

JACQUES DELORS INSTITUTE RELEASE

Friday 26 June 2015

Jacques Delors awarded the title of "Honorary Citizen of Europe" by the European Council

The European Council has awarded Jacques Delors the title of **"Honorary Citizen of Europe"** at the occasion of its meeting on the 25th and 26th of June 2015.

After Jean Monnet in 1976 (Luxembourg European Council) and Helmut Kohl in 1998 (Vienna European Council), Jacques Delors is **the third major actor of the European construction** to be distinguished by such a title.

This decision by the European Council was taken after a request sent to the European authorities by around 130 professors and academics from all over the European Union.

In its conclusions, the European Council expressed ***"its gratitude to Jacques Delors, former President of the European Commission, for his remarkable contribution to the development of the European project"***.

As a reminder, the historic achievements to which Jacques Delors contributed are numerous: the Single European Act and the Single Market, the Maastricht treaty, the Economic and Monetary Union, the development of the structural funds and the creation of the Cohesion fund, the European citizenship, the Erasmus programme, the European social charter, the membership of Portugal and Spain, then of Austria, Sweden and Finland and the launching of the enlargement process following the fall of the Berlin Wall...

It is thanks to the support of the European Council that Jacques Delors was able to create the "Notre Europe" think tank - which today bears his name - so as to allow him to go on taking full part in the European public debate by targeting not only decision makers, but also EU citizens.

All of **the current and past heads and members of the Jacques Delors Institute** (www.delorsinstitute.eu) **are both very happy and very proud** of their founding president's designation as "Honorary Citizen of Europe".

They see this award as a strong message of encouragement to pursue their action in favour of the ideas and values personified by Jacques Delors, at the service of the European construction.

Contacts:

Stéphanie Baz, Jacques Delors' Press adviser, Communications and media officer

Tel.: + 33 1 44 58 97 84 / +33 6 74 04 35 92

E-mail: baz@delorsinstitute.eu

Nicolò Conti, Online communication officer

Tel.: + 33 1 44 58 97 89 / +33 6 84 95 39 48

E-mail: conti@delorsinstitute.eu