

	Council of the EU General Secretariat
Political and Security Committee	
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**Lines to take:
High-level attendance at Ukraine-based matches in the EURO 2012 football
tournament**

(i) The decision on whether to attend matches of the EURO 2012 tournament in Ukraine, or any other sporting occasion, is an individual one.

(ii) There is no boycott – all qualified teams from EU countries are participating with the full logistical and moral support of their governments; Member States note that the President of the European Council, the President of the European Commission, and Members of the Commission, who took personal decisions not to attend, have also stressed their shared wish for a successful tournament which will bring people together and stimulate new economic opportunities for both Poland and Ukraine.

(iii) The EU's political position towards Ukraine is unchanged. The EU continues to have serious concerns about the rule of law in the country. Ukraine's performance, notably in relation to respect for common values and the rule of law, will be of crucial importance for the speed of its political association and economic integration with the EU. This message will be passed clearly by all senior EU personalities who encounter members of the Ukrainian administration during the tournament; such meetings should ideally be accompanied with interactions with the opposition/civil society.
