



CONSIGLIO GRANDE E GENERALE

SITTING OF 26 APRIL 2019

SUBJECT: Decision concluding the debate on the report of the Minister of Foreign Affairs on the Association Agreement with the European Union

THE GREAT AND GENERAL COUNCIL
In its sitting of 26 April 2019

**unanimously approves,
by open ballot**

the following Decision:

"The Great and General Council,

Having heard the Minister of Foreign Affairs about the negotiations concerning the conclusion of one or more Association Agreements between the European Union on the one hand, and, respectively, San Marino, Andorra and Monaco, on the other;

Having acknowledged

the subsequent parliamentary debate;

Welcoming

*both the intense diplomatic activity carried out by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in the negotiation process as well as the in depth-work to support diplomatic action performed by the Directorate of European Affairs of the Foreign Affairs Department and by the Public Administration Offices for the analysis of the domestic legislation in relation to the *acquis communautaire* by contributing to the evaluation of the possible difficulties arising from the transposition of certain acts and by proposing relevant adjustments;*

Noting also

The need to respect the social, economic and geographical specificities of the Republic of San Marino, also in the light of Declaration no. 3 on Article 8 of the Treaty on the European Union, according to which "the Union will take into account the particular situation of small-sized countries which maintain specific relations of proximity with it";



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Hoping for

The enhancement of the historical and institutional peculiarities and a full recognition of the rights of San Marino citizens in the same way as those of European citizens and businesses;

Highlighting, in addition,

The need to ensure - in return for the harmonisation efforts resulting from the application of the existing Monetary Agreement and from the simultaneous compliance with the international principles of full cooperation and transparency - equivalent access for San Marino and its operators to the single market for banking and financial services and to the same instruments available to Member States to guarantee financial stability, even within the meaning of the Recommendation prepared by the rapporteur, Mr. Juan Fernando Lopez Aguilar, and adopted by the European Parliament in its plenary sitting of 13 March 2019, addressed to the Council, to the Commission and to the European External Action Service concerning the Association Agreement between the European Union and Monaco, Andorra and San Marino;

Highlighting, also,

The need to solve the problem of the transit documents (T2) in the context of negotiations, given that they are an obstacle to the free movement of goods and a less favourable treatment for San Marino operators;

Wishing to interpret

the Recommendation as an invitation to prevent the risk of rejection of the Agreement, after the conclusion of the negotiations, by involving all political, economic and social forces, as well as all citizens, in the decisions and consequences that the Agreement may entail;

Considering, in addition,

The possibility to draft, in the early months of summer, a text that is satisfactory to both parties and which can lead to the initialling of an agreement or to sharing with the European Union a political declaration testifying to the work done up to now and the common expectations in view of the conclusion of the Agreement,



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Expresses

Its appreciation for the information events planned by the Ministry in the various San Marino Township Councils and solicits the Ministry to strengthen information and intensify debates, also involving San Marino political forces as well as social and economic stakeholders, with a view to the imminent conclusion of the negotiation process

Commits the Congress of State

And the Minister of Foreign Affairs, in particular, to discuss together with the Parliamentary Groups, in the context of appropriate scheduled meetings at the premises of the Ministry, and with the competent Permanent Parliamentary Commissions, the summary document containing the fundamental aspects of the Agreement and its main red lines, the possible difficulties for our country arising from certain acts or directives and possible proposals for any adjustment;

Commits the Congress of State

to prepare, during the Council's sittings, a debate in which all political forces will provide their general and specific positions on the main priorities of the agreement, in order to issue a shared decision on the guidelines for the next negotiating sessions as a desirable condition for a possible initialling of the Agreement.

Recommends, finally,

The Government to continue the ongoing strengthening process of administrative capacity within the country, to ensure the appropriate transposition and implementation of the EU acquis during the negotiation process and in the subsequent management and application of the Agreement."