

Solemn Declaration on European Union: excerpt on the European Council (Stuttgart, 19 June 1983)

Caption: On 19 June in Stuttgart, the 10 Heads of State and Government signed the Solemn Declaration on European Union. This Declaration deals with, among other issues, the composition, the operation and the role of the European Council.

Source: Bulletin of the European Communities. Dir. of publ. Commission of the European Communities. June 1983, n° 6. Luxembourg: Office for Official Publications of the European Communities. "Solemn Declaration on European Union", p. 25-26.

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http://www.cvce.eu/obj/solemn_declaration_on_european_union_excerpt_on_the_european_council_stuttgart_19_june_1983-en-9b1d53ce-7d02-4098-a9cc-08dce7c3d8b5.html

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Solemn Declaration on European Union

[...]

2.1 The European Council

2.1.1 The European Council brings together the Heads of State or Government and the President of the Commission assisted by the Foreign Ministers of the Member States and a member of the Commission.

2.1.2 In the perspective of European Union, the European Council

- provides a general political impetus to the construction of Europe;
- defines approaches to further the construction of Europe and issues general political guidelines for the European Communities and European Political Cooperation;
- deliberates upon matters concerning European Union in its different aspects with due regard to consistency among them;
- initiates cooperation in new areas of activity;
- solemnly expresses the common position in questions of external relations.

2.1.3 When the European Council acts in matters within the scope of the European Communities, it does so in its capacity as the Council within the meaning of the Treaties.

2.1.4 The European Council will address a report to the European Parliament after each of its meetings. This report will be presented at least once during each Presidency by the President of the European Council.

The European Council will also address a written annual report to the European Parliament on progress towards European Union.

In the debates to which these reports give rise, the European Council will normally be represented by its President or one of its members.

[...]