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## **EUROPEAN UNION**

## OSCE Permanent Council No 1056 Vienna, 4 June 2015

## EU Statement on the Abolition of the Death Penalty in Nebraska

The European Union warmly welcomes the fact that Nebraska on the 27 May became the 19<sup>th</sup> State in the United States to repeal the death penalty. This is a historic step by the Nebraska Legislature at a time where the worldwide movement towards the abolition of capital punishment continues to grow.

The EU strongly hopes that this decision will encourage other US States to follow suit by joining this growing national and global movement towards abolition.

The EU opposes the death penalty in all circumstances and considers that its abolition contributes to the enhancement of human dignity and the progressive development of human rights.

The Candidate Countries the FORMER YUGOSLAV REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA\*, MONTENEGRO\* and ALBANIA\*, the Country of the Stabilisation and Association Process and Potential Candidate BOSNIA and HERZEGOVINA, as well as UKRAINE, the REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA, ANDORRA 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.