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# Chapter 31 Screening

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Foreign, Security and Defense Policy,  
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**Political Dialogue: Modalities and Implementation**  
(Cesira D'Aniello, Council Secretariat)

# POLITICAL DIALOGUE: COMMITMENTS

## PARTNERS

- Acceding Countries
- Associated and Candidate countries
- Countries of the Stabilisation and Association Process
- EFTA Countries members of the EEA
- Eastern Europe and Central Asia
- Middle East
- Africa (incl. Africa Summit, ECOWAS, IGAD, SADC)
- Asia-Oceania (incl. ARF, ASEAN, ASEM)
- North America
- Latin America (incl. Andean Community, LAC, MERCOSUR, Rio Group, San Jose Group)
- Others – ACP, OSCE, NAM, OIC

## TOTAL

- Bilateral Commitments with 53 countries
- Multilateral commitments with 19 organisations

## VENUE

- Alternating: Brussels, Presidency capital, third country
- In the margins of UNGA, GAERC

# POLITICAL DIALOGUE: LEVEL

## MEETINGS DURING 2006

- Summits = 18
- Ministerial Meetings = 64
- Association and Cooperation Councils (Ministerial-level) = 25
- Political Director = 16
- Other Senior Official-level (e.g. PSC) = 74
- Expert-level (18 Working Groups) = 127

# PREPARATION OF THE CALENDAR OF MEETINGS

- European Council Conclusions, December 1999, on “an effective Council in an enlarged union”
  - ...
  - “*Regular meetings/contacts with third countries*”
  - 7. Given the increasing administrative burden of organising ministerial level meetings with third countries, in particular under cooperation and association agreements, more effective management of such meetings will be achieved by: ...
    - (iii) ensuring that, as far as *political dialogue* meetings are concerned, the Presidency and the High Representative make the most effective use of both possibilities offered under the Treaty for conducting such meeting (i.e. the Presidency, assisted by the Secretary-General/High Representative or the High Representative at the request of the Presidency on the Council’s behalf) in order to streamline the Union’s political dialogue arrangements, in full association with the Commission.
  - ...”
- Council Conclusions, 29 June 2000, on Management of the Union’s external commitments
  - ...
  - “ (i) starting in July 2000, a systematic schedule of ministerial meetings with third countries will be drawn up covering the current and the next two Presidencies, adjusted on a rolling basis, to provide for effective planning of all programmable external meetings and to enable an appropriate share-out and adequate and timely preparation of such meetings;
  - ...”

# LINKS TO MAIN ACQUIS

## ■ European Council Conclusions:

- [www.consilium.europa.eu/cms3\\_applications/applications/newsRoom/loadBook.asp?BID=76&LANG=1&cmsid=347](http://www.consilium.europa.eu/cms3_applications/applications/newsRoom/loadBook.asp?BID=76&LANG=1&cmsid=347)

## ■ GAERC Conclusions:

- [www.consilium.europa.eu/cms3\\_applications/applications/newsRoom/loadBook.asp?BID=71&LANG=1&cmsid=349](http://www.consilium.europa.eu/cms3_applications/applications/newsRoom/loadBook.asp?BID=71&LANG=1&cmsid=349)