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# AGREEMENT ON THE EUROPEAN ECONOMIC AREA



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# Agreement on the European Economic Area

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The European Economic Area, hereinafter referred to as the EEA, on which agreement has finally been reached between the European Community and the seven EFTA States (Austria, Finland, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland), will create free movement of persons, goods and services after ratification of the Treaty.

The EEA shall benefit some 380 million Europeans, all EFTA States having a high living standard and a healthy economy. Some EFTA members – Austria, Sweden and Finland – consider the EEA as a transitional phase towards full membership of the European Communities, for which they have applied.

The aim of this Agreement of Association is to promote a continuous and balanced strengthening of trade and economic relations between the contracting parties with equal conditions of competition, and the respect of the same rules, with a view to creating a homogeneous European Economic Area.

This publication reproduces the text of the Agreement on the European Economic Area as signed in Oporto on 2 May 1992. It contains the results of a combined effort on the part of the Secretariat-General of the Commission. The text has been produced for documentary purposes and is not the responsibility of the Institutions.



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