



**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**



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Council approves negotiating directives for a new agreement with Russia

The Council today¹ approved negotiating directives for an agreement that will provide a new comprehensive framework for the EU's relations with Russia.

EU-Russia relations have developed considerably since the existing partnership and cooperation agreement was signed at Corfu in June 1994. In successive summit meetings since 2005, the EU and Russia have agreed to establish a new contractual basis for bilateral relations. The negotiations will aim to conclude a new agreement to replace the partnership and cooperation agreement, including a broader range of areas for cooperation and enabling the future development of bilateral relations in various sectors.

¹ The decision was taken, without discussion, at a meeting of the General Affairs and External Relations Council.

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