



EUROPEAN UNION

OSCE Permanent Council Nr 985 Vienna, 27 February 2014

EU Statement on Ukraine

Mr Chairman,

The European Union follows the situation in Ukraine closely and calls on all stakeholders to continue engaging in a meaningful and inclusive process leading to a lasting solution of the crisis; to protect the unity and territorial integrity of the country; and to strive to ensure a stable, prosperous and democratic future for all Ukraine's citizens.

The European Union firmly believes that the OSCE has an important role to play in assisting Ukraine in its transition period. We strongly support the active engagement of the OSCE Chairmanship. We are of the view that the OSCE has the necessary attributes to play an important role in the international efforts in regard to Ukraine. In this context, we encourage the Chairmanship to continue its close coordination with all actors, including international organisations such as the Council of Europe and the United Nations.

We welcome the appointment of Ambassador Tim Guldemann as the Chairperson-in-Office's personal envoy on Ukraine and appreciate the early deployment of an OSCE core team to conduct a needs-assessment mission. We believe the OSCE can offer a range of important assistance in areas such as election support and monitoring, human rights, media freedom, national minority issues, police and judicial reform. In this context, the OSCE Secretariat, the three autonomous institutions and the Project Coordinator in Ukraine can all offer valuable expertise.

We encourage Ukraine to make use of the Chairmanship's offer of support.

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

* The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro and Serbia 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.