



**EUROPEAN COUNCIL  
THE PRESIDENT**

**Brussels, 11 February 2010  
PCE 26/10**

**Herman VAN ROMPUY,  
President of the European Council,  
congratulates Viktor YANUKOVICH  
following the elections in Ukraine**

Herman Van ROMPUY, President of the European Council, congratulated Viktor YANUKOVICH, President-elect of Ukraine.

*"I should like to convey my whole-hearted congratulations to you on your recent election as President of Ukraine.*

*The European Union and Ukraine enjoy close relations based on common values and strong mutual interests. These include a shared commitment to promoting market reform, respect for the rule of law and the principles of democracy, in the interests of the long-term prosperity and security of the peoples of Ukraine and the EU. In this regard, I particularly welcome the fact that the elections were generally conducted in accordance with international standards.*

*In recent years the relationship between the European Union and Ukraine has deepened significantly in particular through wide-ranging political dialogue and extensive cooperation over a comprehensive range of issues. The ambitious Association Agreement currently being negotiating by the European Union and Ukraine very much reflects this new dynamic. I trust that under your leadership our relationship will continue to thrive and that the negotiations on the new agreement can be completed as soon as possible.*

*Finally, I should like to take this opportunity to invite you to visit Brussels at the earliest opportunity."*

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**P R E S S**

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**FOR FURTHER DETAILS:**

Dirk De Backer - Spokesperson of the President - ■ +32 (0)2 281 9768 - +32 (0)497 59 99 19  
Jesús Carmona - Deputy Spokesperson of the President ■ +32 (0)2 281 9548 / 6319 - +32 (0)475 65 32 15  
e-mail: [press.president@consilium.europa.eu](mailto:press.president@consilium.europa.eu)  
internet: <http://www.consilium.europa.eu/>

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