

### **EUROPEAN COMMISSION**

#### **PRESS RELEASE**

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# Tajani had a bilateral meeting with Israeli Minister of Economy Bennett on the sidelines of the Euromed Summit of Ministers for Industry

Today the Vice President of the European Commission, responsible for Industry and Entrepreneurship, Antonio Tajani, had a bilateral meeting with the Israeli Minister of Economy, Naftali Bennett, on the margins of the Euro-Mediterranean meeting with the Industry Ministers.

Tajani and Bennet discussed about the stability in the Middle East, EU - Israel relations, the strengthening of economic and industrial cooperation. Tajani presented the European strategy to boost growth, focusing on an industrial renaissance based on innovation, training and increased cooperation with third countries. the Focus of discussion was on the participation of Israel in EU programs for innovation and competitiveness, Horizon 2020 and Cosme and trade relations.

# **Background**

Israel is one of the most competitive economies in the world. Strengthening the industrial and technological cooperation between EU and Israel and increase trade and market integration is a mutual interest. The EU is the biggest exporter to Israel, with 17 billion euro of value and, with 12.6 billion, the EU is the second largest importer from Israel after the U.S.

## For more information:

http://ec.europa.eu/trade/policy/countries-and-regions/countries/israel/

Industrial renaissance strategy: available in several languages: <a href="http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release">http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release</a> IP-14-42 en.htm

# Contacts:

Carlo Corazza (+32 2 295 17 52) Twitter: @ECSpokesScience

Sara Tironi (+32 2 299 04 03)

For the public: **Europe Direct** by phone **00 800 6 7 8 9 10 11** or by e-mail

