

# Quick Guide to EU Institutions

2009 Rose-  
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of Technology



# Delegation Structure

| <b>Position -- Committee</b>   |
|--|
| Prime Minister (Head of Delegation) -- <i>European Council</i>   |
| Foreign Ministers (Deputy Head of Delegation) -- <i>General Affairs and External Relations [GAERC]</i> |
| Economics/Finance Minister -- <i>Economics and Finance [Ecofin]</i>                                    |
| Agricultural Minister -- <i>Agriculture Committee</i>  |
| Environment Minister -- <i>Environment Committee</i>   |
| European Commissioner (Internal Market and Services) -- <i>European Commission</i>                     |
| Director-General (Environmental Policy) -- <i>Directorates-General [DGs]</i>                           |
| Director-General/Alternate -- <i>Directorates-General OR Fill in for any other delegate</i>            |

# The European Council

- Consists of the heads of government (prime ministers) of member states
- Meets at bi-annual summits (June and December)
- Strategic direction, resolve disputes, set common foreign and security policy (CFSP)
- Informal procedures and emphasis on consensus decision-making
- Product: Conclusions of the Presidency (document laying out basic decisions of summit)

# The European Commission

- Bureaucracy of the EU
- Both legislative (initiating directives) and executive (implementation) functions
- ‘College of Commissioners’
  - 27 Commissioners (One from each member state)
  - President of the Commission (Jose Manuel Barroso)
- Each Commissioner heads up a Directorate-General (DG; like a US federal government department)
- DG’s headed by Directors-General – permanent bureaucrat

# The European Commission

- DG's match portfolios of Commissioners, but for simulation, only cover:
  - Foreign affairs
  - Economic policy
  - Agricultural policy
  - Environmental policy
- Product: Discuss and Approve Laws and Policies
  - Drafts from Directors-General
  - Sent to Council of Ministers for Final Approval

# Council of Ministers

- One body with multiple configurations
- Consists of ministers from member states for appropriate area
  - Agriculture Council = Agriculture Ministers
- For simulation, only GAERC, Ecofin, Agriculture and Environment
- Decisions by consensus or Qualified Majority Vote (QMV)

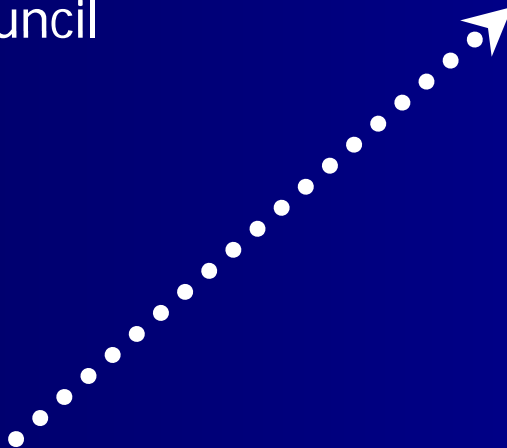
**Council(s) of Ministers**  
--GAERC  
--Ecofin  
--Agriculture & Fisheries  
--Environment

Accepts/Rejects OR  
refers to European Council  
if unable to resolve



**European  
Council**

Provides  
strategic  
guidance



Request for  
new laws

Reviews and sends  
for final approval to  
appropriate...

**European  
Commission**



Sends draft legislation to...



**Directors-General**

# General points



- All institutions emphasize consensus decision-making
- Commissioners and D-Gs represent EU, not home country
- European Council and Council of Ministers chaired by President of Council – a country (Czech Republic)
- European Parliament and ECJ not included in the Model EU
- Follow rules of procedure in the Simulation Guide