

**FINAL ACT**

The plenipotentiaries of the Member States and of the Community and the plenipotentiaries of the United Mexican States hereby adopt the following Final Act, with regard to the:

1. Economic Partnership, Political Coordination and Cooperation Agreement between the European Community and its Member States, of the one part, and the United Mexican States, of the other part,
2. Interim Agreement on trade and trade-related matters between the European Community, of the one part, and the United Mexican States, of the other part, and
3. Joint Declaration between the European Community and its Member States and the United Mexican States.

## (1)

The plenipotentiaries of:

THE KINGDOM OF BELGIUM,

THE KINGDOM OF DENMARK,

THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY,

THE HELLENIC REPUBLIC,

THE KINGDOM OF SPAIN,

THE FRENCH REPUBLIC,

IRELAND,

THE ITALIAN REPUBLIC,

THE GRAND DUCHY OF LUXEMBOURG,

THE KINGDOM OF THE NETHERLANDS,

THE REPUBLIC OF AUSTRIA,

THE PORTUGUESE REPUBLIC,

THE REPUBLIC OF FINLAND,

THE KINGDOM OF SWEDEN,

THE UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND,

Contracting Parties to the Treaty establishing the EUROPEAN COMMUNITY,

hereinafter referred to as the 'Member States', and

THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY,

hereinafter referred to as 'the Community',

of the one part, and

the plenipotentiaries of the UNITED MEXICAN STATES,

hereinafter referred to as 'Mexico',

of the other part,

meeting at Brussels on the eighth day of December in the year one thousand nine hundred and ninety-seven for the signature of the Economic Partnership, Political Coordination and Cooperation Agreement between the European Community and its Member States, of the one part, and the United Mexican States, of the other part, hereinafter referred to as the 'Agreement', have adopted the following texts:

— the Agreement and Annex thereto.

The plenipotentiaries of the Member States and of the Community and the plenipotentiaries of Mexico have adopted the texts of the Joint Declarations listed below and annexed to this Final Act:

Joint Declaration by the European Union and Mexico on Political Dialogue referred to in Article 3 of the Agreement,

Joint Declaration on the Dialogue at Parliamentary level,

Joint Interpretative Declaration relating to Article 4 of the Agreement,

Joint Declaration relating to Article 24(3) of the Agreement,

Joint Declaration relating to Article 35 of the Agreement.

The plenipotentiaries of Mexico have taken note of the Declarations of the European Community and/or its Member States mentioned below and annexed to this Final Act:

Declaration relating to Article 11 of the Agreement,

Declaration relating to Article 12 of the Agreement.

The plenipotentiaries of the Member States and of the Community have taken note of the Declaration of Mexico mentioned below and annexed to this Final Act:

Declaration on Title I of the Agreement.

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## JOINT DECLARATIONS

**Joint Declaration by the European Union and Mexico on political dialogue (Article 3)**

## 1. PREAMBLE

The European Union, of the one part, and Mexico, of the other part,

- conscious of their historical, political, economic and cultural ties, and of the bonds of friendship between their peoples,
- mindful of their desire to strengthen the political and economic freedoms which are fundamental to society in the Member States of the European Union and Mexico,
- reaffirming the value of human dignity and of the promotion and protection of human rights as cornerstones of a democratic society, as well as the essential role of democratic institutions based on the rule of law,
- desiring to strengthen international peace and security in accordance with the principles of the United Nations Charter,
- sharing an interest in regional integration as a means of enabling their citizens to achieve sustainable and harmonious development predicated upon the principles of social progress and solidarity between members,
- building upon the preferential relations established by the Framework Agreement for Cooperation signed between the Community and Mexico in 1991,
- recalling the principles set out in the Solemn Joint Declaration signed in Paris on 2 May 1995 by the Commission and the Council, of the one part, and Mexico, of the other part,

have decided to develop relations on a long-term basis.

## 2. OBJECTIVES

The European Union and Mexico consider that the establishment of greater political dialogue represents a fundamental aspect of their envisaged economic and political rapprochement and constitutes a decisive factor in promoting the principles set out in the preamble to this Declaration.

That dialogue shall be based on the Parties' shared attachment to democracy and respect for human rights as well as the desire to maintain peace and establish a just and stable international order, in accordance with the United Nations Charter.

Its aims shall be to forge lasting links of solidarity between the European Union and Mexico, contributing to the stability and prosperity of their respective regions, to strive to implement the process of regional integration and to promote a climate of understanding and tolerance between their peoples and cultures.

