EUROPEAN COMMISSION
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European Council: all arrivals

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EU leaders are meeting in Brussels on 07 and 08 February, with a major item on their agenda being the EU's budget for 2014-2020, known as the Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF). It is hoped that the leaders can agree their view the overall framework for the MFF, including the total overall budget (c. €1,000,000,000,000) as well the breakdown of this amount across a group of spending areas. These spending areas include growth and competitiveness, cohesion policy, agriculture and fisheries, research, environment, justice & home affairs and foreign affairs. If the European Council agrees its position on the MFF, the Irish Presidency will have the responsibility of engaging with the European Parliament on agreeing the overall budget. In partnership with the European Parliament, the Presidency will also manage negotiations on the c. 70 pieces of individual legislation needed to mobilise this funding in the interests of stability, jobs and growth

Only the original language version is authentic and it prevails in the event of its differing from the translated versions.

TIME	DESCRIPTION	DURATION
00:00:00	Title	00:00:05
00:00:05	Arrival of Mario Monti, Italian Prime Minister	00:00:09
00:00:14	SOUNDBITE (in Italian) by Mario Monti, Prime Minister of Italy: We'll discuss the MFF, a very important subject, hoping to get agreement today. This agreement should have 2 characteristics: coherent with the priority of growth and it means making Europe more integrated -on things such as transborder energy and traffic networks. And secondly it should be balanced, in terms of redistribution among countries. Growth and equity are ingredients to make EU progress. We will fight so that those things can happen. We hope that there will be an agreement today.	00:01:01
00:01:15	Arrival of Petr Necas, Czech Prime Minister	00:00:15
00:01:30	Arrival of Robert Fico, Slovakian Prime Minister	00:00:15
00:01:45	Arrival of Janez Jansa, Slovenian Prime Minister	00:00:08
00:01:53	Arrival of Lawrence Gonzi, Maltese Prime Minister	00:00:19

00:02:12	Arrival of Arrival of Boyko Borissov, Bulgarian Prime Minister	00:00:09
00:02:21	SOUNDBITE (in Bulgarian) by Boyko Borissov	00:00:48
00:03:09	Arrival of François Hollande, French President	00:00:13
00:03:22	SOUNDBITE (in French) by François Hollande, President of France: France is always concious about sparing. But at the same time, we should not weaken the economy. So, I come here to find a deal. We need to see if it's possible. If there are those who are not reasonable, I'll try to reason with them, but until a certain extent. If Europe needed to abandon its common policy, damage agriculture and ignore growth so that it could have an agreement in any case, I would not agree with that.	00:00:40
00:04:02	Arrival of David Cameron, UK Prime Minister	00:00:12
00:04:14	SOUNDBITE (in English) by David Cameron, Prime Minister of the United Kingdom: What we are talking about here is what the EU is allowed to spend in the next 7 years. And, frankly, the EU should not be immune from the sort of pressures that we've had to reduce spending, find efficiencies and spend wisely. They all having to do right across Europe. When we were here in November the numbers that were put forward were much too high. They need to come down, and if they don't, there won't be a deal.	00:00:38
00:04:52	Arrival of Mariano Rajoy, Spanish Prime Minister	00:00:13
00:05:05	Arrival of Viktor Orban, Hungarian Prime Minister	00:00:13
00:05:18	Arrival of Zoran Milanovic, Croatian Prime Minister	00:00:11
00:05:29	Arrival of Valdis Dombrovskis, Latvian Prime Minister	00:00:15
00:05:44	Arrival of Donald Tusk, Polish Prime Minister	00:00:12
00:05:56	Arrival of Antonis Samaras Greek Prime Minister and SOUNDBITE (in English): Fiscal consolidation and structural reforms are on the way in Greece, the main target now is recovery and growth. Therefore structural funds is a guarantee for this success, both for Greece and Europe.	00:00:37

