

Screening of « Chapter 30 » (EU External Relations) with Croatia and Turkey

RELEX Presentation

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OBJECTIVES

- **Present the EU “acquis” in the field of external relations vis –à vis Eastern Europe (non- candidate countries) plus Mediterranean countries (under the new EU neighbourhood policy , Asia, Latin America and the European Economic Area (EEA) .**
- **Complement the presentation made by DG TRADE and DG DEV by illustrating other aspects of the EU acquis (meaning : non- trade and non –development cooperation) which are at the core of the EU dealings with these partner countries (or their regional groupings).**
- **The presentation will be short (15 minutes). Questions will be taken afterwards from the floor.**

FIVE MAIN INTRODUCTORY REMARKS

- **New security –related issues, political dialogue , reforms , governance , HR and democratization issues , cultural dialogue , scientific cooperation , migration and other “home affairs” issues have been brought to the fore of the EU external policy agenda.**
- **New EU financial perspectives and new EU external instruments have been approved for 2007-2013.**
- **Comprehensive, flexible and country-specific “ policy mix “towards MICs in ENP region, Asia and Latin America have been put in place**
- **A new emphasis is being put on coherence , complementarity , coordination, effectiveness and multilateralism in EU external dealings with partner countries and the donor community .**
- **The EU external acquis is expected to evolve. New issues will become even more relevant (energy security, conflict prevention , post- war reconstruction etc). Progressive convergence/alignment and adoption of the EU external “acquis” by candidate countries would require a dynamic and flexible approach , as well as a continuing monitoring.**

European Neighbourhood Policy (ENP)

EU Objectives:

- **Create an area of stability, prosperity , democracy , respect of HR and peaceful solution of conflicts.**
- **Create new “bridges” of enhanced , sustainable and structured policy dialogue , support the reform process, governance , capacity and institution building programmes and the adoption of EU-compatible regulatory and legislative frameworks,**
- **Encouraging the involvement of civil society,**
- **Enhancing cross- border , decentralized cooperation,**
- **Sharing the EU “internal market” and other “acquis” (“everything but the Treaty”),**
- **Support the convergence towards the EU “acquis” with new financing packages (ENPI instrument) . Incentive elements are included in the EU financial package.**

Main EU instrument:

- **Action Plans (APs) towards EE and MED , aligned to PCAs for EE , Euro-MED Association Agreements and the broad objectives of the 10-year long Barcelona Process (having two important non- trade components: political dialogue and cultural/governance dialogue). APs are also aligned to CSPs and other bilateral and regional programming tools.**

They :

- **are flexible , multi-sectoral and country specific, negotiated with each partner country . Reciprocal commitments.**
- **facilitate legislative and regulatory approximation (from “at the border cooperation” to “within the border” cooperation concept),**
- **include opening policy statements and new provisions (governance/ financial transparency , security etc).**
- **Some 7 APs already agreed and 5 under negotiation.**

MEMO: EU strategic partnership with Russia (separate but “linked” to the EU ENP), based upon four “ common spaces” dialogues. ENPI instrument will be applicable to Russia .

Asia

EU objectives:

- **Addressing security-related issues at national and regional level**
- **Supporting confidence and capacity building**
- **Post- war and post- disaster reconstruction (Afghanistan, Tsunami etc)**
- **Addressing new global threats (avian flu)**
- **Supporting reforms and poverty alleviation strategies (MDGs)**
- **Supporting infrastructural developments and enhancing environmental protection**
- **Policy dialogue on reforms , good governance , financial transparency and adjustment (post- Asian crisis)**
- **Supporting regional integration and policy dialogue with regional groupings (ASEAN, ASEM, SARCC, KEDO etc)**
- **Addressing new issues such as energy security, migration, technological cooperation, cultural dialogue and education , fiscal and financial reforms , governance , monetary cooperation , sound regulatory frameworks etc.**

EU instruments :

- **New policy orientations and strategies (EU Communications)**
- **EU strategic partnership with India and China**
- **Post- war /post- disaster reconstruction programmes (via WB TFs)**
- **Policy dialogues on general and specific issues with regional groupings (at Ministerial, technical and civil society level).**
- **CSPs and Regional Strategy Papers (focusing on reform, MDGs , governance , social infrastructures, environment, migration etc)**
- **New financing instrument (DCECI) and thematic budget lines.**

MEMO : The EU is also involved in post- war reconstruction in Iraq (and Gaza - West Bank) via WB TFs .

Latin America

The 4th EU-LAC Summit in May 2006 in Vienna concluded:

- **“it has not been a breakthrough” and the Summit is a format “looking for substance “.**
- **EU policy towards LATAM are affected by a number of old and new challenges/drawbacks.**

EU Objectives:

- **Political /policy dialogue addressing , inter alia, security and terrorism-financing concerns**
- **Addressing drug production and trafficking issues**
- **Enhancing social cohesion and regional integration**
- **Supporting reforms and pro-poor, inclusive policies**
- **Support private sector development**
- **Supporting education , technological/ scientific cooperation , intercultural dialogue**
- **Involving the civil society , women and indigenous communities.**

EU instruments:

- **New policy orientation (2005 Communication)**
- **Bilateral CSPs and implementation of thematic programmes (training, education, SMEs etc)**
- **Supporting the regional dialogue (MERCOSUR, Andean Community, Central American Countries) and entertaining new EU Political dialogues and cooperation agreements with regional organizations in LATAM**
- **Enhancing the lending role of the EIB in LATAM (regional infrastructures and networks, SMEs' development)**
- **New financing instrument (DCECI) and new thematic budget lines.**

EU relations with the European Economic Area (EEA)

- **The EEA agreement does not establish a Customs Union or a common trade policy among the contracting parties**
- **It extends the EU internal market “acquis” to 3 EEA-EFTA countries (Iceland, Norway and Lichtenstein). This relationship is dynamic (the EU internal market legislation is continuously extended to the 3 EEA-EFTA countries)**
- **The Agreement includes some “flanking” cooperation policies (in the field of research, “information society” services , science and technology , anti-discrimination/education programmes etc).**
- **Institutions are separate but symmetric.**
- **MEMO: The EU manages a bilateral agreement with Switzerland focusing on “four movements” freedoms.**