

4. The CARIFORUM-EC Parliamentary Committee shall be chaired in turn by a representative of the European Parliament and a representative of a CARIFORUM State legislature, in accordance with the provisions to be laid down in its rules of procedure.

5. The CARIFORUM-EC Parliamentary Committee may request of the Joint CARIFORUM-EC Council relevant information regarding the implementation of this Agreement, and the Joint CARIFORUM-EC Council shall supply the Committee with the requested information.

6. The CARIFORUM-EC Parliamentary Committee shall be informed of the decisions and recommendations of the Joint CARIFORUM-EC Council.

7. The CARIFORUM-EC Parliamentary Committee may make recommendations to the Joint CARIFORUM-EC Council and the CARIFORUM-EC Trade and Development Committee.

Article 232

CARIFORUM-EC Consultative Committee

1. A CARIFORUM-EC Consultative Committee is hereby established with the task of assisting the Joint CARIFORUM-EC

Council to promote dialogue and cooperation between representatives of organisations of civil society, including the academic community, and social and economic partners. Such dialogue and cooperation shall encompass all economic, social and environmental aspects of the relations between the EC Party and CARIFORUM States, as they arise in the context of the implementation of this Agreement.

2. Participation in the CARIFORUM-EC Consultative Committee shall be decided by the Joint CARIFORUM-EC Council, with a view to ensuring a broad representation of all interested parties.

3. The CARIFORUM-EC Consultative Committee shall carry out its activities on the basis of consultation by the Joint CARIFORUM-EC Council or on its own initiative and make recommendations to the Joint CARIFORUM-EC Council. Representatives of the Parties shall attend the meetings of the CARIFORUM-EC Consultative Committee.

4. The CARIFORUM-EC Consultative Committee shall adopt its rules of procedure in accord with the Joint CARIFORUM-EC Council.

5. The CARIFORUM-EC Consultative Committee may make recommendations to the Joint CARIFORUM-EC Council and the CARIFORUM-EC Trade and Development Committee.

PART VI

GENERAL AND FINAL PROVISIONS

Article 233

Definition of the Parties and fulfilment of obligations

1. Contracting Parties of this Agreement are Antigua and Barbuda, the Commonwealth of The Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, the Commonwealth of Dominica, the Dominican Republic, Grenada, the Republic of Guyana, the Republic of Haiti, Jamaica, Saint Christopher and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, the Republic of Suriname, and the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago, herein referred to as the 'CARIFORUM States', on the one part, and the European Community or its Member States or the European Community and its Member States, within their respective areas of competence as derived from the Treaty establishing the European Community, herein referred to as the 'EC Party', on the other part.

2. For the purposes of this Agreement, the CARIFORUM States agree to act collectively.

3. For the purposes of this Agreement, the term 'Party' shall refer to the CARIFORUM States acting collectively or the EC Party as the case may be. The term 'Parties' shall refer to the CARIFORUM States acting collectively and the EC Party.

4. Where individual action is provided for or required to exercise the rights or comply with the obligations under this Agreement reference is made to the 'Signatory CARIFORUM States'.

5. The Parties or the Signatory CARIFORUM States as the case may be shall adopt any general or specific measures required for them to fulfil their obligations under this Agreement and shall ensure that they comply with the objectives laid down in this Agreement.

Article 234

Coordinators and exchange of information

1. In order to facilitate communication and to ensure the effective implementation of the Agreement the EC Party, the CARIFORUM States collectively and each Signatory CARIFORUM State shall designate a Coordinator upon the provisional application of this Agreement. The designation of Coordinators is without prejudice to the specific designation of competent authorities under specific provisions of this Agreement.

2. On request of either Party, the coordinator of the other Party or of a Signatory CARIFORUM State shall indicate the office or official responsible for any matter pertaining to the implementation of this Agreement and provide the required support to facilitate communication with the requesting Party.

3. On request of either Party, and to the extent legally possible, each Party and the Signatory CARIFORUM States through their

coordinators shall provide information and reply promptly to any question relating to an actual or proposed measure that might affect trade between the Parties. The Parties agree to channel their exchanges of information through the CARIFORUM Coordinator to the maximum extent possible.

