



**EUROPEAN COUNCIL  
THE PRESIDENT**



Brussels, 29 June 2011  
EUCO 35/11  
PRESSE 215  
PR PCE 10

**Joint statement by  
President of the European Council Herman Van Rompuy and  
President of the European Commission Jose Manuel Barroso  
following the vote in the Greek Parliament  
on the revised economic programme**

With today's approval by the Greek Parliament of the revised economic programme, the country has taken an important step forward along the necessary path of fiscal consolidation and growth-enhancing structural reform. But it has also taken a vital step back – from the very grave scenario of default. This was a vote of national responsibility.

Tomorrow, the eyes of Europe will again be turned towards Athens as parliamentarians are called upon to approve the implementing measures for the programme. A second positive vote will pave the way for the disbursement of the next tranche of financial assistance. It would also allow for work to proceed rapidly on a second package of financial assistance, enabling the country to move forward and restoring hope to the Greek people.

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**P R E S S**

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