



EUROPEAN UNION

OSCE Special Permanent Council Nr 1040 Vienna, 17 February 2015

EU Statement on the terrorist attacks in Copenhagen

The European Union condemns, in the strongest possible terms, this weekend's attacks against a peaceful public gathering about freedom of expression as well as a synagogue in Copenhagen, killing two persons and leaving five police officers injured. Once again Europe is shocked by another brutal terrorist attack targeted at our fundamental values and freedoms. Our thoughts are with the victims and their families. Sympathy and solidarity have been expressed by leaders from around the world to the Danish people.

This is an attack on all open and free societies, on freedom of expression and on freedom of religion or belief. We will not be intimidated. We stand united with Denmark in upholding freedom of expression. We condemn all attempts to silence open public debate and all attacks on the Jewish community. It is a cornerstone of democratic societies that differences are resolved by arguments and counter arguments, and not through violence. The European Union will continue to promote these values, including within the OSCE.

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

* The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro and Albania continue to be part of the Stabilisation and Association Process.

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