



PRESS MEMO

EU PRESIDENCY

The article of the EC Treaty states that the Presidency of the EU Council is to be held successively by each Member-State, for a period of six months, in accordance with a pre-established rotation system by the Council itself, currently until July 2020. Presently Portugal is responsible, for the third time, to carry out this task, taking over from Germany on 1 July 2007 and handing it over to Slovenia on 01 January 2008. From the 01 of January 2009, it will be the turn of the Czech Republic. The Presidency is an important political role with implications for all the EU.

ZLÍN REGION IN BRUSSELS

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Zlín Region in Brussels at work for the Semester of Czech Presidency at the European Union

During the Semester of Czech Presidency to the EU Council, the Zlín Region will host the meeting of European Ministries for Social Affairs. The Representative Office in Brussels has already started working on.

On the 11th of October 2007, the Director of the Representative Office of the Zlín Region in Brussels, Mr. Mattia Crosetto, met the European Commissioner for Social Affairs, Mr. Vladimír Špidla.

Following a previous meeting between Commissioner Špidla with the Governor of the Zlín Region, Mr Libor Lukáš, this time the contact was established for the organisation of the meeting of the European Ministries for Social Affairs that will take place in the Zlín Region at the beginning of the Semester of Czech Presidency to the EU, already in January 2009.

This event will represent an important opportunity to promote the Zlín Region at the European level, as well as the ideal occasion for discussing some issues that are fundamental for the social and economic development of the Region. Topics such as the creation of job opportunities for the youths, the long-life education of working people and the security of the working contract for the future generations will be put at the attention of the European and regional authorities.

From now on, the Representative Office of the Zlín Region in Brussels will remain directly in touch with the European Commission, and notably with the Cabinet of Commissioner Špidla and the Directorate General for Social Affairs, for the organisation of the ministerial conference, and the connected events. Possible formula for an extended cooperation at a cross-border dimension will also be examined.

For more information about:

EC Commissioner Špidla: http://www.ec.europa.eu/commission_barroso/spidla/index_en.cfm

Council of the EU: http://www.ec.europa.eu/dgs/energy_transport/index_en.html

Website of the Portuguese Presidency: <http://www.eu2007.pt/UE/vPT/>



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