Article 235

Transparency

1. Each Party and Signatory CARIFORUM State shall ensure that any laws, regulations, procedures and administrative rulings of general application as well as any international commitments relating to any trade matter covered by this Agreement are promptly published or made publicly available and brought to the attention of the other Party.

2. Without prejudice to specific transparency provisions in this Agreement, the information referred to under this Article shall be considered to have been provided when the information has been made available by appropriate notification to the WTO or when the information has been made available on the official, publicly and fee-free accessible website of the Party or of the Signatory CARIFORUM State concerned.

3. Nothing in this Agreement shall require any Party or Signatory CARIFORUM States to provide confidential information, the disclosure of which would impede law enforcement, or otherwise be contrary to the public interest, or which would prejudice legitimate commercial interests of particular enterprises, public or private, except to the extent that it may be necessary to be disclosed in the context of a dispute settlement proceeding under Part III of this Agreement. Where such disclosure is considered necessary by a panel established under Article 207, the panel shall ensure that confidentiality is fully protected.

Article 236

Dialogue on finance issues

The Parties and the Signatory CARIFORUM States agree to foster dialogue, transparency and to share best practices in the area of tax policy and administration.

Article 237

Collaboration in the fight against illegal financial activities

The EC Party and the Signatory CARIFORUM States are committed to prevent and fight against illegal, fraudulent and corrupt activities, money laundering and terrorist financing and shall take the necessary legislative and administrative measures to comply with international standards, including those laid down in the United Nations Convention against Corruption, the United Nations Convention on Transnational Organised Crime and its Protocols and the United Nations Convention for the Suppression of Terrorist Financing. The EC Party and the Signatory CARIFORUM States agree to exchange information and cooperate in these areas.

Article 238

Regional preference

1. Nothing in this Agreement shall oblige a Party to extend to the other Party of this Agreement any more favourable treatment which is applied within each of the Parties as part of its respective regional integration process.

2. Any more favourable treatment and advantage that may be granted under this Agreement by any Signatory CARIFORUM State to the EC Party shall also be enjoyed by each Signatory CARIFORUM State.

3. Notwithstanding paragraph 2:

(i) Any more favourable treatment and advantage shall apply immediately upon the signature of this Agreement with respect to all products attracting a zero rate of duty as specified in Annex III.

(ii) Any more favourable treatment and advantage shall apply one year after the date of signature of this Agreement, between the CARIFORUM States which comprise the 'More Developed Countries' of the Caribbean Community (the Commonwealth of Bahamas, Barbados, the Republic of Guyana, Jamaica, the Republic of Suriname and the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago) and the Dominican Republic with respect to all other products specified in Annex III and the provisions of Annex IV.

(iii) Any more favourable treatment and advantage shall apply two years after the date of signature of this Agreement, between the CARIFORUM States which comprise the 'Less Developed Countries' of the Caribbean Community (Antigua and Barbuda, Belize, the Commonwealth of Dominica, Grenada, Saint Christopher and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines) and the Dominican Republic with respect to all other products specified in Annex III and the provisions of Annex IV. The Republic of Haiti shall not be required to extend any such more favourable treatment and advantage to the Dominican Republic before five years of the date of signature of this Agreement.

Article 239

Outermost regions of the European Community

1. Taking account of the geographical proximity of the outermost regions of the European Community and the CARIFORUM States and in order to reinforce economic and social links between these regions and the CARIFORUM States, the Parties shall endeavour to specifically facilitate cooperation in all areas covered by the present Agreement as well as facilitate trade in goods and services, promote investment and encourage transport and communication links between the outermost regions and the CARIFORUM States.

2. The objectives enunciated in paragraph 1 shall also be pursued, wherever possible, through fostering the joint participation of the CARIFORUM States and the outermost regions in framework and specific programmes of the European Community in areas covered by this Agreement.

3. The EC Party shall endeavour to ensure coordination between the different financial instruments of the European Community's cohesion and development policies in order to foster cooperation between CARIFORUM States and the outermost regions of the European Community in the areas covered by this Agreement.

4. Nothing in this Agreement shall prevent the EC Party from applying existing measures aimed at addressing the structural social and economic situation of the outermost regions pursuant to Article 299(2) of the Treaty establishing the European Community.

