



EUROPEAN COMMISSION - PRESS RELEASE

EU-Russia Summit on 9-10 June 2011

Brussels, 08 June 2011 - The 27th EU–Russia Summit will take place in Nizhny Novgorod on 9/10 June 2011. The European Union will be represented by Herman Van Rompuy, President of the European Council and by José Manuel Barroso, President of the European Commission. Catherine Ashton, High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy, and Karel De Gucht, Commissioner for Trade, will also take part. The delegation of Russia will be led by President Dmitry Medvedev. Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov and Minister of Economic Development Nabiullina will also participate.

Discussions are expected to focus on the global economy and global governance issues; EU-Russia relations, in particular the EU-Russia Partnership for Modernisation; and Russia's WTO accession and the new EU-Russia Agreement currently under negotiation. International issues, including the developments in North Africa and the Middle East, will also be high on the agenda.

Ahead of the Summit the President of the European Council Herman Van Rompuy declared:

"The EU-Russia relationship is enjoying its best dynamics for years. We are benefiting from the positive results of the last three summits including from our Partnership for Modernisation. This summit will offer an opportunity to confirm progress and inject new momentum into our joint project. I look forward to having constructive discussions on how to engage the creative forces of society as a whole, how to enhance the rule of law and human rights, and how to create a level playing field that would be mutually advantageous for our businesses. We will also take note of the progress in the negotiations on the common steps towards a visa-free regime.

Russia and the European Union have shared interests in the successful transformation in the Arab world, and should build on the momentum created by recent events and initiatives. Crisis management co-operation is another area where the Summit should give a decisive push. We will also work with President Medvedev to create new momentum in enhancing the stability of our shared neighbourhood and improving the conditions for progress on the protracted conflicts of Moldova/Transnistria, Nagorno-Karabakh, and Georgia."

The President of the European Commission José Manuel Barroso said:

"I look forward to a constructive and substantive Summit with President Medvedev, which will bring further progress to our strategic partnership. We will give additional momentum to our Partnership for Modernization, which is now delivering on the ground, and back it up with 2 billion € of concrete funding. I am also confident that our talks will help Russia to walk the final mile towards WTO accession, which is still possible this year, and to find constructive solutions to all outstanding issues and concerns. In the same vein, regarding the ongoing negotiations on a New EU-Russia Agreement, I will encourage President Medvedev to pursue this ambitious common goal and move forward on the trade and investment chapters. This will further upgrade our strategic relationship."

Contacts :

[Pia Ahrenkilde Hansen](#) (+32 2 295 30 70)

[Michael Karnitschnig](#) (+32 2 299 60 66)