00:06:33	Arrival and SOUNDBITE (in German) by Angela Merkel, Federal Chancellor of Germany: We meet today and tomorrow in order to try and reach an agreement on the Multiannual Financial Framework and then make a proposal to the European Parliament. Whether this is going to happen is not sure yet, there are still different opinions. From the German point of view, I say that we must do everything to reach an agreement, because the current financial insecurity and unemployment mean that planning is very important in order to both be careful with expenditure and ensure solidarity between net contributor and recepient countries.I cannot say yet if we will conlcude with a common position or reach a point where each time new annual charts for the budget have to be made, hopefully we will produce a common result.	00:01:25
00:07:58	Arrival of José Manuel Barroso, President of the EC	00:00:13
00:08:11	SOUNDBITE (in Dutch) by Mark Rutte, Prime Minister of the Netherlands: We want to make sure we keep our rebate, we want to modernise the budget as well, to invest in areas such as innovation and research, and we want to lower the total amount.	00:00:25
00:08:36	Arrival of Andrus Ansip, Estonian Prime Minister	00:00:12
00:08:48	Arrival of Jean-Claude Juncker, Luxembourg Prime Minister	00:00:09
00:08:57	SOUNDBITE (in French) Jean-Claude Juncker, Prime Minister of Luxembourg: I would not protest in the beginning of the meeting that someone expresses his own view. We need to find a solution.	00:00:16
00:09:13	SOUNDBITE (in English) Jyrki Katainen, Prime Minister of Finland: I don't know what has to happen so that we have a deal. I think that there will be a deal, because everybody knows that we have been coming a long way. We have had a chance to have bilateral discussions. For me it seems very difficult to expect that if we had more time that things would get easier. So, everybody must be ready to give up something because if the overal size of the package is smaller than during the last 7 years everyone understands that we have to be ready to compromise. But I'm not 100 percent sure if this is possible.	00:00:47

00:10:00	Arrival and SOUNDBITE (in French) Elio Di Rupo, Prime Minister of Belgium: The proposal is not balanced because 8 years after the last budget, we want to reduce the envelope, and the more we reduce the budget the less the EU will be able to help those in difficulties. Without an EU policy in the industrial sector, for instance, we'll have even bigger problems.	00:01:06
00:11:06	Arrival and SOUNDBITE (in English) by Fredrik Reinfeldt, Prime Minister of Sweden: It hasn't started yet (the Summit). It's a balancing act, it will come down to seeing common European interest and understand that at the same time there are 27 countries, that have different needs. Sweeden needs a substantial rebate. We are one of the biggest net contributors to the budget and we accept that. But in order for the tax payers to support that we need a substantial rebate.	00:00:42
00:11:48	Arrival and SOUNDBITE (in German) by Martin Schulz, President of the European Parliament: The Union is threatened, even deadly threatened: Europe may disband. The question we need to answer is: which EU do we want? One composed of the individual interests of 27 separate states or rather a European common interest beyond that? I fear that with a position, such as Cameron's, of entering a negotiation saying "ok, this is my position, either you accept it or everything shatters", no compromises can be reached.	00:00:56
00:12:44	Arrival and SOUNDBITE (in English) by Dalia Grybauskaite, President of Lithuania: It's not about more (money for the European Union). It's about how we will use it and if we will be able to agree at all. Europe needs agreement and quality spending. That's, at least from my side, the main priorities for negotiations.	00:00:36
00:13:20	Arrival of Werner Faymann, Austrian Federal Chancellor and SOUNDBITE (German): There is always this risk when we don't see the most important thing: a common agreement. Everyone defends their interest, but the common view matters more. In this time of youth unemployment, it would be a pity not to agree.	00:00:29
00:13:49	Arrival of Helle Thorning-Schmidt, Danish Prime Minister	00:00:09
00:13:58	Arrival of Traian Băsescu, Romanian President	00:00:09

00:14:07	Arrival of Enda Kenny, Irish Prime Minister	00:00:21
00:14:28	SOUNDBITE (in English) by Enda Kenny: In respect of the MFF, I do hope that a deal can be agreed on figures. After all, Ireland holding the presidency (of the EU) can only have a mandate to work with the Parliament if the Council actually agrees on the figures. It may be a long night but I hope that there is a willingness for leaders to recognize that it would not be in Europe's interest not to be able to come to a conclusion on that.	00:00:47
00:15:15	END	00:00:00

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