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**STATEMENT BY
THE EUROPEAN UNION AT THE
1362nd MEETING OF THE OSCE PERMANENT COUNCIL**

10 March 2022

On the follow-up to the high-level meetings of 14 December 2021 and 4 February 2022

The European Union has taken note of the statement made by the delegation of Armenia and deplores the continuing loss of life as a result of the protracted conflicts in the OSCE area.

The European Union calls for the implementation of the guidelines set out by President of the European Council Charles Michel following his meeting with the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan and the Prime Minister of the Republic of Armenia on 14 December in Brussels. These include the use of communication mechanisms between the Ministers of Defence to prevent armed incidents along the border between the two countries. As it also did at the virtual summit on 4 February, the European Union will continue to give its full support to the dialogue between Armenia and Azerbaijan and to the implementation of specific measures to build trust between the two countries and to promote de-escalation on the ground. It is ready to contribute to this, notably through the work of the EU Special Representative for the South Caucasus and the crisis in Georgia, Toivo Klaar, and through technical assistance to support the delimitation of the borders as required by the parties. We reiterate our call on the parties to engage in good faith negotiations in order to make progress on all outstanding humanitarian issues and to reach a negotiated and lasting solution to the conflict.

The European Union intends to co-operate closely in this work with the OSCE. It reiterates its full support for the mediation efforts under the auspices of the OSCE to find comprehensive solutions to all remaining problems related to or resulting from the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict.

The candidate countries the Republic of North Macedonia¹, Montenegro¹, Serbia¹ and Albania¹, the country of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidate Bosnia and Herzegovina, and the European Free Trade Association countries Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway, members of the European Economic Area, as well as Ukraine, Andorra, and San Marino align themselves with this statement.

1 The Republic of North Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia and Albania continue to be part of the Stabilisation and Association Process.