The dialogue shall cover all subjects of shared interest and shall aim to open up paths towards new forms of cooperation with shared objectives, including by means of joint international initiatives, particularly in the areas of peace, security and regional development.

## 3. DIALOGUE MECHANISMS

The Parties shall conduct such political dialogue by means of contacts, information exchanges and consultations between the various Mexican and European Union bodies, including the European Commission.

It shall be held, in particular:

- at presidential level,
- at ministerial level,
- at senior official level,
- and by using diplomatic channels to maximum advantage.

Presidential meetings, the detailed arrangements for which shall be decided on by the Parties, shall take place regularly between the highest authorities of the Parties.

Meetings at ministerial level, the detailed arrangements for which shall be decided on by the Parties, shall take place regularly between the Ministers for Foreign Affairs.

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#### **Joint Declaration on the dialogue at parliamentary level**

The Parties underline the advisability of institutionalising a political dialogue at Parliamentary level by means of contacts between the European Parliament and the Mexican Congress (Chamber of Deputies and Senate).

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#### **Joint Interpretative Declaration relating to Article 4**

The commitments that result from Article 4 of this Agreement shall not take effect until the decision referred to in Article 5 is adopted, in conformity with Article 7 of this Agreement.

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#### **Joint Declaration relating to Article 24(3)**

The Parties confirm their multilateral obligations on maritime transport services undertaken as members of the WTO, taking also into account their respective obligations under the OECD Code of Liberalisation of Current Invisible Operations.

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#### **Joint Declaration relating to Article 35**

Both Parties agree to give their institutional support, in the multilateral field, to the adoption, entry into force and enforcement of the International Code of Conduct for Responsible Fishing.

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**UNILATERAL DECLARATIONS****Declaration by the Community relating to Article 11**

The Community declares that, until the adoption by the Joint Council of the implementing rules on fair competition referred to in Article 11(2) it shall assess any practice contrary to that Article on the basis of the criteria resulting from the rules contained in Articles 85, 86 and 92 of the Treaty establishing the European Community, and, for products covered by the Treaty establishing the European Coal and Steel Community, by those contained in Articles 65 and 66 of that Treaty and the Community rules on State aids, including secondary legislation.

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**Declaration by the Community and its Member States on the intellectual property conventions referred to in Article 12**

The Community and its Member States understand that the relevant multilateral conventions on intellectual property referred to in Article 12(2)(b) include at least the following:

- Bern Convention for the Protection of Literary and Artistic Works (Paris Act 1971, amended in 1979),
  - International Convention for the Protection of Performers, Producers of Phonograms and Broadcasting Organisations (Rome 1961),
  - Paris Convention for the protection of industrial property (Stockholm Act 1967 and amended in 1979),
  - Patent Cooperation Treaty (Washington 1970, amended in 1979 and modified in 1984),
  - Madrid Agreement concerning the International Registration of Marks (Stockholm Act 1967 and amended in 1979),
  - Protocol to the Madrid Agreement concerning the international registration of marks (Madrid 1989),
  - Nice Agreement concerning the International Classification of Goods and Services for the purposes of the Registration of Marks (Geneva 1977, amended in 1979),
  - Budapest Treaty on the International Recognition of the deposit of Micro-organisms for the Purposes of Patent Procedure (1977, modified in 1980),
  - International Convention for the protection of new varieties of plants (UPOV) (Geneva Act 1991),
  - Trademark Law Treaty (Geneva 1994).
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**Declaration by Mexico on Title I**

Mexico's foreign policy is founded on the principles enshrined in its Constitution:

Self-determination of nations

Non-intervention

Peaceful settlement of disputes

Prohibition of the threat or use of force in international relations

Legal equality of States

International cooperation for development

The struggle for international peace and international security.

Given its historical experience and the supreme mandate of its political constitution, Mexico expresses its full conviction that only the full observance of international law is the foundation of peace and development. Mexico declares, likewise, that the principles of coexistence of the international community, as expressed in the United Nations Charter, the principles enunciated in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and democratic principles, are the permanent guide of its constructive participation in international affairs and are the framework for its relationship with the Community and its Member States, governed by this Agreement, and for its relationship with any other country or group of countries.

Hecho en Bruselas, el ocho de diciembre de mil novecientos noventa y siete.

Udfærdiget i Bruxelles den ottende december nitten hundrede og syvoghalvfems.

