



## EUROPEAN UNION

### OSCE Permanent Council No. 1232 Vienna, 13 June 2019

#### **EU Statement on the release on parole of Mr Oyub Titiev in the Russian Federation**

The European Union has taken note of the decision of the Shali town court on 10 June to approve the application for parole by Mr Oyub Titiev, who was convicted to four years imprisonment on 18 March. We understand that Mr Titiev will be released on parole on 20 June.

We have followed Mr Titiev's case very closely since his arrest in January 2018. We remain of the view that the charges against Mr Titiev and subsequent sentencing were directly connected to his human rights work for Memorial, an organisation that has been the subject of ongoing intimidation and harassment in the North Caucasus and beyond. The EU has been clear that Mr Titiev did not receive a fair trial, as was also evidenced in writing in the context of the Moscow Mechanism.

Participating States agreed in 1975 that everyone has the right to know and act upon their rights: this includes the right to seek and receive assistance from others in defending human rights. We call on the Russian authorities to ensure that, upon his release on parole, Mr Titiev is free to resume his professional activities, free from fear of persecution and harassment. We will continue to monitor the human rights situation in the Chechen Republic very closely.

The Candidate Countries REPUBLIC OF NORTH MACEDONIA\*, MONTENEGRO\* and ALBANIA\*, the EFTA countries ICELAND and NORWAY, members of the European Economic Area, as well as UKRAINE, GEORGIA and CANADA align themselves with this statement.

\* Republic of North Macedonia, Montenegro and Albania continue to be part of the Stabilisation and Association Process.