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U.S. Senate Committee on Foreign Relations
110th Congress
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S. RES. #

Expressing the need for stronger relations between the United States and the European Union during years of increasing European integration

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

January 30, 2009

Whereas the European Union consists of a single integrated market of 27 member countries with a combined population block of over 489 million people;

Whereas the European Union is continuing membership expansion with economic, political, and cultural prudence, especially with consideration to candidates Croatia, Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, and Turkey;

Whereas the Constitution of the European Union was passed by referendum in all but two nations and the Treaty of Lisbon was passed by all member nations with only one exception;

Whereas the European Parliament and Council of Ministers are steadily gaining responsibilities, duties, and regulatory powers above those of the independent European states;

Whereas policies of European integration are progressing toward a more politically and economically united and democratized union of European states: Now, Therefore be it

Resolved, That it is the sense of the Senate that . . .

(1) the United States and the European Union should increase collaboration in policy to form stronger diplomatic relations;

(2) all due caution should be taken when deciding membership admission to the European Union but also suggests the inclusion of all European states meeting the criteria set forth by the Rome Treaty of 1957 and the Treaty of Maastricht;

(3) the United States should enhance transatlantic cooperation through shared policies of economic, military, and socio-political matters with a unified Europe;

(4) the United States should conduct general diplomatic business with members of the European Union concerning economic and political policy through the European Commission and European Council, rather than through individual states, while maintaining strong relations with member states through continued permanent missions to each separate nation.

(5) the United States must accompany European integration with stronger diplomatic ties to ensure the welfare of the global community and the status of democracy are protected.