



**EUROPEAN COUNCIL  
THE PRESIDENT**



Brussels, 21 February 2014  
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**Statement by the President of the European Council, Herman  
Van Rompuy, on Ukraine**

I welcome the agreement reached between the government and the opposition in Ukraine. The agreement is a necessary compromise in order to launch an indispensable political dialogue that offers the only democratic and peaceful way out of the crisis that has already caused too much suffering and bloodshed on all sides. It is now the responsibility of all parties to be courageous and turn words into deeds for the sake of Ukraine's future. This agreement was facilitated by important work by the Foreign Ministers of France, Germany, Poland and the Special Representative of the President of Russia and based on the persistent efforts during the last two months by High Representative Ashton and Commissioner Füle. The EU continues to stand ready to support Ukraine.

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**P R E S S**

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Dirk De Backer - Spokesperson of the President - ☎ +32 (0)2 281 9768 - +32 (0)497 59 99 19  
Preben Aamann - Deputy Spokesperson of the President - ☎ +32 (0)2 281 2060 - +32 (0)476 85 05 43  
[press.president@consilium.europa.eu](mailto:press.president@consilium.europa.eu) <http://www.european-council.europa.eu/the-president>

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