

**COUNCIL DECISION (EU) 2022/2490****of 8 December 2022****authorising the European Commission and the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy to open negotiations for a Comprehensive Agreement between the European Union and its Member States, of the one part, and the Republic of Tajikistan, of the other part**

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, and in particular Article 91, Article 100(2), Article 207 and Article 209, in conjunction with Article 218(3) and (4) thereof,

Having regard to the joint recommendation from the European Commission and the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy,

Whereas:

- (1) Negotiations should be opened with a view to concluding a Comprehensive Agreement between the European Union and its Member States, of the one part, and the Republic of Tajikistan, of the other part (the 'Agreement').
- (2) The Agreement is to replace the Partnership and Cooperation Agreement establishing a partnership between the European Communities and their Member States, of the one part, and the Republic of Tajikistan, of the other part <sup>(1)</sup>,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

*Article 1*

1. The Commission and the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy (the 'High Representative') are hereby authorised to open negotiations for a Comprehensive Agreement between the Union and its Member States, of the one part, and the Republic of Tajikistan, of the other part (the 'Agreement').

2. The negotiations shall be conducted on the basis of the negotiating directives of the Council set out in the addendum to this Decision.

*Article 2*

The Commission shall be the head of the Union's negotiating team.

*Article 3*

The negotiations shall be conducted in consultation with the Council Working Party on Eastern Europe and Central Asia.

The negotiations on the trade-related parts of the Agreement shall be conducted in consultation with the Trade Policy Committee.

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<sup>(1)</sup> OJ L 350, 29.12.2009, p. 3.

*Article 4*

This Decision is addressed to the Commission and to the High Representative.

Done at Brussels, 8 December 2022.

*For the Council*  
*The President*  
V. RAKUŠAN

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