



## EUROPEAN UNION

### OSCE Forum for Security Co-operation Nr 708 Vienna, 6 February 2013

#### EU Statement on Ukraine's new Military Doctrine and new National Security Strategy

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The European Union (EU) would like to thank the FSC Chairmanship for organizing today's Security Dialogue on "Ukraine's new Military Doctrine and new National Security Strategy", which provides a useful opportunity for discussion on Ukraine's ongoing challenges in the implementation of a sustainable security and defence policy. We would also like to welcome and thank Mr. Volodymyr Omelianchuk and Mr. Andrii Yermolaiev for their interesting presentations.

We note President Yanukovich approved the new version of the National Security Strategy in June 2012, which sets out the general principles, priorities, objectives and mechanisms necessary to protect the vital interests of individuals, society and the state against external and internal threats.

We observe the variety of measures proposed in the Strategy to address threats stemming, for example, from corruption, unsatisfactory judicial processes, inefficient use of resources, the spread of social and infectious diseases, a lack of energy diversity, dependency on imports and the need to harness the benefits from transit routes, as well as from the changing international security environment both at global and regional level. It is also interesting to learn of the latest version of Ukraine's Military Doctrine and concepts and its emphasis on *adequate* defence capacity, while taking part in international crisis management operations remains a priority.

We consider also Ukraine's allocation of increased funds for the disposal of surplus ammunition and the improvement of stockpile management and safety as a positive development. Both the Melange and SALW/SCA projects in Ukraine serve as good examples of OSCE added-value.

At their meeting on 10 December last, EU Foreign Ministers reaffirmed the EU's engagement with Ukraine, in the context of the Eastern Partnership, towards political association and economic integration based on the respect for common values, acknowledging the European aspirations of Ukraine and welcoming its European choice. The Council recalled the outcome of its debate in May 2012, stating that Ukraine's performance will determine the pace of engagement.

The EU welcomes therefore the important role of Ukraine in promoting international peace and security and in advancing conflict resolution efforts in the EU neighbourhood. We value Ukraine's continued commitment to Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP) civilian missions and military operations such as EU Police Mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina in the past, and currently the EU naval anti-piracy operation off the coast of Somalia and the EU Battlegroups.

The EU is ready to enhance cooperation with Ukraine in the CSDP field, namely with regard to the Regional Maritime Capacity Building Mission EUCAP Nestor and the recently established EU Training Mission in Mali, in which Ukraine was invited to participate.

To conclude, we once again thank Mr. Volodymyr Omelianchuk and Mr. Andrii Yermolaiev for their presentations. We wish Ukraine every success in its endeavours to reach the goals set out in the National Security Strategy and Military Doctrine and to defend and promote OSCE core values and principles.

The acceding country CROATIA\*, the candidate countries the FORMER YUGOSLAV REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA, MONTENEGRO, ICELAND\*\* and SERBIA, the countries of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidate countries ALBANIA and BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA, the European Free Trade Association country NORWAY, member of the European Economic Area, as well as the REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA align themselves with this statement.

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\* Croatia, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro and Serbia continue to be part of the Stabilisation and Association Process.

\*\* Iceland continues to be a member of EFTA and the European Economic Area.