



**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**



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**III. EU- MEXICO SUMMIT
Vienna, Austria, 13 May 2006**

Joint Communiqué

The III. Summit between the EU and Mexico was held in Vienna, Austria, on May 13th, 2006, on the occasion of the IV LAC-EU Summit. The EU was represented by the current President of the European Council, Austria's Federal Chancellor, Wolfgang Schäussel, the President of the European Commission, Jose Manuel Durão Barroso, HR/SG Javier Solana and the incoming Finnish Presidency, represented by President Tarja Halonen. Mexico was represented by President Vicente Fox Quesada, (who was assisted by the Foreign Affairs Minister, Luis Ernesto Derbez Bautista).

1. The EU and Mexico discussed the situation in various regions of Latin America, as well as the situation in Europe. Their common values, their determination to promote effective multilateralism and Latin America's enhanced engagement and role in regional and international matters are an excellent basis for jointly shaping global affairs.

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2. The EU and Mexico reaffirmed that the promotion and protection of the full enjoyment of all human rights and fundamental freedoms for all are essential to advance democracy, development, peace and security. They reaffirmed also the importance of respecting all human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering terrorism. They pledged to protect human rights defenders, promote gender equality through gender mainstreaming and eliminate violence against women, inter alia, by ending impunity. They are determined to advance the promotion and protection of the rights and fundamental freedoms of indigenous peoples and minorities at the local, national and international levels.
3. The EU and Mexico will continue cooperating in the implementation of the reform of the United Nations system and, to improve the work of its different UN bodies reflecting the current priorities and challenges of the international community. In this respect, they particularly welcomed the creation of the Peace Building Commission and the Human Rights Council. Leaders reaffirmed their willingness to further contribute, resolutely through constructive engagement, in common responses, to the main social and economic development challenges and security problems.
4. The European Union congratulated Mexico for abolishing the death penalty and for ratifying the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court, thus becoming its 100th full member.
5. The Parties proceeded to an evaluation of the results of the Association Agreement covering the Economic Partnership, the Political Co-ordination and the Cooperation Agreement between the European Union and Mexico (Global Agreement), five years after its entry into force. The parties emphasised the positive outcomes of the efforts carried out jointly, specially since 2004, toward a strengthening of EU-Mexico relations at all levels. They reiterated their willingness to continue to build a closer and more mature partnership built on the basis of the Global Agreement.
6. On political dialogue, the parties took note of its excellent level and the intensity of their contacts, as well as of the advancement of this dialogue since the 5th Meeting of the Joint Committee. Both Parties reiterated their commitment to enhance their cooperation on issues of mutual interest on the global agenda. The European Union and Mexico welcomed the agreement to pursue additional contacts at different governmental and expert level in order to intensify the existing dialogue.

7. The parties recognised the need to enhance the benefits of migration for both regions as well as for the migrants themselves. They therefore committed themselves to take forward their comprehensive dialogue on migration by further enhancing their cooperation and mutual understanding of migration in all its dimensions in both regions and they underscored their commitment to effectively protect the human rights of all migrants.

They welcomed the holding of the second Meeting of Experts between the European Union and the Latin American and Caribbean Countries on Migration which took place in Cartagena de Indias on 1 and 2 March 2006.

They welcomed the recommendations for joint follow-up as regards the treatment, rights and integration of migrants; the facilitation of the transfer of migrant remittances, which are of a private character, and the reduction of the related costs; new approaches to migration policies; joint efforts to address irregular migration; and strengthening the fight against smuggling of and trafficking in human beings, taking into account the rights and the special vulnerability of persons subjected to these crimes.

8. Mexico made a presentation to the EU on the Mesoamerican Integration Energy Program, seeking support for its instrumentation.
9. The Parties welcomed the positive results obtained by current EU-Mexico cooperation in various areas and in particular in the fields of Justice, Human Rights, and SMEs support and economic cooperation. The parties expressed their satisfaction at the progress achieved towards the identification of innovative forms of cooperation to be carried out in the framework of the 2007-2013 programming cycle. In particular the parties emphasised the importance of Policy Dialogues as one of the main instruments in future EU-Mexico cooperation. They positively took note of the indications provided by the last Joint Council and Joint Committee about the future sectors of cooperation, namely Social Cohesion, Economy and Competitiveness, Education and Culture.

The parties emphasized the importance of continuing the dialogue to define a more flexible scheme for the administration of cooperation projects, to implement the bilateral cooperation program 2007-2013, in the respect of EU and Mexican rules and regulations, as it was discussed during the Joint Committee Mexico-EU.

10. The parties expressed their positive expectations about the opportunities offered by the entry into force of the EU-Mexico Sectoral Agreement on Science and Technology. They stressed the pivotal role to be played by scientific and technological collaboration in the development of a strong and durable EU-Mexico partnership.

11. In this respect the EU side reiterated its intention to continue to explore the possibility of establishing with Mexico a form of cooperation in the context of the European Programme for Global Navigation Services (Galileo). The Parties decided to continue discussions in the coming months. The EU side also reiterated its strong interest in having a Horizontal Civil Aviation Agreement rapidly negotiated with Mexico. The Parties agreed to proceed to exploratory discussions at technical level in 2006.
12. As regards to trade the EU and Mexico reaffirmed the importance of the bilateral Free Trade Agreement. During the last 5 years of implementation of the Agreement, Mexico and the EU have become preferential, strong and strategic trade partners both on a Latin American and world wide level. The EU and Mexico are conscious of the need to build on this positive experience and to give further ambition to the Agreement in order to adapt it to the new challenges of a global competitive world. They thus welcomed the progress on the negotiation of the review clauses on services, agriculture, and investment. Finally, both parties renewed their commitment for a balanced and broad outcome of the WTO Doha Development Agenda negotiations by the end of 2006.
13. With reference to the last EU-Mexico Joint Council and Joint Committee, the parties reiterated their endorsement of the Dialogue with the Civil Society.
14. Both sides agreed to hold a further political dialogue meeting at Heads of State or Government level on a date to be mutually determined.