



**EUROPEAN UNION**

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**EU statement under A.O.B. on the recent high-level event  
"Climate, Peace and Security: The Time for Action"**

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On June 22, concluding an intense week of European Union climate diplomacy, High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy / Vice-President of the Commission (HR/VP) Federica Mogherini hosted a high-level event – "Climate, Peace and Security: The Time for Action". Prime ministers and ministers from around the world, top officials from international and regional organisations – including OSCE Secretary General Greminger – and leading experts testified to the many real and potential security threats deriving from climate change if left unchecked. In this context HR/VP Mogherini underlined that the Paris Agreement is and must remain our first line of defence and the indispensable foundation for reaching climate neutrality in the second half of this century.

Participants discussed how best to manage the security threats posed by climate change. They looked at ways to reduce vulnerability and strengthen the resilience of communities and states so that they can anticipate and manage climate risks before they become critical. Building upon the recent ground-breaking resolutions of the UN Security Council (UNSC) regarding the security consequences of climate change and referring to the UNSC debate on climate-related security risks organised by Sweden on 11 July, many participants called for enhanced multilateral cooperation while aligning the implementation on the ground of both the Paris Agreement and the 2030 Agenda.

Participants stressed that the impacts of climate change are cross-cutting and that policies should reflect this reality. No matter how much States, donors and development partners invest in promoting economic and social development as a

means to prevent conflict and sustain peace and security, if climate risks are left out of the equation, much of that effort may be in vain.

Concluding remarks underlined that the time for action could not be further delayed and pointed to clear and concrete pathways to be pursued.

We believe that the critical nexus between climate, peace and security is also of high relevance to our work at the OSCE and should have a corresponding place on the agenda in the OSCE's Economic and Environmental Dimension. We look forward to constructive in-depth discussion with all participating States.

The Candidate Countries the FORMER YUGOSLAV REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA\*, MONTENEGRO\*, SERBIA\* and ALBANIA\*, the Country of the Stabilisation and Association Process and Potential Candidate BOSNIA and HERZEGOVINA, and the EFTA country ICELAND, member of the European Economic Area, as well as UKRAINE, the REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA, GEORGIA, ANDORRA and SAN MARINO align themselves with this statement.

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