

The Dutch referendum is raising concerns that the EU is turning the back on Ukraine and that the ratification process will soon be derailed. What is the view of the Commission on this?

- The ratification process of the EU-UA AA/DCFTA is nearing completion; 24 Member States have so far notified the General Secretariat of the Council of ratification. In other Member States the process is ongoing.
- The internal procedures for such ratification are a matter of national competence.
- As President Juncker said, it is not for the Commission to tell people how to vote, but it is the Commission's role to say what the European importance of this vote is.

What will happen if the Dutch vote 'no'?

- We do not want to speculate on potential outcomes as, ultimately, it is for the Dutch government to decide on any eventual course of action following the referendum.

What is at stake in the vote?

- As explained by President Juncker, this issue goes beyond Dutch interests only. He has expressed his sincere hope that the Dutch people will not vote 'no' for reasons that have nothing to do with the Association Agreement itself, and that the referendum should not be turned into a referendum on Europe.
- President Juncker's message to the Dutch people is to be aware of what they are voting on when they will be casting their vote on 6 April: "The Dutch voter must realise that he or she is acting for Europe as a whole when voting on 6 April, and can act as a 'European strategist'. Each of us is Europe." He said.

Do you expect the Prime Minister/Dutch Government to campaign in favour of the Association Agreement?

- That is a decision for the Dutch Prime Minister and the Dutch Government.