

DRAFT
PROGRAMME

**for the official visit of
His All Holiness
Ecumenical Patriarch BARTHOLOMEW
to the
European Parliament in Brussels**

Wednesday, 24 September 2008

Tuesday, 23 September 2008

Arrival by car from France

Welcome at the Hotel Hilton by Mr François BRUNAGEL, Head of Protocol of the European Parliament.

20.00 *Dinner hosted by the Ambassador of Turkey*
Venue: *tbc*

(2 cars of the EP at the disposal of the delegation)

Wednesday, 24 September 2008

11.05 Hotel Hilton, Blvd. de Waterloo 38, 1000 Brussels

His All Holiness Ecumenical Patriarch BARTHOLOMEW is welcomed at the hotel by Mrs Rodi KRATSA-TSAGAROPOULOU, 1st Vice-President of the European Parliament.

11.15 Departure of His All Holiness Ecumenical Patriarch BARTHOLOMEW and the official delegation to the European Parliament.

11.30 European Parliament, entrance Paul-Henri Spaak building

His All Holiness Ecumenical Patriarch BARTHOLOMEW is welcomed by Mr Hans-Gert PÖTTERING, President of the European Parliament.

President PÖTTERING introduces to His All Holiness:

- Mr Harald RØMER Secretary General of the European Parliament
- Mr Klaus WELLE Director of the cabinet of the President
- Mr Fearghas O'BEARA Advisor in the cabinet of the President

Official photo in front the flag of the European Union.

The President and his guest proceed to the President's office, 11th floor of the PHS-building.

11.35 President's office, PHS 11B011

Signing of the Distinguished Visitor's Books

Meeting between Mr Hans-Gert PÖTTERING, President of the European Parliament and His All Holiness Ecumenical Patriarch BARTHOLOMEW.

His All Holiness Ecumenical Patriarch BARTHOLOMEW is accompanied by:

- His Eminence Metropolitan KYRILLOS of Imbros and Tenedos
- His Eminence Metropolitan PANTELEIMON of Belgium
- His Eminence Metropolitan EMMANUEL of France

The President of the European Parliament is accompanied by:

- Mr Harald RØMER Secretary General of the European Parliament
- Mr Klaus WELLE Director of the cabinet of the President
- Mr Fearghas O'BEARA Advisor in the cabinet of the President

12.00 Hemicycle

Formal sitting of the European Parliament

Opening remarks by Mr Hans-Gert PÖTTERING, President of the European Parliament.

Address by His All Holiness Ecumenical Patriarch BARTHOLOMEW.

After the speech, His All Holiness returns to his seat at the presidency and the President of the European Parliament concludes the formal sitting.

12.30 Press Briefing Room (PHS 0A50)

Joint press conference by Mr Hans-Gert PÖTTERING, President of the European Parliament and His All Holiness Ecumenical Patriarch BARTHOLOMEW.

At the conclusion of the press conference the President of the European Parliament accompanies His All Holiness Ecumenical Patriarch BARTHOLOMEW to the presidential dining room.

13.15 Presidential dining room, 12th floor PHS-building

Lunch hosted by Mr Hans-Gert PÖTTERING, President of the European Parliament, in honour of His All Holiness Ecumenical Patriarch BARTHOLOMEW.

At the beginning of the lunch, President Pöttering offers a toast to which His All Holiness Ecumenical Patriarch BARTHOLOMEW replies.

14.45 At the conclusion of the lunch Mr Hans-Gert PÖTTERING, President of the European Parliament, takes leave of His All Holiness Ecumenical Patriarch BARTHOLOMEW.

15.00 Protocol room number 1 (PHS-building)

Meeting of His All Holiness Ecumenical Patriarch BARTHOLOMEW with Mr Ján FIGEL', Member of the European Commission.

Followed by meetings with chairmen of EP's political groups:

15.30 - 16.00 Meeting with Mr Joseph DAUL, Chairman of the PPE-DE

16.00 - 16.30 Meeting with Mr Daniel COHN-BENDIT and Mrs Monica FRASSONI, Chairmen V/ALE

16.30 - 17.00 Meeting with Mr Martin SCHULZ, Chairman of the PSE

time tbc Meeting with Mr Stephen Clark, EP-Web.

17.30 Presidential dining room, 12th floor PHS-building

Audience of His All Holiness Ecumenical Patriarch BARTHOLOMEW with Members and staff of Parliament.

18.35 Exit of the Paul-Henri Spaak building

His All Holiness Ecumenical Patriarch BARTHOLOMEW and the official delegation leave the European Parliament.

Accompanied by the Head of Protocol of the European Parliament.

evening: Dinner hosted by Mr Vassilis KASKARELIS, Permanent Representative of Greece to the European Union.

Venue: Hotel Conrad.

(2 cars of the EP at the disposal of the delegation)

Thursday, 25 September 2008

(2 cars of the EP at the disposal of the delegation)

xx.xx Departure for Zaventem airport

Accompanied by the Head of Protocol of the European Parliament.

Brief passage through the VIP lounge.

17.30 Departure of His All Holiness Ecumenical Patriarch BARTHOLOMEW and the official delegation with flight TK 1940.

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