




[Visit website: Australia](#) | [Contact Australia](#) | [Visit New Zealand](#) | [Contact New Zealand](#)

Issue Date: 1 July 2010  [Send to a Friend](#)

[subscribe Australia](#) / [Update your profile Australia](#) / [subscribe New Zealand](#) / [Update profile NZ](#)

To read this newsletter online, or to download pdf version, please [click here](#)

## G20 Summit: securing strong and sustainable growth



Following the summit meeting of the G20 in Toronto, European Council President Van Rompuy and European Commission President Barroso together made a statement saying in part *“The G20 has proven to be what it said it would be: the premier forum for international economic cooperation. We have kept the momentum for global coordination on economic matters, delivering on a number of Pittsburgh commitments and setting the agenda for Seoul. G20 leaders have demonstrated clear common resolve to create strong, sustainable and balanced global growth. The EU came to Toronto with a clear agenda. The Summit’s result reflects widespread convergence around Europe’s approach. We all agreed on the importance of a coordinated approach at global level that combines growthfriendly fiscal consolidation and following through on fiscal stimulus, tailored to national circumstances. Our partners have agreed to concrete minimum targets for deficit reduction and the stabilisation and reduction of debt. On financial sector reform, the EU has worked hard ahead of the Summit to maintain the momentum. In Toronto, the G20 has responded with determination to keep the pace for making the financial sector more resilient to crises and risk.”* [read the full statement](#)

## European Commission President congratulates Australia's new PM

José Manuel Barroso, President of the European Commission, on 29 June sent the following message of congratulations to the newly appointed Prime Minister of Australia, Ms Julia Gillard:

*“I would like to congratulate you on your appointment of Prime Minister of Australia and I wish you every success in the exercise of your mandate.*

*I look forward to working with you and your Government as we continue to strengthen the important bilateral relationship between the European Union and Australia and to meet global challenges, in particular climate change. Both the EU and Australia also have a responsibility to ensure the G-20 process delivers on its efforts to bring the growth and market stability our citizens need to improve global financial and economic governance.”*

## Ambassador presents the Lisbon Treaty to the Australian Parliament



On 16 June, Ambassador David Daly, Head of Delegation of the European Union to Australia, made a presentation to the Joint Parliamentary Standing Committee for Foreign Affairs, Trade and Defence, at Parliament House, Canberra, on the role of the Lisbon Treaty.

Explaining why the Lisbon Treaty matters to Australia and other countries around the world, Ambassador Daly said "*The Lisbon Treaty brings to an end a long period of intense internal institutional discussion about issues of what the EU should be doing and how it should be doing it; of how European citizens can be brought closer to the European project; of how a Europe of 27-30 countries can have better tools to equip it with for the challenges of today's world. These changes will make Europe stronger; more democratic, more efficient and better able to shape the effects of globalisation. For those countries around the world which share the same values as the EU, Lisbon makes Europe a stronger partner.*" [read the full presentation](#)

### Commissioner Vassiliou meets with Ambassador Brendan Nelson

On 21 June, European Commissioner Androulla Vassiliou, responsible for Education, Culture, Multilingualism and Youth, met with the Australian Ambassador to Belgium and the EU, Brendan Nelson, to discuss the progress of the EU- Australia relationship. The discussions were broad ranging and both sides noted the importance of the Partnership Framework and the Declaration of Intent signed in 2007 by Commissioner Figel' and the Australian Minister for Education. Currently the EU and Australia are working on a policy dialogue on qualifications frameworks to take place this year in Europe and at this meeting it was agreed to expand the topics for these dialogues to include early childhood education and care, multilingualism, sport, youth and citizenship. Both sides also agreed to work on a bilateral agreement in education. Currently the EC has Education agreements with the USA and Canada. Both sides underlined the importance of mobility for the advancement of our citizens and societies. In this respect, programmes such as Erasmus, Erasmus Mundus, bilateral projects, Jean Monnet, Marie Curie were cited as good and necessary tools. Ms Vassiliou congratulated Australia on its accession to the UNESCO Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions. This, together with Australia's forthcoming membership of ASEM and ASEF will enable more social and cultural cooperation. Finally, Ambassador Nelson invited the Commissioner to visit Australia next year.

### Belgian Presidency of the Council of the European Union



The Belgian Presidency of the Council of the European Union commences on 1 July, taking over from Spain, who held the Presidency in the first half of 2010. The Presidency this week published the six-month programme of actions to be achieved under the banner "*Europe in Action!*". The Presidency pledged to continue the work done under the Spanish Presidency, with an emphasis on socio-economic priorities, employment, particularly for "green" jobs, a sustainable industrial policy, and teaching and training to ensure a knowledge economy. Bringing about the transformation to a low-carbon economy, by using energy and natural resources as efficiently as possible, represents the major challenge of the coming decade. Therefore, a major part of the EU's efforts will be devoted to the environment and the climate. An attainable goal is to achieve tangible progress and results at the Framework Convention on Climate Change meeting to be held in Cancun in November 2010. In addition, the Belgian Presidency will prepare for the EU's participation in the 10th conference of Parties to the Convention on biological Diversity to be held in Nagoya in October 2010. Other issues covered under the Programme are the fight against terrorism, organised crime, illegal immigration and human trafficking. [Programme of the Presidency](#)

