

Beat: Politics

EUROPEAN LEADERS ARE MEETING IN BRUSSELS TO DISCUSS RECENT HIKE IN ENERGY PRICE

ALSO THE POLAND ISSUE OVER JUSTICE

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USPA NEWS - European Union leaders are meeting in Brussels to discuss the recent hike in energy price, migration issues and trade and external relations, as well as the COVID-19 situation in EU. The twenty seven leaders shall be also have to tackle the touchy Poland's issue, as recently, Parliament condemned an attempt to undermine the primacy of EU law and call on the Council and European Commission to urgently protect the people of Poland and the Union. According to European External Actions Services (EEAS), following the meeting between EU HR/VP and U.S. Secretary of State, the ?EU and ?U.S. agreed to strengthen their joint engagement in the Western Balkans in support of the region's progress on its European path.

The European Council defines the EU's overall political direction and priorities. It is not one of the EU's legislating institutions, so does not negotiate or adopt EU laws. Instead it sets the EU's policy agenda, traditionally by adopting 'conclusions' during European Council meetings which identify issues of concern and actions to take. More recently, the European Council adopted a 'strategic agenda' of priority areas for longer-term EU action and focus.

REMARKS BY PRESIDENT CHARLES MICHEL BEFORE THE EUROPEAN COUNCIL ON 21 OCT 21-----

« We have a very important European Council today and tomorrow. This afternoon we will address the energy topic. It's important for member states to coordinate and cooperate to see what measures can be taken at the national level. On the other hand, we'd like to identify what measures can be developed at the European level. We'll work in close contact with the Commission, based on the communication that was put on the table.-----

We'll also have the occasion to address the COVID-19 situation. We remain vigilant and we are observing progress, in which vaccinations have played an important role. We need to make sure that we can continue to make progress. In countries in Europe and outside of Europe, vaccine hesitancy is an obstacle and we need to prepare and coordinate to address this challenge. This afternoon we will touch upon the rule of law. We are firm on the principles of the rule of law. We have legal and institutional tools we should use. But we should also be committed to dialogue.-----

Tonight during the informal dinner, we will address the international topics. We will prepare the next Eastern Partnership summit in December, as well as the next ASEM meeting and the COP26 and COP15. Tonight, other important topics will be discussed, like trade. We will issue informal conclusions during the informal dinner. » Charles Michel Said.

THE CRISIS OF EUROPEAN UNION AND POLAND ON THE SOVEREIGNTY OF JUSTICE-----

The European Union, is in agreement with Poland, on the independence of justice and the primacy of European law, while reserving the possibility of subsequently cracking down on Poland (Freezing of the Recovery Plan of 36 billion euros). Indeed, Poland has been in conflict with Brussels for several years over judicial reforms undertaken by the ruling Nationalist Conservative Party (PiS), accused of undermining the independence of judges. On the occasion of the European Council of October 21, 2021, the European Leaders decided to moderate the exchanges and calm the situation ... Indeed, the President of the European Council Charles Michel in videoconference with German Chancellor Angela Merkel, Commission President Ursula von der Leyen and French President Emmanuel Macron on October 20, 2021, the day before the European summit

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In the standoff with Poland which holds its head, the heads of state and government reaffirmed "their conviction that the rule of law and judicial independence are absolutely fundamental", but temporized on the responses studied by Brussels, said a European source. For her part, the President of the European Commission Ursula von der Leyen had promised on Tuesday to the European Parliament, thanks to the support of the Member States, to crack down on Poland, by "using existing mechanisms" while instructing it to "dialogue and continue to seek solutions". The aim would thus be to avoid the initiation of a new infringement procedure which could lead to referral to European justice.

"WE WILL NOT ACT UNDER THE PRESSURE OF BLACKMAIL YET WE ARE READY TO DIALOGUE" SAID PDT MACRON-----

Regarding the Crisis that is going through, French President Emmanuel Macron met Ajarudgui with Polish Prime Minister Mateusz Morawiecki within the framework of the European Council, in Brussels, and declared that "We will not act under pressure from the blackmail (but) we are ready for dialogue "

WHAT SOME MEMBER STATES LEADERS SAID AT GLANCE -----

Stephane Sejourne, French MEP, who happened to be former special advisor of French President Macron, has been appointed last week, the chairman of the Party Renew stated ahead of the European Council of 21-22 October 21. « Above all, Europe has an objective: to make Europeans live better, freer, more equal & stronger in an unstable world. No European lives less well because of the rule of EU law or the Court of Justice in Luxembourg. On the contrary! ». "We've all made choices in terms of being fully part of the European family in spirit as well as in the letter of that...we believe in the primacy of EU law." Ireland's PM, Michael Martin stated,

Still as regard of the Energy prize rise, Thierry Breton said : « We cannot choose where oil fields are... But we can choose where semiconductors fabs will be! Europe must invest in producing

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