



## EUROPEAN UNION

### OSCE Forum for Security Co-operation Nr 758 Vienna, 18 June 2014

#### EU Statement on UNSCR 1540

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The European Union (EU) warmly welcomes to the Forum for Security Cooperation H.E. Ambassador Oh Joon, Chair of the UNSC Committee established pursuant to Resolution 1540 (2004), Mr. Terence Taylor from the UNSCR 1540 Group of Experts, and Ms. Svetlana Geleva from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia. We would also like to thank them for their substantive contribution to today's Security Dialogue on the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of UNSCR 1540.

We would like to stress that for us, UNSCR 1540 and subsequent resolutions constitute a key element of the international non-proliferation landscape in addition to being a crucial instrument in the international counter-terrorism regime. The competence of the UN Security Council in tackling threats to international peace and security has been reaffirmed through this resolution, which is binding for all States, regardless whether they are party to non-proliferation instruments.

It is well known that the European Union has been strongly supporting national and regional efforts towards the implementation of UNSCR 1540 since its adoption, including through information sharing, enhanced cooperation with the 1540 Committee, its Group of Experts and UNODA, as well as provision of effective assistance to those States that require it.

We would also like to stress the importance of adopting national action plans. In this regard, the European Union welcomes the significant progress achieved by the 1540 Committee and its Group of Experts in accordance with the provisions of UNSCR 1540 and subsequent resolutions. As for the European Union, all Member States have reported on their 1540 implementation to the 1540 Committee and a number of them have issued national action plans. We would also like to recall our full

commitment and continuous support for the 1540 Committee as its Mandate has been extended until 2021.

Regarding our partnerships, we welcome the combined efforts of the European Union and its Member States and the OSCE and believe that the cooperation should be reinforced and focused on developing practical activities. These include, inter alia, provision of assistance to participating States, at their request, for the development of national action plans, facilitating information sharing, promoting best practices and strengthening relevant multilateral information exchange networks related to UNSCR 1540 implementation.

In this context, we commend the activities and the consistent efforts of the OSCE executive structures devoted to assisting the OSCE participating States, at their request, in implementing UNSCR 1540. The impressive achievements of the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, as presented today by Ms. Geleva, in improving its national implementation measures, in close cooperation with and using assistance provided by relevant international organisations, including the OSCE, are a case in point.

This and other examples of fruitful cooperation reinforce our conviction that the OSCE's role and capacities dedicated to the implementation of UNSCR 1540 and related resolutions in the OSCE area need to be enhanced further and put on a sustainable basis.

In conclusion, we would like to express, once again, our gratitude to the speakers and to the Moldovan FSC Chairmanship for today's opportunity to discuss UNSCR 1540 implementation in the OSCE area.

The candidate countries the FORMER YUGOSLAV REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA\*, MONTENEGRO, ICELAND\*\* and SERBIA, the countries of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidate countries ALBANIA and BOSNIA AND

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\* 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 EFTA and the European Economic Area.

HERZEGOVINA, the European Free Trade Association country NORWAY, member of the European Economic Area, as well as UKRAINE, the REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA, ARMENIA, GEORGIA, SAN MARINO and MONACO align themselves with this statement.