### Croatia and Turkey move forward on EU accession



On 30 June the tenth meeting of the Accession Conference at Ministerial level between **Croatia** and the Council of the European Union represented a significant milestone in Croatia's accession process to the European Union. The EU closely examined Croatia's general state of preparations in the areas of Competition Policy; Judiciary and Fundamental Rights; and Foreign, Security and Defence Policy. General points raised under these Chapters were a need to improve the efficiency of the judiciary and the handling of domestic war crimes cases; protection of minorities, settling

outstanding refugee return issues and improving protection of human rights. [Tenth meeting of the Accession Conference at Ministerial level with Croatia](#)

On the same day, the ninth Accession Conference at Ministerial level with **Turkey** met to examine Turkey's progress towards accession. The Conference opened negotiations on food safety, veterinary and phytosanitary policy, thus further advancing the negotiating process. Noted by the Union was the requirement for Turkey to submit an approved national programme for the upgrading of establishments for products of animal origin, and to fulfil its obligation related to animal disease notification. [Ninth meeting of the Accession Conference at Ministerial level with Turkey](#)

*Picture, from left to right: Mr Mehmet Mehdi Eker, Turkish Minister of Agriculture and Rural Affairs, Mr Egemen Bagis, Turkish Minister for EU Affairs, Mr Ahmet Dabutoglu, Turkish Minister for Foreign Affairs, Mr Miguel Angel Moratinos, Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs, President of the Council, Commissioner Stefan Fule*

## EU-OPEC Energy Dialogue



The 7<sup>th</sup> annual Ministerial-level meeting of the Energy Dialogue between the European Union and the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) took place in Brussels on 28 June. Reiterating their commitment to stable, transparent and predictable oil markets, both OPEC and the EU noted that fossils fuels would continue to meet most of the world's energy needs, with oil playing the leading role. They also recognised the benefits and increasing importance of the Joint Oil Data Initiative, and reaffirmed their commitment to the principles of sustainable development, with its pillars of economic development, social progress and protection of the environment, as well as recognition of the special needs of the world's poorest communities.

The 8<sup>th</sup> EU-OPEC Ministerial Meeting is scheduled to take place in June 2011 in Vienna. [EU-OPEC Energy Dialogue 7th Meeting Brussels, Joint Conclusions](#)

## Israel-Palestinian proximity peace talks

Catherine Ashton, the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy and Vice-President of the Commission, said on 30 June that she is deeply concerned by recent settlement-related activity in East Jerusalem and the recent unrest in Silwan. *"I recall that the European Union has never recognised the annexation of East Jerusalem. Settlements and the demolition of homes are illegal under international law, constitute an obstacle to peace and threaten to make a two-state solution impossible. If there is to be genuine peace, a way must be found through negotiations to resolve the status of Jerusalem as the future capital of two states. I would like to call on Israel to refrain from measures which may undermine the ongoing proximity talks. These talks enjoy our full support and the parties need to engage seriously in these negotiations."* said Ms Ashton. [Israel-Palestine peace talks](#)

## European Union action helps the poorest countries to develop

The European Commission this week published its 2010 Annual Report on the implementation of EU's development and external assistance policies in 2009. Programmes and projects led by the Commission reached around 140 developing countries. Specific instruments were set up to help the world's poorest to face the triple economic, food and environmental crisis, and has delivered results: more than 50 million people are receiving assistance from the EU Food Facility; and the budgets of 15 countries in Africa, Caribbean and the Pacific were supported to help them resist to the pressure of the economic crisis. The EU agreed a 'fast-start' funding of €2.4 billion annually for 2010-2012 to assist developing countries in adapting to climate change. The European Union is the largest provider of development aid in the world, with commitments by the European Commission amounting to €12 billion, and plays a leading role in coordinating EU efforts to make aid more effective. External aid represents 9% (€12 billion) of the total EU budget (€143 billion). [2010 European aid report: EU action helps the poorest countries to develop](#)

## Europe remains the world's top tourist destination

Europe is the world's top tourist destination, with 370 million international arrivals in 2008, 40% of

the global figure. The Lisbon Treaty brings new opportunities for Europe to remain in the top spot, as it sets a community framework for tourism for the first time. With this in mind, the European Commission issued a [communication](#) on 30 June outlining actions aimed at enhancing tourists' European experiences, while promoting sustainable, responsible and quality-oriented tourism.

