

## **STATEMENT BY THE EUROPEAN UNION AT THE 843rd MEETING OF THE OSCE PERMANENT COUNCIL**

9 December 2010

### **Regarding the legislative elections in the Republic of Moldova**

The European Union welcomes the fact that the parliamentary elections in the Republic of Moldova on 28 November were carried out in accordance with most of the commitments of the OSCE and the Council of Europe, as indicated in the preliminary conclusions by the international election observation mission. We particularly welcome the high turnout.

The European Union notes with satisfaction that the Republic of Moldova has made substantial efforts to strengthen democracy and implement structural reforms during the course of the year as prerequisites for intensifying and consolidating political association and economic integration with the European Union.

These elections provide an opportunity for consolidating political stability. The European Union urges all political forces represented in the Parliament of the Republic of Moldova to participate in open and constructive dialogue to pave the way for the formation of a government coalition and the election of the leading State figures, namely the parliamentary speaker, prime minister and president of the Republic, who together are called upon to address themselves to the priority reforms that will shape the country's future.

In that context, the European Union, as it did in its interpretative statement on the adoption of the Astana Declaration, calls for the unconditional resumption as soon as possible of official negotiations between the parties in the 5+2 format, the only framework guaranteeing the necessary transparency and legitimacy for a lasting political settlement that respects the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Republic of Moldova. It also restates its support for confidence- and security-building measures aimed at promoting transparency, stability and the previously agreed military withdrawals in accordance with the OSCE's objectives, statements and commitments.

The candidate countries Turkey, Croatia<sup>1</sup>, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia<sup>1</sup> and Iceland<sup>2</sup>, the Stabilisation and Association Process countries and potential

---

1 Croatia and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia continue to be part of the Stabilisation and Association Process.

2 Iceland continues to be a member of the European Free Trade Association and the European Economic Area.

candidate countries Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro and Serbia, the European Free Trade Association country and member of the European Economic Area Norway, as well as Ukraine, Georgia and San Marino align themselves with this statement.