

**Joint statement of the Weimar Triangle ministers for European affairs  
Warsaw, 10 July 2014**

**Building up upon the new European strategic agenda for change**

We, ministers for European affairs of Poland, Germany and France, reaffirm our common commitment to strengthen the European Union's competitiveness and social cohesion, to deepen its integration and to bring it closer to its citizens' expectations.

The economic crisis has had major negative social consequences within the European Union over the past few years, leading to a significant rise in unemployment and growing poverty levels. Although our economy is now bouncing back, it does not turn immediately and equally into Europeans' well-being, thus increasing citizens' distrust towards the EU action as revealed by the last European elections.

The beginning of a new institutional and political cycle represents a timely opportunity to inject fresh momentum, to lay ground for the future and to recreate a strong link between the European Union and its citizens. A "Strategic agenda for the Union in times of change" has been adopted by the European Council on the 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> of June to this end, emphasizing the need to focus on growth and employment and setting out five main priorities that will provide the new European institutions with a clear roadmap for the five coming years.

Our common responsibility, as ministers for European affairs, is now to ensure that the General Affairs Council fully assumes its coordinating, transversal role in the thorough follow-up of these conclusions and to encourage all the necessary measures to fully implement this agenda.

In light of the major challenges that lie ahead of us and that require a swift response from the European Union we express our common willingness to:

- **Deepen the integration of the Economic and Monetary Union:** much has been achieved recently to shape a coherent and efficient response to the economic crisis. The adoption of comprehensive fiscal rules, of a new framework to track and correct macroeconomic imbalances and of a permanent anti-crisis mechanism as well as the landmark achievement of the banking union have already contributed to bring back stability and trust into the EMU. But efforts of fiscal consolidation, which must continue in a growth-friendly and differentiated manner, as well as implementation of structural reforms need to be pursued to enhance growth, boost investment improve fiscal sustainability, while making best use of the flexibility that is built into the existing Stability and Growth Pact rules. Finally, we support efficient euro area governance and stronger economic policy coordination, convergence and solidarity, while respecting the integrity of the internal market and preserving openness and transparency towards non-euro countries. This should constitute a guiding principle in further EMU reform as indicated in the Strategic Agenda for The Union in the Times of Change.

- **Strengthen the social dimension of the European Union:** the use of social indicators will allow a broader understanding of social development. We should speed up employment initiatives, in particular for the young generation that has been most severely affected by the crisis. The upcoming revision of the Europe 2020 strategy will represent an essential

opportunity to progress in this field, while taking into consideration the different particularities and needs of each Member State.

- **Build an Energy Union aiming at affordable, secure and sustainable energy:** the current crisis in the East of Europe highlights the necessity to secure our energy supply by completing the integration of the European internal market, diversifying sources or suppliers and increasing our energy efficiency. To this end, we express our support to the definition of the EU energy and climate policy in order to answer to challenges in the field of energy security and to decide, no later than October 2014, upon a coherent and ambitious European framework for 2030 in line with European Council conclusions. Considering the utmost importance of maintaining a constant dialogue between France, Germany and Poland and to build upon our common views to the benefit of consensus building within the European Union, we remain firmly committed to foster our trilateral cooperation within the Weimar Triangle and will strive to put forward concrete common proposals on those issues.

Quelle / Source / Źródło: <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/blob/263708/d5cd2c435a75e2405521a62029da0690/140711-joint-statement-data.pdf> (Accessed 22 April 2022)