



PRESS RELEASE

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EurActiv.com gets Romanian ministerial visit

The Romanian Minister of European Integration, Mrs. Hildegard Puwak visited the EurActiv office in Brussels on Thursday 31 January 2002 to inform the EurActiv enlargement team on her country's negotiating positions.

The Romanian minister expressed her explicit support for the way EurActiv.com covers the negotiation process on enlargement. She showed an interest in giving more visibility to the positions of Central European countries applying for EU membership.

Minister Puwak underlined how important it is for candidate countries that there is a media which reports in a neutral, fact-based way on the enlargement negotiations. "Most media only have attention for Romania's problems. EurActiv.com also looks at the progress our country has made over the past few years."

Willy De Backer, Editor of EurActiv.com, said: "We are very happy that our work is so well evaluated in the accession countries. There is a genuine need in these countries for balanced and non-institutional news on the enlargement process. Our editorial team provides links to the official positions of the candidate countries so that not only the voice of Brussels, Berlin, Paris or London is heard in EU circles."

For more information, call Willy De Backer, editor, at +32 2 226.58.14 or email wdb@euractiv.com.

The EurActiv website is available via www.euractiv.com

Background:

EurActiv.com has a special country section on Romania and its relationship with the European Union. The section is sponsored by "Club Europa" Romania. It includes background information on business, economics and politics in Romania and brings regular news from independent Romanian news sources on EU related issues. The URL for this special country section is www.euractiv.com/en/romania.htm.

EurActiv also has a very detailed enlargement section, including NegoMonitor on negotiations and extensive coverage of policy news (see www.euractiv.com/en/enlargement.htm)