Article 240

Balance of payments difficulties

1. Where any Signatory CARIFORUM States or the EC Party is in serious balance of payments and external financial difficulties, or under threat thereof, it may adopt or maintain restrictive measures with regard to trade in goods, services and establishment.

2. The Signatory CARIFORUM States and the EC Party shall endeavour to avoid the application of the restrictive measures referred to in paragraph 1.

3. Any restrictive measure adopted or maintained under this Article shall be non-discriminatory and of limited duration and shall not go beyond what is necessary to remedy the balance of payments and external financial situation. They shall be in accordance with the conditions established in the WTO Agreements and consistent with the Articles of Agreement of the International Monetary Fund, as applicable.

4. Any Signatory CARIFORUM States or the EC Party maintaining or having adopted restrictive measures, or any changes thereto, shall promptly notify them to the other Party and present, as soon as possible, a time schedule for their removal.

5. Consultation shall be held promptly within the CARIFORUM-EC Trade and Development Committee. Such consultations shall assess the balance of payments situation of the concerned Signatory CARIFORUM States or the EC Party and the restrictions adopted or maintained under this Article, taking into account, *inter alia*, such factors as:

- (a) the nature and extent of the balance of payments and the external financial difficulties;
- (b) the external economic and trading environment;
- (c) alternative corrective measures which may be available.

The consultations shall address the compliance of any restrictive measures with paragraphs 3 and 4. All findings of statistical and other facts presented by the International Monetary Fund relating to foreign exchange, monetary reserves and balance of payments shall be accepted and conclusions shall be based on the

assessment by the Fund of the balance of payments and the external financial situation of the concerned CARIFORUM State or EC Party.

Article 241

Relations with the Cotonou Agreement

1. With the exception of development cooperation provisions contained in Title II of Part 3 of the Cotonou Agreement, in case of any inconsistency between the provisions of this Agreement and the provisions of Title II of Part 3 of the Cotonou Agreement the provisions of this Agreement shall prevail.

2. Nothing in this Agreement shall be construed so as to prevent the adoption by the EC Party or a Signatory CARIFORUM State of any measures, including trade-related measures under this Agreement, deemed appropriate, as provided for under Articles 11(b), 96 and 97 of the Cotonou Agreement and according to the procedures set by these Articles.

Article 242

Relations with the WTO Agreement

The Parties agree that nothing in this Agreement requires them or the Signatory CARIFORUM States to act in a manner inconsistent with their WTO obligations.

Article 243

Entry into force

1. This Agreement shall enter into force the first day of the month following that in which the Parties have notified each other of the completion of the procedures necessary for this purpose.

2. Notifications shall be sent to the Secretary General of the Council of the European Union, who shall be the depositary of this Agreement.

3. Pending entry into force of the Agreement, the European Community and the Signatory CARIFORUM States shall agree to provisionally apply the Agreement, in full or in part. This may be effected by provisional application pursuant to the laws of a signatory or by ratification of the Agreement. Provisional application shall be notified to the depositary. The Agreement shall be applied provisionally ten (10) days after the latter of the receipt of notification of provisional application from the European Community or from all the Signatory CARIFORUM States. Provisional application shall be effected as soon as possible, but no later than 31 October 2008.

4. Notwithstanding paragraph 3, the European Community and Signatory CARIFORUM States may take steps to apply the Agreement, before provisional application, to the extent feasible.

*Article 244***Duration**

1. This Agreement shall be valid indefinitely.
2. Either Party or Signatory CARIFORUM State may give written notice to the others of its intention to denounce this Agreement.
3. Denunciation shall take effect six months after notification.

*Article 245***Territorial application**

This Agreement shall apply, on the one hand, to the territories in which the Treaty establishing the European Community is applied and under the conditions laid down in that Treaty, and, on the other hand, to the territories of the Signatory CARIFORUM States. References in this Agreement to 'territory' shall be understood in this sense.

*Article 246***Revision clause**

1. The Parties agree to consider extending this Agreement with the aim of broadening and supplementing its scope in accordance with their respective legislation, by amending it or concluding agreements on specific sectors or activities in the light of the experience gained during its implementation. The Parties may also consider revising this Agreement to bring Overseas Countries and Territories associated with the European Community within the scope of this Agreement.
2. As regards the implementation of this Agreement, either Party may make suggestions oriented towards adjusting trade related cooperation, taking into account the experience acquired during the implementation thereof.
3. The Parties agree that this Agreement may need to be reviewed in the light of the expiration of the Cotonou Agreement.

