



EUROPEAN UNION

**OSCE Forum for Security Co-operation N°894
Vienna, 10 October 2018**

EU Statement on Military Doctrines

Madame Chairperson, the European Union and its Member States warmly welcome the speakers to the Forum for Security Co-operation and thank them for their thoughtful presentations. We also commend the Swedish FSC Chairmanship for drawing the attention of this distinguished Forum to the important topic of military doctrines.

We appreciate today's meeting as another opportunity to discuss new security challenges and their repercussions for military doctrines, following on from the 2016 High-Level Military Doctrine Seminar under the Dutch FSC Chairmanship, and the Intersessional Dialogue on Military Doctrines organised by Austria last year. Threat and risk perceptions inform military doctrine, and military structures and developments derive from doctrine. And threat perceptions do not appear in a vacuum. They are shaped by history, by events and influenced by geopolitical, military and technological changes.

Madame Chairperson, the violation of the main principles of the European security order, including the sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity of states, the inviolability of borders and the peaceful settlement of disputes, is of key concern to the EU. Threats from terrorism and regional conflicts, hybrid warfare, the increasing importance of cyberspace, unprecedented refugee flows, as well as a lack of democratic governance, are only a few examples of the current security challenges that put peace and stability in the OSCE area at risk. None of our countries can address current security threats alone and challenges to our security need a comprehensive response.

The OSCE with its comprehensive approach to security is well placed to serve as a platform for dialogue, based on the need to respect international law and fundamental principles of the OSCE. We have listened with interest to the presentations of the

distinguished speakers on current trends and developments in the field of military doctrine.

We see the current discussion within the Structured Dialogue on threat perceptions and risk reduction as a timely means to address these topics. Furthermore, we stress the need to bring the Vienna Document in line with the realities of today's security needs in order to make sure that it continues to serve its purpose of greater transparency and confidence building between participating States. We are convinced that a comprehensively modernised Vienna Document would result in more transparency, ensure greater predictability and thus help rebuild mutual trust and confidence to the benefit of all OSCE participating States.

Madame Chairperson, we are grateful for the opportunity to exchange views on this important topic.

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, and the EFTA countries ICELAND, LIECHTENSTEIN and NORWAY, members of the European Economic Area, as well as UKRAINE, the REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA, GEORGIA and ANDORRA align themselves with this statement.

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