

**DOCUMENTS RELATING TO THE NAMES OF THE
COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION
EUROPEAN COMMISSION**

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This is a collection of documents relating to the changes in names of the Commission and Council following the entry into force of the Maastricht Treaty on European Union on November 1, 1993.

The legal name of the Commission derives from the Treaty establishing a Single Council and a Single Commission of the European Communities, Article 9, popularly known as the "Merger Treaty". Nothing in any Treaty since, including Maastricht or Amsterdam, has altered the legal name of the Commission.

In its 1177th meeting on 17 November 1993, the Commission unilaterally decided to refer to itself as the "European Commission" in all but legal or formal contexts. The basis of the decision was a Communication from President Delors, SEC (93)1788 of 9 November 1993.

The "Merger Treaty" also establishes the Council of the European Communities. The Council decided at its November 8-9, 1993 (General Affairs) meeting to change its name. That decision was published in *Official Journal L 281*, November 16, 1993, page 18.



europaean union

NEWS

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POST-MAASTRICHT: EC NOW NAMED EUROPEAN UNION

The entry into force of the Maastricht Treaty on European Union on November 1, 1993 has introduced some changes in terminology regarding the European Community and some of its institutions.

For your guidance:

The European Union is now the umbrella term referring to a three "pillar" construction encompassing the European Community (EC) and the two new pillars - Common Foreign and Security Policy (including defense) and Justice and Home Affairs (notably cooperation between police and other authorities on crime, terrorism, and immigration issues).

The European Community: the EC continues to exist as a legal entity within the broader framework of the Union. As before, it encompasses all policies derived from the founding Treaties, such as the single market. However, the European Union will always be the easiest term to use, in view of the difficulties of delineating what is strictly EC or Union business.

The Council of Ministers of the European Union: this decision-making body took the decision November 8 to change its name from the Council of Ministers of the European Communities to the EU Council of Ministers.

The European Council: which convenes heads of state or government of the member states for a twice-yearly summit, retains its name.

The European Commission: on November 17 the EC Commission decided to use European Commission in all but legal and formal contexts (where it is still called the Commission of the European Communities). Beginning January 1995, Commission terms will be five years instead of four.

The European Parliament: the directly-elected Parliament, which has gained co-decision powers under the Maastricht Treaty, retains its name. It will hold EU-wide elections in June 1994 for 567 seats (as opposed to the present 518). This increase reflects the changes due to the unification of Germany.

The European Court of Justice: the Court, which comprises 13 judges who adjudicate disputes regarding application of the Treaties, retains its name.

The Court of Auditors: the Court of Auditors, which monitors budget spending, retains its name.

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TREATY
ESTABLISHING A SINGLE COUNCIL AND
A SINGLE COMMISSION OF THE
EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES
AND
ANNEXED DOCUMENTS

DECISION

by the Representatives of the Governments of the Member States
relating to the provisional installation of certain
Institutions and services of the Communities

CHAPTER I

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

Article 1

A Council of the European Communities, hereinafter referred to as «the Council», is hereby established. This Council shall take the place of the Special Council of Ministers of the European Coal and Steel Community, of the Council of the European Economic Community and of the Council of the European Atomic Energy Community.

The Council shall exercise the powers and competences devolving upon these institutions under the conditions laid down in the Treaties establishing respectively the European Coal and Steel Community, the European Economic Community and the European Atomic Energy Community, as also in the present Treaty.

Article 2

The Council shall consist of representatives of the Member States. Each Government shall delegate to it one of its members.

The Office of the President shall be exercised for a term of six months by each member of the Council in rotation and in the following order : Belgium, Germany, France, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands.

Article 3

Meetings of the Council shall be called by the President on his own initiative, or at the request of a member or of the Commission.

CHAPTER II

THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

Article 9

A Commission of the European Communities, hereinafter referred to as "the Commission", is hereby established. This Commission shall take the place of the High Authority of the European Coal and Steel Community, of the Commission of the European Economic Community and of the Commission of the European Atomic Energy Community.

The Commission shall exercise the powers and competences devolving upon these institutions under the conditions laid down in the Treaties establishing respectively the European Coal and Steel Community, the European Economic Community and the European Atomic Energy Community, as also in the present Treaty.

Article 10

1. The Commission shall consist of nine members, who shall be chosen on the grounds of their general competence and whose independence can be fully guaranteed.

The number of members of the Commission may be amended by the Council, acting unanimously.

