



Brussels, 26.01.2012

Herman van Rompuy
President of the European Council

Dear President,

We the undersigned heads of national delegations in the European Parliament representing Members of the EP coming from eight future eurozone Member States and belonging to five political groups, would like to express our deepest concern and strong objection to the refusal to admit our countries, under the "one table" formulae and PNV (participate - not vote) principle, as participants at the future Euro Summits and related meetings.

On 18 January the European Parliament adopted a strong and clear position on the Fiscal Pact. Paragraph 4, 4th indent, of the *Resolution on Conclusions of the European Council meeting (8-9 December 2011) on a draft international agreement on a Fiscal Stability Union* reads:

- all the contracting parties to the agreement, present and future members of the euro, should have the same right to participate in the Eurosummit meetings (.)

However, the wording of the most recent (4th) version of the draft of the Fiscal Pact does not meet this expectation. Future eurozone Member States are at best expected to participate in Euro Summits "to discuss specific issues", only "when appropriate" and "at least once a year" (Article 12 par. 6), a formulae which is highly conditional, uncertain and weak, in comparison to the EP's emphasis on "the same right" in this respect.

Our countries do not have an opt-out clause on the euro membership and are therefore bound by the accession treaties to adopt the common currency in the future. Hence, they should not be sidelined and excluded from all the fora of the eurozone, where key decisions on the future of the euro and fiscal policy will be made. The current wording of the Pact is still more exclusive than inclusive.

On the eve of the crucial European Council Summit on 30 January 2012, we call upon you, in your capacity as the President of the European Council, guardian of the unity of our Union, to undertake steps defending the interests of all Members of the European Union, including our countries. Let us avoid an architectural split of the EU, which would recreate divisions of the continent. Both present and future eurozone Members have to be able to participate in shaping the rules governing the common currency, although to a different degree than present Euro members. Our countries' request equals *de facto* the observer status. It is fully justified and in the spirit of the unity of the EU. Moreover, it offers added value of stronger credibility and dynamics of the euro project and its future, including in the eyes of financial markets.

Regards,

for BULGARIA

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