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## Europe's 2020 Strategy

Europe 2020 is the European Union's new strategy for smart, sustainable and inclusive growth and jobs. It is a central element in Europe's response to the world's worst economic crisis since the 1930s, and addresses the immediate and longer-term needs of macroeconomic and financial stabilisation. At the core of the new strategy is a framework for enhanced co-ordination of Member States' economic policies building on widened country surveillance which covers all relevant macroeconomic and structural policy areas in an integrated fashion.

The Council proposed that the national headline targets should at the same time be ambitious and realistic; that Member States have full ownership of their national targets. However, the aim should also be broad coherence and consistency among the targets for each Member State but also at EU-level; and progress towards the headline targets should be reviewed regularly.

[Council conclusions on European 2020 Strategy](#)

## European Financial Stability Facility established



On 7 June, Eurogroup Ministers assessed recent budgetary developments in euro zone Member States and the implications for the euro zone as a whole, with a view to providing orientations towards the formulation of government budgets for 2011. After an unprecedented recession, the euro zone recovery is expected to be gradual. In order to ensure confidence in the sustainability of public finances and thereby financial stability, Ministers have established the European Financial Stability Facility, the object of which is to collect funds and provide loans in conjunction with the IMF to cover the financing needs of euro zone Member States in difficulty, subject to strict policy conditionality.

Following the meeting of the Task Force on economic governance, Herman Van Rompuy, President of the European Council, reported that he will be in a position to make a progress report to the European Council next week, presenting the two points worked on by the group: strengthening the [Financial Stability Pact](#) and reducing competitiveness divergences. [more information](#) and [Herman Van Rompuy remarks](#)

## Certifying sustainable biofuels in the EU



The European Commission encourages industry, European governments and NGOs to set up certification schemes for all types of biofuels, including those imported into the EU. On 10 June it laid down what the schemes must do to be recognised by the Commission. This will help implement the EU's requirements that biofuels must deliver substantial reductions in greenhouse gas emissions and should not come from forests, wetlands and nature protection areas.

Günther Oettinger, Commissioner responsible for Energy, said: *"In the years to come, biofuels are*

*the main alternative to petrol and diesel used in transport, which produces more than 20% of the greenhouse gas emissions in the European Union. We have to ensure that the biofuels used are also sustainable. Our certification scheme is the most stringent in the world and will make sure that our biofuels meet the highest environmental standards. It will have positive effects also on other regions as it covers imported biofuels."*

The package adopted includes an FAQ which will help businesses and Member States to implement the Renewable Energy Directive. It focusses especially on the sustainability criteria for biofuels and what is to be done in order to control that only sustainable biofuels are used.

[European Commission sets up system for certifying sustainable biofuels](#)

## S & T collaboration: EU brings largest-ever delegation to Australia



The European Commission this week brought the largest-ever delegation to Australia for the 11th Joint Science & Technology Cooperation Committee (JSTCC). 14 Commission Officials and several scientific experts visited Melbourne, Sydney and Canberra to take part in Senior Officials Meetings on Science & Innovation.

The EU and Australia signed a [Science & Technology Agreement](#) in 1994 and since then researchers have been collaborating in the EU's Framework Programs and in Australia's research programs. The latest EU Framework Program FP7 is worth EUR53.7bn 2007-2013. So far Australians have taken part in over 100 projects under FP7 worth approximately EUR360mn, with the key areas for collaboration being Health, Food Agriculture and Biotechnology (FAB) and Information Communications Technology.

Ambassador David Daly said *"This is a meeting of minds and when minds meet they don't just exchange facts, they transform them. This is a meeting about challenges, innovation and cooperation."*

Australia's Chief Scientist Penny Sackett opened the official proceedings on 8 June and Deputy Secretary of the Department of Innovation Industry Science & Research, Ms Patricia Kelly, chaired the meeting on 9 June.