TEXTE E

TRAITE SUR L'UNION EUROPÉENNE : PRESENTATION DE LA COMMISSION ET DE L'UNION EUROPÉENNE

Communication de M. le PRESIDENT, en accord avec M. VAN MIERT

- Cette question est susceptible d'être inscrite à l'ordre du jour d'une
prochaine réunion de la Commission.

Destinataires : Membres de la Commission
MM. WILLIAMSON, BURGHARDT, DE KOSTER, DEWOST

**Treaty on European Union:
Designation of the Commission and reference to European Union**

Memorandum from Mr Delors,
in agreement with Mr Van Miert

Since the Treaty on European Union came into force on 1 November, the Commission needs to define its position on the following points:

1. Title of the Commission. The Union Treaty does not change the name of the Commission: it will continue to be called "Commission of the European Communities", as laid down in the Merger Treaty (Article 9). The Union Treaty changes the name of one of the Communities only: under the terms of Article G, the European Economic Community becomes the European Community. This being so,
 - the name "Commission of the European Communities" should be kept for all formal and legal Community communications; this is the only legally correct designation;
 - however, the Commission may decide to use the shortened form "European Commission" (or, if the context is clear, "Commission") in other, routine communications and on its headed notepaper.

The Commission is asked to decide accordingly.

2. European Union. The Council has decided to refer to itself as the "Council of the European Union". When the Presidency participates in international gatherings it will in future speak on behalf of "the European Union".

The Commission must also decide whether to use the expression "European Union" in certain circumstances, in addition to the name "European Commission".

The question arises above all in the context of the Commission's activities related to the second and third pillars (common foreign and security policy and cooperation in the fields of justice and home affairs) of the Union Treaty, as regards delegations in non-member countries, for instance. In order to point up the importance of the Treaty in these areas and to demonstrate that the Commission is fully associated with this work, delegations might be authorized to refer to themselves as follows:

"European Union
Commission Delegation in [Austria]".

The Commission is asked to take these decisions of principle and to authorize Mr Delors, in agreement with Mr Van Miert and Mr van den Broek, to give effect to them, on the understanding that this should be done in such a way as to avoid any waste of resources and stocks.

PV(93) 1177

COMMISSION DES COMMUNAUTÉS EUROPÉENNES

Secrétariat général

PV(93) 1177

Bruxelles, le 19 novembre 1993

Première diffusion

DOCUMENT INTERNE

PROJET DE PROCÈS-VERBAL
de la 1177ème réunion de la Commission
tenue à Strasbourg
(Palais de l'Europe)
le mardi 16 novembre 1993
(après-midi)
et le mercredi 17 novembre 1993
(après-midi)

33.1 TRAITÉ SUR L'UNION EUROPÉENNE - PRÉSENTATION DE LA COMMISSION ET DE L'UNION
EUROPÉENNE (SEC(93) 1788)

La Commission adopte les décisions de principe proposées au document SEC(93) 1788. Elle décide que les Délégations de la Commission s'intituleront "Délégations de la Commission européenne". Elle habilite M. le PRESIDENT, en accord avec M. VAN MIERT et M. VAN DEN BROEK, à prendre les mesures de mise en oeuvre de ces décisions.

PRESS RELEASE

9622/93 (Presse 178)

1699th meeting of the Council

- GENERAL AFFAIRS -

Brussels, 8 and 9 November 1993

President: Mr Willy CLAES
Minister for Foreign Affairs
of the Kingdom of Belgium

**TITLE OF THE COUNCIL FOLLOWING THE ENTRY INTO FORCE OF THE TREATY ON
EUROPEAN UNION**

The Council adopted the following Decision:

The Council shall henceforth be called "Council of the European Union" and shall be so designated in particular in all the acts it adopts, including those under Titles V and VI of the TEU; the political statements which the Council adopts under the CFSP shall accordingly be made in the name of the "European Union".

II

(Acts whose publication is not obligatory)

COUNCIL

COUNCIL DECISION

of 8 November 1993

concerning the name to be given to the Council following the entry into force of the Treaty on European Union

(93/591)

The Council shall henceforth be called the 'Council of the European Union' and shall be so designated, in particular in all the acts which it adopts, including those adopted under Titles V and VI of the Treaty on European Union; political declarations which the Council adopts under the common foreign and security policy will thus be made in the name of 'the European Union'.

Done at Brussels, 8 November 1993.

For the Council

The President

W. CLAES