Geschehen zu Brüssel am achten Dezember neunzehnhundertsiebenundneunzig.

Έγινε στις Βρυξέλλες, στις οκτώ Δεκεμβρίου χίλια εννιακόσια ενενήντα επτά.

Done at Brussels on the eighth day of December in the year one thousand nine hundred and ninety-seven.

Fait à Bruxelles, le huit décembre mil neuf cent quatre-vingt-dix-sept.

Fatto a Bruxelles, addì otto dicembre millenovecentonovantasette.

Gedaan te Brussel, de achtste december negentienhonderd zevenennegentig.

Feito em Bruxelas, em oito de Dezembro de mil novecentos e noventa e sete.

Tehty Brysselissä kahdeksantena päivänä joulukuuta vuonna tuhatyhdeksänsataayhdeksänkymmentäseitsemän.

Som skedde i Bryssel den åttonde december nittonhundra nittiosju.

Pour le Royaume de Belgique  
Voor het Koninkrijk België  
Für das Königreich Belgien



Cette signature engage également la Communauté française, la Communauté flamande, la Communauté germanophone, la Région wallonne, la Région flamande et la Région Bruxelles-Capitale.

Deze handtekening verbindt eveneens de Vlaamse Gemeenschap, de Franse Gemeenschap, de Duitstalige Gemeenschap, het Vlaamse Gewest, het Waalse Gewest en het Brusselse Hoofdstedelijke Gewest.

Diese Unterschrift verbindet zugleich die Deutschsprachige Gemeinschaft, die Flämische Gemeinschaft, die Französische Gemeinschaft, die Wallonische Region, die Flämische Region und die Region Brüssel-Hauptstadt.

For Kongeriget Danmark



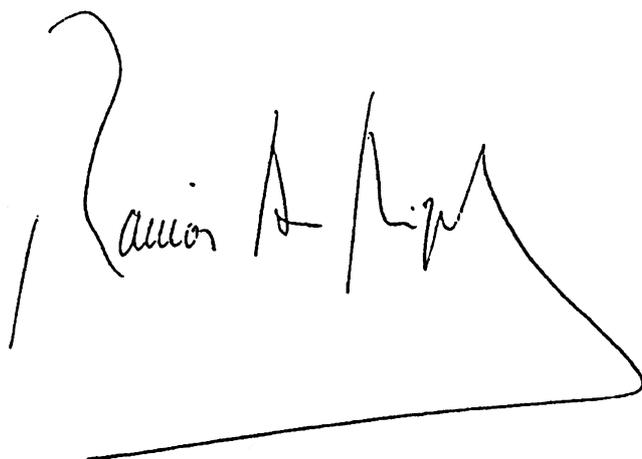
Für die Bundesrepublik Deutschland



Για την Ελληνική Δημοκρατία



Por el Reino de España

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Juan Antonio López". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'J' and a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Pour la République française

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of several loops and a long horizontal stroke at the end.

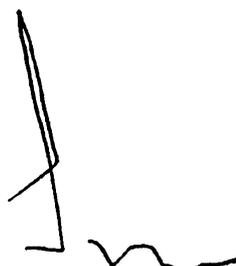
Thar ceann na hÉireann  
For Ireland

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Per la Repubblica italiana

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of several loops and a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Pour le Grand-Duché de Luxembourg



Voor het Koninkrijk der Nederlanden



Für die Republik Österreich



Pela República Portuguesa



Suomen tasavallan puolesta  
För Republiken Finland



För Konungariket Sverige

For the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

Por la Comunidad Europea

For Det Europæiske Fællesskab

Für die Europäische Gemeinschaft

Για την Ευρωπαϊκή Κοινότητα

For the European Community

Pour la Communauté européenne

Per la Comunità europea

Voor de Europese Gemeenschap

Pela Comunidade Europeia

Euroopan yhteisön puolesta

För Europeiska gemenskapen

Por los Estados Unidos Mexicanos

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of several overlapping, sweeping lines that form a stylized, somewhat abstract shape.