The European Commission Delegation is led by Ms Maive Rute, Director of the Food Agriculture and Biotechnology Unit in the European Commission's Directorate General for Research & Technology Development. [JSTCC](#)

## Successful JSTCC in New Zealand



The European Commission brought its largest-ever scientific delegation - 12 Commission Officials and several scientific experts - to New Zealand for this week's 2nd Joint Science & Technology Cooperation Committee Meeting. The EU and New Zealand signed a Science & Technology Cooperation Agreement in July 2008, allowing researchers to collaborate in the EU's Framework Programmes and New Zealand's research programmes. Science & Technology Cooperation is a key objective within the Joint Declaration on

Relations and Cooperation between the European Union and New Zealand. EU Ambassador to New Zealand David Daly said *"This is a meeting of minds and when minds meet they don't just exchange facts, they transform them. This is a meeting about challenges, innovation and cooperation."* Both sides signed a communique afterwards to mark the special occasion.

## New Zealand opens its doors to European raw milk cheeses



Next week, New Zealanders will be able to start enjoying samples of European unpasteurized cheeses, also known as raw milk cheeses. Until now, milk products had to be pasteurized or heat-treated to be sold in New Zealand.

*"This move will be welcomed by cheese aficionados who have long wanted these types of products to be readily available here"* said

George Cunningham, Chargé d'Affaires a.i. at the European Union Delegation to New Zealand.  
[more information](#)

## Wanted: Innovative ideas for applications in Satellite Navigation - €20,000 grand prize



**€1 million in funding and other start-up aid for entrepreneurs in 22 partner regions worldwide including Australia.** The seventh European Satellite Navigation Competition (ESNC) is seeking the best applications in satellite navigation at [www.galileo-masters.eu](http://www.galileo-masters.eu). Until the end of July, innovators all over the world, including Australia, will have the chance to develop their ideas for new products and services based on satellite positioning. Along with the grand prize – €20,000, a place at the I-Lab incubator in Queensland and extensive support in realising the winning idea – this year's competition includes six special topic prizes from partners in research and industry, the first special prize offered to students, and three prizes sponsored in cooperation with the European Network of Living Labs.

Participants can access the ideas database for this year's European Satellite Navigation Competition from [www.galileo-masters.eu](http://www.galileo-masters.eu). All information on the competition, partner regions, and special prizes is also available at this site. [more information](#)

## Science Education: launch of SCIENTIX

The European Commission has launched [Scientix](#), a new web-portal targeted towards teachers, researchers, policy makers, parents and anyone interested in science education. Scientix gives access to teaching materials, research results and policy documents from European science education projects financed by the European Union and by various national initiatives. The new platform will facilitate regular dissemination and sharing of news, know-how, and best practices in science education across the European Union. [Scientix: web-based community for science education](#)

## Iranian nuclear programme

A statement on the Iranian nuclear programme was agreed on 9 June by the Foreign Ministers of China, France, Germany, Russia, the United Kingdom and the United States, with the support of the High Representative of the European Union, Catherine Ashton. The Foreign Ministers reaffirmed their determination and commitment to seek an early negotiated solution to the Iranian nuclear issue, the aim of which is to achieve a comprehensive and long-term settlement which would restore international confidence in the peaceful nature of Iran's nuclear programme, while respecting Iran's legitimate rights to the peaceful use of atomic energy. [read the full statement](#)

## EU to help Palestinian economy: access to EU markets



EU Trade Commissioner Karel De Gucht and Palestinian Minister of National Economy Hasan Abu-Libdeh this week discussed measures to enhance EU-Palestinian bilateral trade relations and to facilitate trade of Palestinian products to EU markets.

Commissioner Karel De Gucht said: *"The European Commission is expected to propose granting duty-free quota-free access for Palestinian exports to the EU in the coming months. This would improve the access of Palestinian exports to EU markets beyond our current free trade agreement and it would help to revamp the private sector. The EU will also continue to support the Palestinian request to become an observer to the World Trade Organisation as a first step towards integration into the multilateral trading system and a key part of the state-building process."* [EC to help Palestinian economy with opening of EU market](#)

