



Brussels, 13 November 2009
PRE 060/09 (Presse)

The 2974th session of the Council of the European Union - **EXTERNAL RELATIONS** - will take place on 17 November 2009, in the Justus Lipsius Building, Brussels, under the Presidency of **Mr Carl Bildt**, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Sweden.

The following points will be discussed at this session:

Ministers of Foreign Affairs

- Russia (Monday 16, over dinner)
- Ukraine
- Middle East Peace Process

Joint session Foreign Affairs Ministers and Development Ministers

- Afghanistan - in the context of Democracy support in EU external relations
 - Discussion

Joint session Foreign Affairs Ministers and Defence Ministers

- Bosnia-Herzegovina/operation Althea
- ESDP, including declaration on “ESDP Ten Years - Challenges and Opportunities”
 - *Council conclusions*

Meeting of Ministers for Defence

- Military Capabilities
 - EDA activities
 - Report by the Head of the Agency to the Council
- Operations
 - Atalanta, including broader engagement in Somalia

Meeting of Ministers for Development

- Operational Framework on Aid Effectiveness
 - Policy debate
- Climate change and Development
 - Orientation debate and *Council conclusions*
- Policy Coherence for Development
 - Discussion

Presidency press conferences:

- o *on issues discussed by foreign ministers (around 13.00 tbc),*
- o *on defence issues (around 17.15 tbc),*
- o *on development issues (around 19.00 tbc).*

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In the margins of the Council :

Monday, 16 November:

- 9.30 European Economic Area Council (EU-EFTA);
- 10.00 Meeting of troika with the Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE);
- 11.15 EU-Jordan Association Council, *followed by a press conference (around 13.45 tbc).*

Tuesday, 17 November:

- 16.15 Meeting of defence ministers troika with non-EU European allies and candidate countries;
- 17.30 EU-Kazakhstan Cooperation Council, *followed by a press conference (around 20.30 tbc).*

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Press conferences and public events can be followed by video streaming:

<http://video.consilium.europa.eu/>

Video coverage will be available for preview and download in broadcast quality (MPEG4):

<http://tvnewsroom.consilium.europa.eu>