

EU-Ukraine Summit **Brussels, 9 July 2018**

The 20th summit between the European Union and Ukraine will take place on 9 July in Brussels. It is the first since the entry into force of the Association Agreement, including its Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Area (AA/DCFTA) and follows one year of visa-free travel for Ukrainian citizens to the EU.

At the summit, leaders will discuss next steps in the implementation of the Association Agreement and the progress on, and the EU's support for, Ukraine's ambitious reform agenda.

The EU will be represented by Donald Tusk, President of the European Council, and by Jean-Claude Juncker, President of the European Commission. Ukraine will be represented by President Petro Poroshenko. The High Representative of the EU for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy and Vice-President of the Commission Federica Mogherini, Vice-Presidents Maroš Šefčovič and Valdis Dombrovskis, Commissioner Cecilia Malmström will also participate at the Summit.

The leaders will also discuss the conflict in eastern Ukraine and implementation of the Minsk agreements, the impact of the illegal annexation of Crimea and Sevastopol, relations with Russia and other regional and foreign policy issues, energy security and the follow-up to the 2017 Eastern Partnership summit.

[EU - Ukraine summit](#)

[EU-Ukraine relations factsheet \(EEAS\)](#)

[Delegation of the EU to Ukraine](#)

Media programme

9 July 2018

12:00 - Welcome of the President of Ukraine, Petro Poroshenko by President Donald Tusk (Europa VIP entrance)

12.05 - Leaders' meeting between President Tusk, President Poroshenko and President Juncker

12.25 - Plenary session of the 20th EU-Ukraine Summit

13.45 - Working lunch

15.10 - Joint press conference (Presidents Tusk, Juncker and Poroshenko) (Europa press room)

Press conferences and public events by video streaming: <http://video.consilium.europa.eu>

Video coverage in broadcast quality (MPEG4) and photo gallery on: <http://tvnewsroom.consilium.europa.eu/>

¹ This note has been drawn up under the responsibility of the press office.

Implementation of Ukraine-EU Association Agreement / DCFTA and the related reform agenda

The Association Agreement is the most ambitious agreement that the European Union has ever concluded with any partner country.

Leaders will welcome the positive effects of the implementation of the AA/DCFTA. The Agreement is already having positive economic impact, firmly establishing the EU as Ukraine's main trading partner and increasing trade in goods between the EU and Ukraine by 24% in 2017. Ukraine's economy is also on the path to recovery, with 2.4% GDP growth registered in 2016, 2.5% in 2017 and 3.5% expected in 2018.

Leaders will discuss further ways to intensify the implementation of the Association Agreement, to increase awareness of its benefits and opportunities in Ukraine and in the EU, and to enhance the investment climate.

Ukraine, against a background of ongoing serious security challenges, has undertaken intense and unprecedented reforms. Since autumn 2017, the Ukrainian government has launched and advanced on four out of five priority reforms set for 2017: pensions, healthcare, education and privatisation.

The entry into force of the law on the High Anti-Corruption Court on 14 June 2018 was also a significant step forward in the fight against corruption, where continued progress remains essential for Ukraine's citizens and businesses.

With Ukraine moving towards elections in 2019, it is important that the pace of the implementation of Ukraine's ambitious reform agenda, which is closely linked to the Association Agreement, is maintained, notably in relation to rule of law and the fight against corruption, on privatisation and reform of state-owned enterprises, energy and electoral issues.

Leaders will also discuss priorities for bilateral EU cooperation in 2018. Further to major support for decentralisation, reform of the public administration, anti-corruption, the rule of law and socio-economic development of government-controlled areas affected by the conflict in previous years, new priorities will include people-to people contacts, vocational education and training, energy efficiency support to democracy and human rights, and to further progress in the implementation of the Association Agreement.

[EU-Ukraine trade \(European Commission\)](#)

[Support Group for Ukraine \(European Commission\)](#)

Foreign and security policy issues

As regards the ongoing Russian aggressions and conflict in eastern Ukraine, the summit will reaffirm the EU's support for Ukraine's independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity. Leaders will take stock of the implementation of the Minsk Agreements and recall their full support for the diplomatic efforts undertaken within the framework of the Normandy format and the Trilateral Contact Group.

Leaders will stress the need for full implementation of the Minsk agreements by all sides, underlining the responsibility of Russia in this regard. In the absence of progress, EU leaders decided last week at the June European Council to approve the prolongation of economic sanctions targeting specific sectors of the Russian economy.

Leaders will also discuss the humanitarian consequences of the conflict and EU humanitarian support. They are likely to condemn the deteriorating human rights situation in non-government controlled areas of the Donetsk and Luhansk regions, as well as in illegally annexed Crimea and Sevastopol. The EU will reconfirm its commitment to fully implementing its non-recognition policy of the illegal annexation, including through restrictive measures.

Finally, leaders will condemn the continued use of Minsk prohibited weapons and obstructions to the work of the OSCE Special Monitoring Mission (SMM) to Ukraine. The EU will reconfirm its support to the SMM and its intention to play an important role in the reconstructions efforts once the situation on the ground allows.

Leaders will also call for the release of illegally detained Ukrainian citizens in Crimea and Russia, including Ukrainian film maker Oleg Sentsov.

Leaders will also discuss closer EU-Ukraine cooperation in the field of Common Security & Defence Policy (CSDP) and strategic communication. Follow-up to the Eastern Partnership summit and the implementation of the 20 deliverables for 2020 is also on the agenda.
