



European Council

The President

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EU-Canada Summit (Ottawa, 26 September 2014)

The President of the European Council Herman Van Rompuy and the European Commission President Jose Manuel Barroso will travel to Ottawa on 26 September to represent the European Union at the 2014 EU-Canada summit, hosted by Canadian Prime Minister Stephen Harper. European Commissioner for Trade Karel De Gucht and Canadian Minister of International Trade Ed Fast will also participate.

The summit will be an opportunity to celebrate the successful end of negotiations on two EU-Canada treaties: the EU-Canada Strategic Partnership Agreement (SPA) and the Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA). The leaders will set out their shared vision for their strengthened strategic partnership and will discuss shared interests in current international issues including Ukraine, Syria, Iraq and other global questions.

Speaking ahead of the event, President Van Rompuy said: *"This summit marks the beginning of a new chapter in EU-Canada relations – and the establishment of a stronger foundation for our strategic partnership through these two important agreements (SPA and CETA). The Strategic Partnership Agreement will reinforce our cooperation; in foreign policy, crisis management and promoting international peace and security most obviously, but also in areas like education, transport, energy, environment, the Arctic or science and technology, where Europeans and Canadians stand to benefit greatly from closer cooperation. And it is timely that we will have the opportunity to discuss with our partners some of the most pressing challenges the international community is facing, including the events in Ukraine and the crises affecting Iraq and Syria."*

President Barroso said: *"Canada is one of the European Union's oldest and closest partners. And now that our negotiating teams have completed their work on both the CETA and the SPA we can really talk about a comprehensive strategic partnership. CETA is a new generation agreement that will create more opportunities for our businesses, who will receive the same treatment on both sides of the Atlantic, and generate more job opportunities. This is no small achievement between two G7 members, but it is also a logical step between like minded partners, which share the same world view of democracy, open economies and open societies."*

The summit will consist of a meeting between the leaders followed by a press conference and a working lunch. After the summit the EU delegation will travel together with Prime Minister Harper to Toronto for a business event to be attended by several hundred business leaders from European companies based in Canada as well as Canadian companies.

For more information:

<http://www.european-council.europa.eu/eu-canada-summit-2014>

http://eeas.europa.eu/canada/index_en.htm