*Article 247***Accession of new EU Member States**

1. The Joint CARIFORUM-EC Council shall be advised of any request made by a third State to become a member of the European Union (EU). During the negotiations between the EU

and the applicant State, the EC Party shall provide the CARIFORUM States with any relevant information and they in turn shall convey their concerns to the EC Party so that it can take them fully into account. The CARIFORUM States shall be notified by the EC Party of any accession to the EU.

2. Any new Member State of the EU shall accede to this Agreement from the date of its accession to the EU by means of a clause to that effect in the act of accession. If the act of accession to the EU does not provide for such automatic accession of the EU Member State to this Agreement, the EU Member State concerned shall accede by depositing an act of accession with the General Secretariat of the Council of the European Union, which shall send certified copies to the CARIFORUM States.

3. The Parties shall review the effects of the accession of new EU Member States on this Agreement. The Joint CARIFORUM-EC Council may decide on any transitional or amending measures that might be necessary.

*Article 248***Accession**

1. Any Caribbean State may accede to this Agreement subject to such terms and conditions as may be agreed between such country and the EC Party and the Signatory CARIFORUM States and following approval in accordance with the applicable legal procedures of the EC Party and the Signatory CARIFORUM States and the acceding country.
2. The instrument of accession shall be deposited with the depositary.

*Article 249***Authentic texts**

This Agreement is drawn up in duplicate in the Bulgarian, Czech, Danish, Dutch, English, Estonian, Finnish, French, German, Greek, Hungarian, Italian, Latvian, Lithuanian, Maltese, Polish, Portuguese, Romanian, Slovak, Slovenian, Spanish and Swedish languages, each of these texts being equally authentic.

*Article 250***Annexes**

The Annexes, Protocols and footnotes shall form an integral part of this Agreement. Appendix 1 to Annex III is drawn up only in English.

Съставено в Бриджтаун, Барбадос на петнадесети октомври две хиляди и осма година.

Hecho en Bridgetown, Barbados, el quince de octubre de dosmil ocho.

V Bridgetownu na Barbadosu dne patnáctého října dva tisíce osm.

Udfærdiget i Bridgetown, Barbados, den femtende oktober to tusind og otte.

Geschehen zu Bridgetown, Barbados, am fünfzehnten Oktober zweitausendacht.

Kahe tuhande kaheksanda aasta oktoobrikuu viieteistkümnendal päeval Bridgetownis Barbadosel.

Έγινε στο Bridgetown των Μπαρμπάντος, στις δέκα πέντε Οκτωβρίου δύο χιλιάδες οκτώ.

Done at Bridgetown, Barbados on the fifteenth day of October in the year two thousand and eight.

Fait à Bridgetown, la Barbade, le quinze octobre deux mille huit.

Fatto a Bridgetown, Barbados, addì quindici ottobre duemilaotto.

Bridžtaunā, Barbadosā, divtūkstoš astotā gada piecpadsmitajā oktobrī.

Priimta Bridžtaune, Barbadosė, du tūkstančiai aštuntų metų spalio penkioliką antrą dieną.

Kelt Bridgetownban, Barbadoson a kétezer-nyolcadik év október tizenötödik napján.

Magħmul fi Bridgetown, il-Barbados fil-ħmistax-il jum ta' Ottubru tas-sena elfejn u tmienja.

Gedaan te Bridgetown, Barbados, de vijftiende oktober tweeduizend acht.

Sporządzono w Bridgetown na Barbadosie dnia piętnastego października roku dwa tysiące ósmego.

Feito em Bridgetown, Barbados, em quinze de Outubro de dois mil e oito.

Înceiat la Bridgetown, Barbados, la cincisprezece octombrie două mii opt.

V Bridgetowne na Barbadosė dņa pātnāsteho oktobra dvetisīcosem.

V Bridgetownu, Barbados, dne petnajstega oktobra leta dva tisoč osem.