*photo: Hasan Abu-Libdeh, on the left, and Karel De Gucht*

## EU-US Draft agreement : Terrorist Financing Tracking Programme

**(TFTP)**

The European Union is close to finalising a draft EU-US Terrorist Financing Tracking Programme (TFTP) Agreement with its US counterparts, which contains significantly stronger data protection guarantees than the earlier draft. It sets out a comprehensive mechanism according to which Europol will verify that US requests for data are within the mandate and that they meet the conditions of the Agreement. Europol will assess whether those data are necessary for the fight against terrorism and its financing before the data is sent to the US. It will also verify whether the request is tailored as narrowly as possible in order to minimise the amount of data transferred. Unjustified requests will be rejected and data will not be transferred. Already in the interim agreement, access to individual data has to be related to an ongoing investigation on terrorism. [press statement](#)

picture: Cecilia Malmström, Member of the European Commission responsible for Home Affairs, at the launch in Brussels of the draft agreement with the United States on the TFTP.

**Europe launches major joint research effort to ensure food security**

contribute around €2 million.

Twelve top scientists met in Paris on 10 June to prepare a European-level work programme to coordinate nationally funded research aimed at securing a safe and sustainable food supply. This initiative involves twenty European countries overall and is jointly led by France and the UK. It will bring together researchers, improve the effectiveness of national funding totalling over a billion euro annually, share existing research results and coordinate future work to avoid duplication and maximise value for money. The European Commission will also

European Commissioner for Research, Innovation and Science, Máire Geoghegan-Quinn says: *"Food security is a stark matter of life and death and without it there is no other kind of security. Quite rightly, billions of euro are being invested by public and private sector in tackling this huge challenge. But no one Member State can succeed on its own. We can only get full value for public research funds by working together. This Joint Programming Initiative will help replace fragmentation and duplication with coherence and coordination and will therefore be a major contribution to the Europe 2020 Strategy."* [Europe launches major joint research effort to ensure food security](#)

**Quality of budgetary statistics**

Recent corrections to previously announced government deficit figures notified by one member state have demonstrated the need to strengthen the monitoring of the quality of budgetary statistics data reported to Eurostat (the statistical office of the EU) in the context of the excessive deficit procedure. On 8 June, the Ecofin Council agreed on a general approach regarding a regulation that will facilitate this. The aim of the instrument is to allow the member states and the Commission to work together more effectively in improving the quality and reliability of statistical data used to determine government deficit and debt figures. The new regulation will give the Commission (Eurostat) more powers to verify the quality of data in cases where significant risks or problems with respect to the quality of the data have been clearly identified.

More information:

[Press release](#)

[Webcast of press conference](#)

**FIFA World Cup on 11 June**

European Commission President Barroso, in Addis Adaba on 8 June for the European Commission - Africa Union meeting, congratulated South Africa on hosting the FIFA World Cup, saying *"The hearts of millions of people around the world will start beating faster on 11*

*June when the Football World Cup begins in South Africa. I am convinced that football is more than a sport: it is a universal language, an language that helps people from different cultures and backgrounds to unite. Borders of culture, of language and of nationality will be forgotten thanks to the World Cup". [Message of President Barroso ahead of the start of the FIFA World Cup on 11 June 2010](#)*

## European Integration at 60: Progress, Problems, Perspectives



25-26 November 2010, Lincoln University, Canterbury, New Zealand. Call for papers. Abstracts of 300 words should be submitted online by 1 August 2010. Please go to [www.eucnetwork.org.au](http://www.eucnetwork.org.au).

This is a multidisciplinary conference to investigate the past changes and future challenges faced by European integration, as well as the impact and reaction to these changes within the Asia Pacific. More

information: [European Integration at 60: call for papers](#)

## Academic news and events

Applications for the **Go8-Germany Joint Research Co-operation Scheme** close on 30 June 2010. Since 2008 this scheme has provided over \$3 million to support research exchange, particularly for early career researchers, between Australia and Germany. The funding has supported 90 projects on issues ranging from renewable energy and emissions trading to ageing and integration of migrants. Further details including application and selection procedures and are available from the Go8 website at: [www.go8.edu.au/university-staff/programs-afellowships/64-go8-germany-joint-researchco-operation-scheme](http://www.go8.edu.au/university-staff/programs-afellowships/64-go8-germany-joint-researchco-operation-scheme)

**Criminal Justice Cooperation: Comparing European, United States, Asia-Pacific and Australian Approaches. 4 and 5 October 2010, University of Canberra (tbc).** International conference, preliminary notice and call for papers. More information from <http://www.canberra.edu.au/faculties/law/crossing-borders-conference>

