



EUROPEAN UNION

**OSCE Permanent Council N°1091
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EU Statement on the release of journalists Can Dündar and Erdem Gül in Turkey

The European Union joins the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media in welcoming the decision of Turkey's Constitutional Court, which led to the release of journalists Can Dündar and Erdem Gül after 92 days of detention.

The Court ruled their arrest had been against the Constitution as in violation of their individual rights as well as the freedom of the press and expression rights.

This decision represented a needed step in the right direction in Turkey for guaranteeing freedom of expression, one of the essential foundations of the European Union and the OSCE, and we express our hope that all charges against the journalists will be dropped.

The Candidate Countries the FORMER YUGOSLAV REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA*, MONTENEGRO*, SERBIA* and ALBANIA*, the Country of the Stabilisation and Association Process and Potential Candidate BOSNIA and HERZEGOVINA, and the EFTA countries ICELAND, LIECHTENSTEIN and NORWAY, members of the European Economic Area, as well as ARMENIA align themselves with this statement.

* The FORMER YUGOSLAV REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA, MONTENEGRO, SERBIA and ALBANIA continue to be part of the Stabilisation and Association Process.