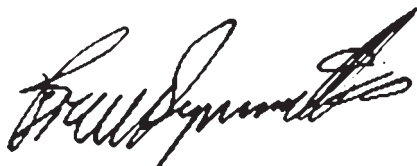
Tehty Bridgetownissa Barbadoksessa viidentenätoista päivänä lokakuuta vuonna kaksituhattakahdeksan.

Utfärdad i Bridgetown, Barbados, den femtonde oktober tjugohundraåtta.

For Antigua and Barbuda

A stylized handwritten signature in black ink, featuring a large loop at the top and a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

For the Commonwealth of the Bahamas

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be a cursive name with a prominent 'B' at the start.

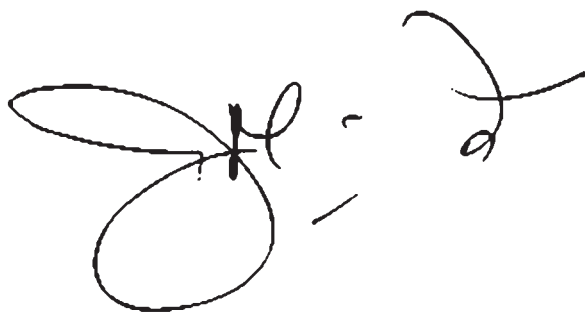
For Barbados

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large, thick circular loop followed by a vertical stroke.

For Belize

A handwritten signature in black ink, featuring a series of overlapping loops and a horizontal stroke at the bottom.

For the Commonwealth of Dominica

A handwritten signature in black ink, showing a large loop on the left and a series of smaller loops and strokes on the right.

Por la República Dominicana

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be a cursive name with a prominent 'D' at the start.

For Grenada

A stylized signature consisting of a large loop followed by a horizontal line and a vertical stroke.

For the Republic of Guyana

P. Gomes. BRUSSELS, 20 Oct. 2008.

Pour la République d'Haïti

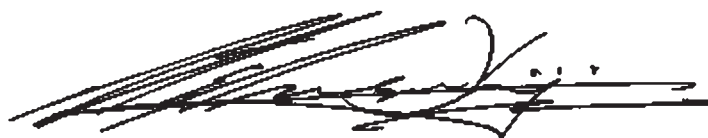
For Jamaica

A signature that reads "Kendra Zuh" in a cursive script.

For Saint Christopher and Nevis

A signature that reads "Timothy Harris" in a cursive script.

For Saint Lucia

A signature consisting of several horizontal strokes with a large loop in the middle.

For Saint Vincent and the Grenadines

A signature that reads "D. Slater" in a cursive script.

Voor de Republiek Suriname

A signature consisting of a large loop followed by a horizontal line and a vertical stroke.

For the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago

A signature that reads "J. Ramphal" in a cursive script.

Voor het Koninkrijk België
Pour le Royaume de Belgique
Für das Königreich Belgien



Deze handtekening verbindt eveneens de Vlaamse Gemeenschap, de Franse Gemeenschap, de Duitstalige Gemeenschap, het Vlaamse Gewest, het Waalse Gewest en het Brussels Hoofdstedelijk Gewest.

Cette signature engage également la Communauté française, la Communauté flamande, la Communauté germanophone, la Région wallonne, la Région flamande et la Région de Bruxelles-Capitale.

Diese unterschrift bindet zugleich die Deutschsprachige Gemeinschaft, die Flämische Gemeinschaft, die Französische Gemeinschaft, die Wallonische Region, die Flämische Region und die Region Brüssel-Hauptstadt.

