



GREAT AND GENERAL COUNCIL

SITTING OF 12 July 2022

SUBJECT: **Final Decision resulting from the debate on the Association Agreement with the European Union**

THE GREAT AND GENERAL COUNCIL
in its sitting of 12 July 2022

**with 40 Votes in Favour and 1 Not Voting,
approves**

the following Decision:

“The Great and General Council,

In the light

of the report by the Minister of Foreign Affairs on the progress of the ongoing negotiations for the conclusion of an Association Agreement with the European Union and of the subsequent debate;

Having acknowledged

the communication by the European Commission concerning the willingness to conclude said Agreement with the Republic of San Marino, the Principality of Andorra and the Principality of Monaco in the second half of 2023;

Considering:

- *the priority to conclude an agreement that can offer new opportunities for economic and social growth, and to solve the existing critical issues due to the status of third State, which limit the competitiveness of the country as a whole and of its businesses, as well as the mobility of San Marino young people, students, citizens and workers;*
- *the possibility to accept the Commission’s proposal to concentrate the negotiations over the next 18 months, in order to conclude, by the second half of 2023, a desirable possible agreement that takes into account the specificities and interests of the Republic of San Marino;*



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Having considered

that the process to be undertaken by San Marino in order to achieve the objective of concluding the Association Agreement by 2023 requires a joint effort by the European Institutions, the Member States and the three small negotiating States;

Having acknowledged

that participation by the three countries in the European market must be based on common values, the indivisibility of the four freedoms of the internal market and the alignment to the acquis also for financial services, including financial crime prevention and anti-money laundering;

Also considering

that all this must be carried out in line with the Declaration to Article 8 of the Treaty on European Union concerning the specificities of each of the three countries as a true affirmation of the identity of each individual contracting State, and that the alignment to the acquis must allow to find the most profitable balance among the interests of the Parties involved, taking into account the specific needs of the European Union and of San Marino,

Expresses

its appreciation for the diplomatic work carried out so far at the bilateral and multilateral level, as well as for the technical activity performed;

Considering

that the negotiations must concern and preserve the integrity of the four fundamental freedoms, both for the European Union and for the three contracting States, including banking and financial services,

Mandates

the Minister of Foreign Affairs to continue the negotiations by identifying the best possible solutions for the implementation of the acquis communautaire, taking into account the



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specificities of San Marino system, with particular reference to the free movement of persons, workers, freedom to provide services and financial services,

Considers

that it is essential to organise the activities of the Great and General Council, the Government and the Public Administration in such a way as to guarantee an adequate institutional debate and to provide the necessary human and economic resources to face the next 18 months of negotiations, with the hope of concluding the agreement within the timeframe indicated by the Commission;

Finally, it mandates

the Minister of Foreign Affairs and the Government:

- *to propose the necessary interventions aimed at integrating the existing legislation with the new provisions of the acquis, by verifying the compliance of both the existing and the new legislation;*
- *to propose specific modalities for a permanent institutional debate both within the Commission for Foreign Affairs and in other fora, in order to coordinate the Government's negotiating action with the Great and General Council;*
- *to increase the resources of the Department of Foreign Affairs, also on a temporary basis, and through the ordinary procedures for the review of the general staff requirements, in order to guarantee the performance of all the activities related to the negotiations, with a view to fully transposing the acquis communautaire and assisting the administration in the application of the four freedoms, also with reference to the fulfilment of the requests and indications of the country's stakeholders;*
- *to carry out an analysis of all Public Administration sectors in order to verify their compliance with the requirements for the functioning of the single market;*
- *to promote an adequate debate in the country on the negotiations, by involving citizens and in particular trade associations and social and cultural organisations, in order to better identify the contents of the Agreement in terms of opportunities and commitments, and to encourage active participation in the choices to be made.”*