



THE DANISH EU PRESIDENCY 2012

ASSEMBLEIA DA REPÚBLICA – 17 JAN 2012

OVERVIEW

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3. Organization of the Presidency 2012 (I)

THE ROLE OF THE PRESIDENCY

- 7th Danish EU Presidency since 1973.
- Last time 2002: One overall priority: European Enlargement
- Copenhagen Summit: from 15 to 25 Member States

- Presidency Framework Conditions (Lisbon Treaty):
 - Permanent President of European Council (Herman van Rompuy)
 - Permanent High Representative/Foreign Affairs (Catherine Ashton)
- Denmark President in 9 out of 10 Council formations

- European Parliament increased influence in legislative process – stronger player.

THE ROLE OF THE PRESIDENCY

- “Rotating” EU Presidency responsible for coordination and cooperation of the 27 member states in 9 of 10 Council formations (except For. Affairs)
- Close cooperation with Permanent President and High Representative.
- Presidency represents the Council in negotiations with the EP and the Commission. Responsible for the cooperation to work.
- Cooperation with European Parliament crucial. Significant presence in the EP required (PM, Europe Min., Line Ministers).
- Every Presidency measured on ability to deliver concrete results and to work as honest broker.

FRAMEWORK CONDITIONS

- 2012 Presidency: EU, according to Barroso, is facing its perhaps biggest challenge ever.
- Central task for Danish Presidency to unify and strengthen the EU – create concrete results that bring Europe forward.
Show the value and necessity of EU and EU-cooperation.
- 8-9 December Summit: A Number of important decisions to stabilize the euro – the fiscal agreement. Further work towards Intergovernmental Agreement - lead by EC President van Rompuy. Danish Presidency ready to assist if requested [keep the 17/26/27 together].

PRESIDENCY PRIORITIES

DK Presidency slogan: “EUROPE at WORK”

DK Presidency priorities:

- * A responsible Europe
- * A dynamic Europe
- * A green Europe
- * A safe Europe

1. A RESPONSIBLE EUROPE

Make Europe more economically responsible.

Debt crisis high on agenda: 8-9 December decisions about stronger discipline closely related to Danish Presidency's priority of a Responsible Europe.

Presidency work tasks include:

- New rules on economic governance to be implemented for the first time during Danish Presidency through first full European Semester. Improved procedures of monitoring Member States' economies, structural reforms, enhanced MS budgetary discipline and stronger financial sector regulation.
- Negotiations on Multiannual Financial Framework - 2014-20 EU budget along with major policy areas (Agricultural Policy, Research & Development Programme). New MFF: more funds to growth-enhancing areas such as research, education and innovation technologies. Presidency Goal: Bring negotiations as far as possible, not realistic to finalise, but "negotiation box".

2. A DYNAMIC EUROPE

Stimulating long-term growth and job creation across Europe: further developing the Single Market (20-years anniversary in 2012). Moving forward 12 key initiatives of the Single Market Act.

- European Patent System
- Standardisation Package
- Accounting Standards
- Venture Capital Proposal
- Digital Single Market
- Roaming III
- Reduction of Administrative Burdens for SME's

- Connecting Europe Facility [transport – energy – ICT]
- Framework Programme for Research and Innovation - Horizon 2020

3. A GREEN EUROPE

Promote Green Europe – further emphasis on greening of European economies and promoting green growth – to be sustainable. Work hard, agree on new initiatives to maintain Europe's comparative advantage - common investments in green technologies, renewable energy and energy efficiency.

DK Presidency to promote green agenda – seeking consensus and inclusiveness.

Presidency work for:

- Energy- and climate roadmaps towards 2050 - improved energy efficiency and increased renewable energy
- Establishment of Single Market for energy
- Expansion of European energy infrastructure
- Strong European voice at UN RIO+20 Conference on Sustainable Development
- Cross-cutting Energy, Climate and Environment in EU Agriculture, Fisheries, Transportation policies and Single Market

4. A SAFE EUROPE

Promote - internally and externally - a SAFE EUROPE.

The Arab Spring (ME & NA) put Schengen System under pressure.

Stronger need to finalise European Asylum System and ensure appropriate reception and treatment throughout Europe.

Presidency will work for well-functioning common Asylum System and stronger Schengen Cooperation.

Justice and Home Affairs in rapid development. Possibility for agreement on European Arrest Warrant - improving cross-border police cooperation.

4. A SAFE EUROPE - CONTINUED

Supporting a Stronger European Voice in global affairs - common European approach and policy. Speaking with one voice enhancing EU continuity and predictability in relations with other nations – increase EU impact on global stage.

External Affairs

- Denmark will support and assist EU HR (Foreign Affairs), EU CFSP (Common Foreign and Security Policy) and External Action Service
- EU Trade Policy, Enlargement and Neighborhood policy chaired by Presidency:
 - Free Trade agreements with e.g. Japan, Canada, India
 - Review GSP-regulation on custom preferences for developing countries
 - Enlargement negotiations with Iceland, Turkey and possibly FYROM, decision on opening negotiations with Montenegro and on possible candidate status for Serbia.

HOW THE PRESIDENCY IS ORGANISED

- All Council meetings take place in Brussels and Luxembourg.
- Eight informal council meetings in Denmark
- COSAC Chairmen's meeting 29/30 JAN; Plenary 22/24 APRIL in Copenhagen
- 'Brussels-based' Presidency - significant delegation of negotiating competence to Permanent EU REP.
- In DK MFA coordinate Work Programme and Priorities, Communication and Logistics.
- Secure a Cost-Effective Presidency – low budget:

OPENESS AND TRANSPARENCY

- Ambition: Open and Transparent Presidency
- Tools: Web, press and media outreach, public outreach
- On Presidency Website: Calendar , Meetings, Agendas, Presidency Priorities and Programme, Who-is-Who, News and Events

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DANISH PRESIDENCY TEAM



Prime Minister
Helle Thorning-Schmidt



Dev.CO-OP - TRADE & INVEST - FOR.AFFAIRS - EUROPE
Christian Friis Bach - Pia Olsen Dyhr - Villy Søvndal - Nicolai Wammen



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