



**EUROPEAN COUNCIL
THE PRESIDENT**



Brussels, 12 July 2012
EUCO 145/12
PRESSE 337
PR PCE 125

**Remarks following the meeting of
President of the European Council, Herman Van Rompuy
with Prime Minister of Romania, Victor Ponta**

Today, President Herman Van Rompuy and Prime Minister Victor Ponta met to exchange views on the economic situation in the EU and recent developments in Romania.

President Van Rompuy underlined he follows the events closely. He expressed his deep concerns about the current political developments in Romania with regard to the rule of law and the independence of the judiciary, which are fundamental principles on which the Union is based and which are natural for all governments to respect.

President van Rompuy encouraged Prime Minister Ponta to engage in a constructive dialogue with the European Commission and to address the issues identified by the Commission as problematic. The President expressed his confidence that the Romanian government is fully aware of the importance of the matters at stake and he took note of the intention of the Prime Minister to comply with the Commission's recommendations.

P R E S S

Dirk De Backer - Spokesperson of the President - ☎ +32 (0)2 281 9768 - +32 (0)497 59 99 19
press.president@consilium.europa.eu <http://www.consilium.europa.eu/>

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