За Република България



Za Českou republiku



På Kongeriget Danmarks vegne



Für die Bundesrepublik Deutschland



Eesti Vabariigi nimel



Thar cheann Na hÉireann

For Ireland



Για την Ελληνική Δημοκρατία



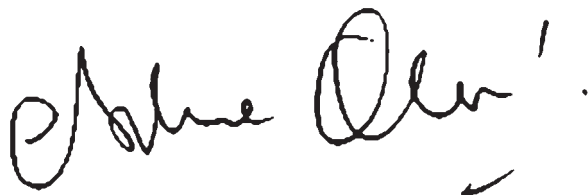
Por el Reino de España



Pour la République française



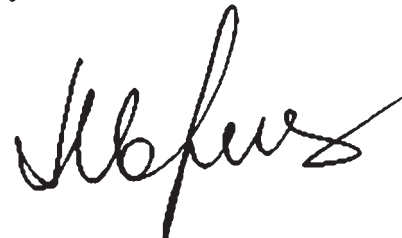
Per la Repubblica italiana



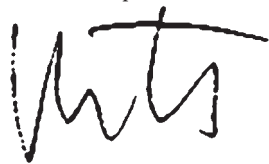
Για την Κυπριακή Δημοκρατία,



Latvijas Republikas vārdā



Lietuvos Respublikos vardu



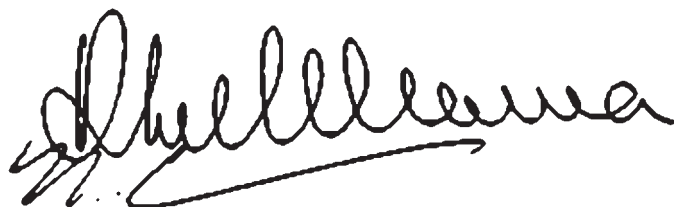
Pour le Grand-Duché de Luxembourg



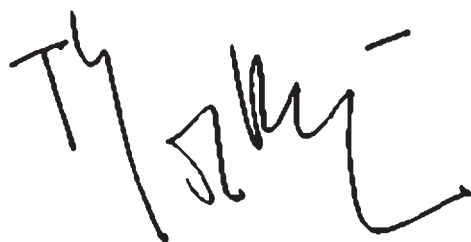
A Magyar Köztársaság részéről



Għall Malta



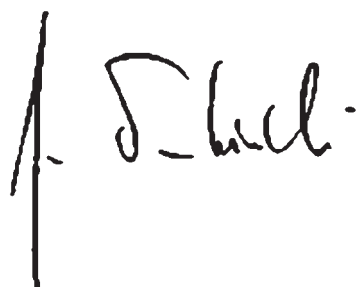
Voor het Koninkrijk der Nederlanden



Für die Republik Österreich



W imieniu Rzeczypospolitej Polskiej



Pela República Portuguesa



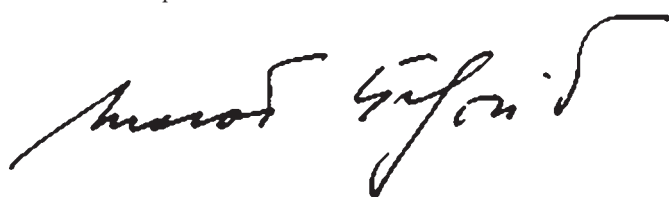
Pentru România



Za Republiko Slovenijo



Za Slovenskú republiku



Suomen tasavallan puolesta

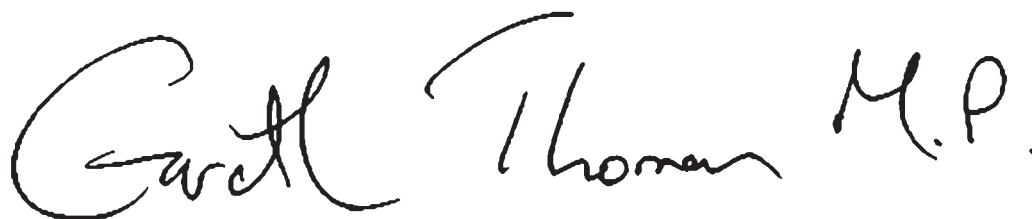
För Republiken Finland



För Konungariket Sverige



For the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland



За Европейската общност
Por la Comunidad Europea
Za Evropské společenství
For Det Europæiske Fællesskab
Für die Europäische Gemeinschaft
Euroopa Ühenduse nimel
Για την Ευρωπαϊκή Κοινότητα
For the European Community
Pour la Communauté européenne
Per la Comunità europea
Eiropas Kopienas vārdā
Europos bendrijos vardu
az Európai Közösség részéről
Għall-Komunità Ewropea
Voor de Europese Gemeenschap
W imieniu Wspólnoty Europejskiej
Pela Comunidade Europeia
Pentru Comunitatea Europeană
Za Európske spoločenstvo
za Evropsko skupnost
Euroopan yhteisön puolesta
På Europeiska gemenskapens vägnar

