



**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**



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(OR. fr)

**Result of the architectural competition for the restructuring of
block A of the Résidence Palace Building for use by the
European Council**

From 2012, European Council meetings are to be held in the Résidence Palace Building on the rue de la Loi in Brussels, following a proposal made by the Belgian Government. To that end a European architecture and design competition was arranged for the restructuring of block A of the building with a view to its use by the European Council. Bringing the competition to a close, an international selection board has just named the winning team of architects and engineers: Samyn & Partners (Belgium), Studio Valle Progettazioni (Italy) and Buro Happold (United Kingdom).

The selection board for the competition, which was launched by the General Secretariat of the Council in August 2004, was made up of members nominated by Member States, representatives of the Belgian federal, regional and communal authorities and representatives of the International Union of Architects and of the General Secretariat of the Council.

From 27 September to 14 October all the designs will be on display to the public in the Résidence Palace Building.

P R E S S

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Background: at its meeting on 25 and 26 March 2004, the European Council agreed to "the proposal by the Belgian Government that it use block A of the Residence Palace building for its meetings, after it has been refurbished, on the basis of the general framework approved by Council concerning the financial, logistical and legal aspects of the project".

Since 2002, European Council meetings, which bring together the Heads of State or Government of the Member States of the European Union and the President of the Commission, have consistently been held in Brussels (usually twice every six months). At present they take place in the Justus Lipsius Building, the seat of the Council, which is next to the Résidence Palace.