



European Union  
Delegation to the Republic of South Africa

# EU Perspectives

*Regular publication that seeks to provide information  
on EU-related activities of interest to SA readers*



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## Top News

### [President Barroso appeals for national and political unity in Greece \(02/11/11\)](#)

Arriving at the G20 in Cannes, European Commission President Barroso made the following statement: 'I call on the government and the political leaders of Greece to show that they are ready to work for national political unity and for achieving the broad support needed for the implementation of the programme. Indeed, the Commission has been asking for this kind of support since the beginning of the crisis'. See also: [Joint Barroso/Van Rompuy statement on Greek intention to hold referendum](#)



Greek Prime Minister George Papandreou arriving at the G20 Summit in Cannes

### [Joint letter by Pres Van Rompuy and Pres Barroso to G20 leaders \(30/10/11\)](#)

'The decisions we have taken in our G20 Summits to date have been crucial in steering us through the global financial and economic crisis ... In the current economic situation, with world growth slowing and the global economic outlook deteriorating, we need to renew this collective G20 spirit. So our overall objectives for the Cannes G20 Summit should be to help restore global confidence, support sustainable growth and job creation, and maintain financial stability'.

### [Statement by HRVP Ashton on agreement in Kimberley Process on Marange diamonds \(01/11/11\)](#)

HRVP Catherine Ashton (High Representative for Foreign Affairs & Security Policy / Vice-President of the European Commission) noted: "I welcome the agreement reached during the Kimberley Process Plenary meeting in Kinshasa as a way forward for the KP in relation to Marange diamonds from Zimbabwe."

### [HRVP Ashton visits areas hit by the March earthquake and tsunami in Japan \(03/11/11\)](#)

Visiting Miyagi Prefecture, HRVP Ashton said: "I met volunteers from all over Japan who are helping out - some even left their jobs to be there. And I spoke to survivors who are rebuilding their lives with hope for the future. I was impressed by the resilience of the people and their courage and determination in facing the challenges of recovery after the disaster".

See also: [Statement by HR/VP Ashton following talks with Japan's Minister of Foreign Affairs \(02/11/11\)](#)

### [New EU study shows significant economic benefits from a Doha deal \(31/10/11\)](#)

A new study shows that the economic benefits arising from the Doha Development Agenda (DDA) negotiations in the World Trade Organisation amount to an increase of world exports of \$359bn on an annual basis from a deal on the liberalisation of industrial goods, agriculture, services and on the removal of red tape.

### [Statement by HRVP Ashton on Constituent Assembly Elections in Tunisia \(28/10/11\)](#)

In the issued statement, HRVP Ashton, and Štefan Füle (Commissioner for Enlargement & European Neighbourhood Policy) note: "The EU looks forward to working closely with the new Constituent Assembly and the Tunisian authorities and institutions in responding to the Tunisian people's demands for democracy, freedom, social justice and dignity."

### [Arab Spring wins Sakharov Prize 2011 \(27/10/11\)](#)



The European Parliament's Sakharov Prize in 2011 goes to five representatives of the Arab people, in recognition and support of their drive for freedom and human rights. It

will be presented to the winners by President Jerzy Buzek at Parliament's formal session in Strasbourg, on 14 December.

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