



GREAT AND GENERAL COUNCIL

SITTING OF 27 October 2023

SUBJECT: Decision concluding the debate on the state of the negotiations on the Association Agreement with the European Union to commit the Government to continue the political debate in the appropriate fora and to strengthen information to citizens, as well as to continue the negotiations by seeking the closure of all still open annexes, in the interest of the Republic of San Marino

THE GREAT AND GENERAL COUNCIL
in its sitting of 27 October 2023

**with 46 votes in favour
approves**

the following Decision:

"The Great and General Council

having heard

the Minister of Foreign Affairs on the progress of the ongoing negotiations with the European Commission on the Association Agreement;

having acknowledged

the significant developments that have taken place in the last months of negotiations, which have led to agree on most of the technical annexes, and to the forthcoming discussion of the few still to be finalised;

considering that

- *the suspension of negotiations by the Principality of Monaco has not caused any setbacks to the negotiating agenda and does not jeopardise the possibility of concluding the Agreement within the timeframe planned with the Commission;*
- *the synergies recently developed with the Principality of Andorra on the common positions have made it possible to simplify the negotiating framework with particular reference to the institutional part of the Agreement and the integration of financial services;*



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- *the European Commission's proposed timeline for the conclusion of the negotiations within the six-month Spanish presidency (December 2023) can realistically be met;*

having heard

the Minister, who pointed out that

- *the definition, together with the European Commission, of the criteria for the application of the principle of the freedom of establishment of persons through the adoption of a quota system, for a renewable period of ten years, respects San Marino's need to fix a quota for potential flows of new residents with due distinction between economically active and non-economically active residents;*
- *the recent amendments to San Marino labour market legislation, in line with the liberalisation trends adopted in EU countries, have been approved by the relevant EU services. This means that the relevant annexes will soon be closed, while ensuring a reasonable transitional period for the implementation of the issues currently not regulated in San Marino;*
- *San Marino's requests to keep the management of public services in the hands of the State were generally accepted, as were certain prerogatives relating to public employment;*
- *the integration system of financial services presented by the Commission reflects San Marino's need for a model similar to the one applied to EU member countries, which includes a coordinated supervisory approach between the EU and national authorities;*
- *after examining the characteristics of San Marino with respect to the issues of competition, State aid and public procurement, the application of the *acquis communautaire* in accordance with the agreed time for adjustments appears to be compatible with San Marino general economic and social policy guidelines;*



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considering

that the negotiations carried out by the San Marino delegation continue in accordance with the general lines that the Great and General Council presented to the Congress of State in its previous Decisions;

also assessing

the importance of the annex relating to financial services, for which the parties are willing to pursue a mutually shared and satisfactory solution, as reiterated in the recent high-level political talks between the Minister of Affairs Luca Beccari and the Vice President of the European Commission Maroš Šefčovič. On that occasion, San Marino presented its needs and the Commission ensured that they would be given special consideration also vis-à-vis the Member States;

notes

the work done so far, reserving the right to make further evaluations on the basis of the updates to be provided and a general assessment of the Agreement in its entirety once the negotiations have been concluded;

also acknowledges

the work of the successive Governments since the start of the negotiations and the collective support of social partners, trade unions, professional associations and the University of San Marino, which have immediately stressed the importance of greater integration with the European Union;

commits the Government



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- *to continuing the political discussion by frequently convening the relevant permanent parliamentary commissions;*
- *to intensifying information activities to citizens using all information channels;*
- *to continuing the dissemination of information concerning the negotiations in the competent fora, including the specially established Joint Committee;*

looks forward to

the establishment of institutional communication channels between the Great and General Council and the European Parliament;

mandates

- *the Minister of Foreign Affairs to continue the negotiations seeking to close all the annexes which are still open in order to safeguard the specificities and the interests of the Republic of San Marino, in compliance with the objectives of the European Union to integrate the Republic within the Single Market without distortions in a regime of full equivalence of San Marino citizens, businesses and economic operators.”.*