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Visit of Robert Fico, Slovak Prime Minister, to José Manuel Barroso: extracts from the joint press briefing

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On 8 April 2013, José Manuel Barroso, President of the EC, received the visit of Robert Fico, Slovak Prime Minister, in Brussels. The leaders talked about how to use the Structural and Rural Developments Funds more efficiently. The Funds benefit to the citizens, regions, businesses, economic recovery and job creation. This video shows the press conference given by the two Officials following their meeting.

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

TIME	DESCRIPTION	DURATION
10:00:00	Title	00:00:05
10:00:05	Exterior view of the Berlaymont building	00:00:03
10:00:08	EU and Slovak flags	00:00:04
10:00:12	Joint arrival of José Manuel Barroso, President of the EC, and Robert Fico, Slovak Prime Minister, at the press conference	00:00:05
10:00:18	Cutaway of cameramen	00:00:03
10:00:22	Soundbite by José Manuel Barroso (in ENGLISH): We have talked, for instance, about the Structural and Rural Developments Funds. I believe there is a real need to improve their use in Slovakia. Frankly speaking, there is a risk that Slovakia will not be able to absorb some of the funds in the current programming period. We agreed with the Prime Minister that it is crucial to avoid this risk and to use those funds, which benefit the citizens, regions, businesses and also economic recovery and job creation. For this purpose all possible efforts should be made to avoid losses this year. Commission and Slovak experts are together analysing all possible solutions to improve the absorption of funds and speed up the implementation of cohesion policy programmes.	00:00:51

10:01:14	Soundbite by Robert Fico (in SLOVAK) saying that first of all, he would like to thank José Manuel Barroso for appreciating the efforts that the Slovak government is carrying out with regard to the public finances; He has informed the European Commission that they ended up 2012 with better results than planned as regard as the deficit; He has also repeated their commitment to held deficit at the level of 3 % for 2013 and continue in the consolidation in further years; Therefore they asked the President of the Commission for considering Slovakia to be removed from the countries with Excessive Deficit Procedure; They think Slovakia should get this chance (2 shots)	00:01:06
10:02:21	Soundbite by José Manuel Barroso (in ENGLISH): Growth and job creation, unemployment and social inclusion remain the main issues that Slovakia needs to address and I reassured the Prime Minister that the Commission genuinely wants to help Slovakia achieve these objectives. And we are working hand in hand with our Slovak friends for that purpose. This is also why I welcome the commitment of Prime Minister Fico and the Slovak government to reform and the reliable preparation of the 2013 National Reform Programme.	00:00:34
10:02:55	Cutaway of a cameraman	00:00:03
10:02:59	Departure of the two Leaders	00:00:05

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