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## (2)

At the same time, the plenipotentiaries of the EUROPEAN COMMUNITY,  
Hereinafter referred to as 'the Community',  
of the one part, and

the plenipotentiaries of the UNITED MEXICAN STATES,  
hereinafter referred to as 'Mexico',  
of the other part,

meeting at Brussels on the eighth day of December in the year one thousand nine hundred and ninety-seven for the signature of the Interim Agreement on trade and trade-related matters between the European Community, of the one part, and the United Mexican States, of the other part, hereinafter referred to as 'the Agreement', have adopted the following text:

— The Agreement

The plenipotentiaries of the Community and the plenipotentiaries of Mexico have adopted the text of the Joint Declaration listed below and annexed to this Final Act:

— Joint Interpretative Declaration relating to Article 2 of the Agreement

The plenipotentiaries of Mexico have taken note of the Declaration by the Community mentioned below and annexed to this Final Act:

— Declaration by the European Community relating to Article 5 of the Agreement

Hecho en Bruselas, el ocho de diciembre de mil novecientos noventa y siete.

Udfærdiget i Bruxelles den ottende december nitten hundrede og syvoghalvfems.

Geschehen zu Brüssel am achten Dezember neunzehnhundertsiebenundneunzig.

Έγινε στις Βρυξέλλες, στις οκτώ Δεκεμβρίου χίλια εννιακόσια ενενήντα επτά.

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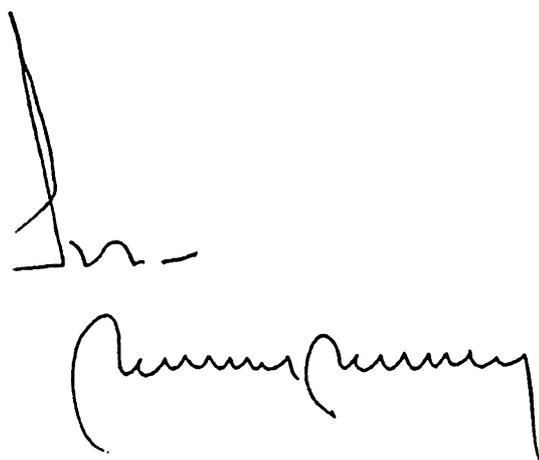
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Som skedde i Bryssel den åttonde december nittonhundra nittiosju.

Por la Comunidad Europea  
For Det Europæiske Fællesskab  
Für die Europäische Gemeinschaft  
Για την Ευρωπαϊκή Κοινότητα  
For the European Community  
Pour la Communauté européenne  
Per la Comunità europea  
Voor de Europese Gemeenschap  
Pela Comunidade Europeia  
Euroopan yhteisön puolesta  
För Europeiska gemenskapen

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a series of loops and a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Por los Estados Unidos Mexicanos

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, featuring a prominent circular loop at the beginning and several sweeping curves.

**Joint interpretative Declaration relating to Article 2**

The commitments resulting from Article 2 of this Agreement will not take effect until the decision referred to in Article 3 is adopted.

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**Declaration by the European Community relating to Article 5**

The Community declares that, until the adoption by the Joint Council of the implementing rules on competition referred to in Article 5(2), it will assess any practice contrary to that Article on the basis of the criteria resulting from the rules contained in Articles 85, 86 and 92 of the Treaty establishing the European Community, and, for products covered by the Treaty establishing the European Coal and Steel Community, by those contained in Articles 65 and 66 of that Treaty and the Community rules on State aids, including secondary legislation.

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**(3)**

At the same time the plenipotentiaries of the Member States and of the Community and the plenipotentiaries of Mexico have adopted the text of the following Joint Declaration:

**JOINT DECLARATION BETWEEN THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY AND ITS MEMBER STATES AND THE UNITED MEXICAN STATES**

With a view to the adequate coverage of the issues contained in Titles III and IV of the Economic Partnership, Political Coordination and Cooperation Agreement signed on 8 December 1997 within a comprehensive framework, the European Community and its Member States and the United Mexican States undertake to:

1. Start and if possible, conclude negotiations regarding the arrangements for the liberalisation of trade in services and of capital movements and payments as well as the measures relating to intellectual property provided for in Articles 6, 8, 9 and 12 of that Agreement, in parallel with negotiations on the arrangements and timetable for liberalisation of trade in goods provided for both in Article 5 of that Agreement and in Article 3 of the Interim Agreement on trade and trade-related matters between the European Community and the United Mexican States signed on 8 December 1997.
  2. Aim at ensuring that, without prejudice to the accomplishment of their respective internal procedures, the results of the negotiation on the liberalisation of services and of capital movements and payments as well as the measures relating to intellectual property, provided for above, may enter into force as soon as possible, thereby achieving the Parties' shared objective of a global trade liberalisation covering both goods and services, in accordance with Article 7 of the Economic Partnership, Political Coordination and Cooperation Agreement.
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