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EUROPEAN UNION

**OSCE Permanent Council Nr 1143
Vienna, 27 April 2017**

**EU statement on combating all forms of intolerance and
discrimination**

We take this opportunity to underline the EU's commitment towards combating all forms of intolerance and discrimination.

The fight against all forms of discrimination and the promotion of tolerance goes hand in hand with the promotion and universal protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms, such as freedom of expression, freedom of thought, conscience, religion or belief, or freedom of assembly and association, which are priorities for the European Union.

The fight against intolerance and discrimination requires a comprehensive, inclusive approach, as reflected in our OSCE commitments.

With reference to combating discrimination based on religious grounds, the EU Guidelines on the Promotion and Protection of Freedom of Religion or Belief, agreed in 2013, continue to guide our work in this area.