The ANU Centre for European Studies is offering a **PhD scholarship** for a student to undertake a doctoral program funded by a grant from the European Union. The project will support the Centre's aim to promote the study of the European Union in one of the following general areas: law, politics, history, culture, business, economics and Europe's role in the Asia Pacific. The applicant will hold an Honours Degree in a relevant discipline. The Scholarship is only open to Australian and New Zealand citizens and to Australian permanent residents. The Scholarship provides a tax free stipend of \$22,500 per year for three years. Applications close on 30 June 2010. Further information is available from Professor Paul Pickering 02 6125 3451 or [paul.pickering@anu.edu.au](mailto:paul.pickering@anu.edu.au) or the website at <http://ces.anu.edu.au/>

## EU tube: Audiovisual library



EU Tube : The EC Audiovisual Library. We offer you access to the most extensive library of audiovisual documents in existence on the construction of the European Union. They are witness to the history of Europe from the first steps of the Common Market until the era of peace, security, prosperity and solidarity of the European Union today. This is part of Europe's living memory available not only to journalists, but also to anyone wishing to view the key moments of Community history. <http://ec.europa.eu/avservices/video/video.cfm?sitelang=f...>

[see EUtube](#)

## European Union Delegation: publications available online



EU Insight: Education

The following publications are available from our website. If, however, you would like to receive hard copies of any of these publications, please send an email to [delegation-australia@ec.europa.eu](mailto:delegation-australia@ec.europa.eu) specifying the name of the publication(s) and the number you would like to receive.

[Study in Europe 2010](#)  
[Key Facts 2010](#)

[EU Insight: Lisbon Treaty](#)  
[European Union Australia Partnership Framework](#)  
[EU Insight: Climate change](#)  
[EU Insight: Economic relationship](#)

## Upcoming events: Australia

**Touring French Film Festival** June- 18 July 2010, venues and dates: AF Sunshine Coast 2 - 4 July, AF Cairns 16 - 18 July. Also screening in Tamworth (18 - 20 June) and Orange (25 - 27 June). Refer to Alliance Francaise websites for full details <http://www.alliancefrancaise.com.au/>

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**Winter Lantern Walk** – a German tradition held in Glebe Park, Canberra, hosted by Spielwelt German Parents Association. Sunday 20 June 6 to 7.30pm. Email [spielwelt@homemail.com.au](mailto:spielwelt@homemail.com.au)

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Far Away So Close - German Life and History in Australia: Exhibition, Sydney, until- 2 July 2010 . free entry . [further information](#)

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**HIJACKED 2** Australian and German Photography/Exhibition 11 June 2010 - 17 July 2010  
 Australian Centre for Photography 257 Oxford Street, Paddington NSW 2021. free entry. [further information](#)

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**57th Sydney Film Festival**, German films until 14 June 2010 - State Theatre, Dendy Opera Quays, George Street Cinemas, Sydney Opera House, AGNSW . Language: English subtitled  
[further information](#)

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**Melbourne Winter Masterpieces:** European Masters Städel Museum, 19th-20th Century  
 Exhibition. 19 June 2010 - 10 October 2010, National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne. [further information](#)

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**Schrebergarten Exhibition** until 30 September 2010, Goethe-Institut Australien, Melbourne. Free entry. [further information](#)

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Meg Stuart & Philipp Gehmacher: **MAYBE FOREVER** .presented by the Malthouse Theatre and Goethe-Institut, Dance. 23 June 2010 - 26 June 2010, 7.30pm. Malthouse Theatre, Melbourne  
[further information](#)

[More events](#)

## Upcoming events in New Zealand

Gateway to the EU in New Zealand <http://www.eu.org.nz/>

For more information on the items covered in [news@eu](mailto:news@eu), contact Roger Camilleri +61 2 6271 2744 [roger.camilleri@ec.europa.eu](mailto:roger.camilleri@ec.europa.eu) or Jan Skorich +61 2 62712747 [jan.skorich@ec.europa.eu](mailto:jan.skorich@ec.europa.eu) .

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