Meanwhile, passengers will enjoy easier access to information about their rights when travelling by rail or air thanks to a Europe-wide publicity campaign in 23 languages launched by the European Commission. Although the Commission has in recent years introduced legislation to ensure air and rail passengers benefit from the same standards of treatment throughout the European Union, not all passengers are yet aware of what they are entitled to. To remedy this, posters reminding people of their rights will be displayed in airports and train stations in all Member States in time for the holiday season. Vice-President Siim Kallas, responsible for transport, said: *"There can never be too much information. We hope that with eye catching posters in airports across Europe, and using leaflets and online information all EU languages we can reach out to millions of passengers travelling this summer and in the months to come."* [Your Passenger Rights at Hand](#)

### New EU organic logo from 1 July



New European Union rules on organic food labelling, including the requirement to display the new EU organic logo, entered into force on 1 July, 2010. The "Euro-Leaf" will now be obligatory on pre-packaged organic food products that have been produced in any of EU Member States and meet the necessary standards. In addition to the logo, the new labelling rules also include the compulsory indications of place of farming of the products' ingredients and code number of the body in charge of the controls. Operators have a two-year transition period to comply with these new labeling rules. Another change is the introduction of EU rules for organic aquaculture for the first time.

The "Euro-leaf" design shows the EU stars in the shape of a leaf against a green background passing two clear messages for consumers: Nature and Europe. The design has been registered by the Commission as a collective trade mark. Designed by German student Dušan Milenković, the logo emerged as the clear winner of an on-line poll, following a competition aimed at EU art students. [New EU labelling rules](#)

### Toolbox for economic governance



The European Commission adopted a [Communication on EU economic governance](#) aimed at creating one single and integrated surveillance system for fiscal, economic and structural performance. Olli Rehn, European Commissioner for Economic and Monetary Policy, presenting the communication at a press conference, said *"We want to reinforce economic pillar of the EMU and the economic governance in Europe in order to create solid and lasting foundations for sustainable growth and job creation. Without determined fiscal consolidation, structural reform and sustainable growth, our model of social market economy is at serious risk. It is a matter of future welfare and security of children and grandchildren."* [read the full proposal](#)

### EU Economy



Based on first preliminary estimates for 2009, **Gross Domestic Product** (GDP) per inhabitant expressed in Purchasing Power Standards (PPS) varied from 41% to 268% of the EU27 average across the Member States. In Finland, France, Spain, Italy, Cyprus and Greece, GDP per inhabitant was within 10% of the EU27 average. Ireland, the Netherlands, Austria, Sweden, Denmark, the United Kingdom, Germany and Belgium were between 15% and 35% above the average, while the highest level of GDP per inhabitant in the EU27 was recorded in Luxembourg.

In April 2010 compared with March 2010, the euro area (EA16) **industrial new orders** index rose by 0.9%. In March the index increased by 5.1%. In the EU27, new orders decreased by 0.2% in

April 2010, after a rise of 7.1% in March.

In 2009, EU27 FDI (**foreign direct investment**) in extra-EU27 countries (outflows) fell by 24%, from 348 billion euro in 2008 to 263 bn in 2009, while FDI into the EU27 from the rest of the world (inflows) increased by 12%, from 199 bn to 222 bn. [Eurostats](#)

## EU tube: Global Navigation Satellite Systems



EU Tube : **Global Navigation Satellite Systems (GNSS)**

**Applications** – ( June 22, 2010). Are you ready to exploit the potential of applications based on EGNOS and Galileo global satellite navigation systems? The European Commission wishes to place European industry in pole position to avail of great business opportunities thanks to the European radionavigation programmes. Be innovative and develop your business further by benefitting in particular from the support of the European Commission through its 2010-2013 EU Action Plan on GNSS applications. <http://www.youtube.com/user/eutube#p/a/u/1/qKkErznRaEI>

[see EUtube](#)

## Academic news and events

**€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. 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. Participants can access the ideas database for this year's European Satellite Navigation Competition from [www.galileo-masters.eu](http://www.galileo-masters.eu) .

**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) .

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

## European Union Delegation: publications available online



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

## Upcoming events: Australia

**Rap Tour: Damion Davis & Nico Suave, Concerts,** 20 July 2010 – 5 August 2010. Perth, Adelaide, Brisbane, Bundaberg, Melbourne, Launceston, **HobartHip-Hop Made in Germany.** [further information](#)

**Zeitgeist Becomes Form: German Fashion Photography 1945-1995** / Exhibition 23 July 2010 - 28 Aug 2010 . Australian Centre for Photography, 257 Oxford Street, Paddington NSW 2021. [further information](#)

**The power of language in images** Exhibition, 19 July 2010 - 10 September 2010, Goethe-Institut

Australien, Sydney [further information](#)

---

**Help me I am blind** - Heidi Specker and Theo Deutinger, Exhibition, 23 July 2010 - 11 September 2010, 344 Swanston Street, Melbourne, Victoria. [further information](#)

---

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

---

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

---

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

---

**Schrebergarten Exhibition** until 30 September 2010, Goethe-Institut Australien, Melbourne. Free entry. [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) .

 [Send to a Friend](#)

While the Commission aims to keep its network free from viruses, you are strongly encouraged to check this email and any attachments to it for viruses, as the Commission accepts no responsibility with regard to any computer virus transferred by way of this email.

*Copyright 2010. Please properly accredit the Delegation of the European Union to Australia and New Zealand when reproducing any of the content of [news@eu](mailto:news@eu).*