed to hold a further political dialogue meeting at Heads of State or Government level on a date to be mutually determined.
