

Prohlášení Statement Déclaration

Vienna 22 January 2009

Permanent Council No. 747

EU Statement on the promulgation of the law on “Freedom of Conscience and Religious Organisations in the Kyrgyz Republic”

Recalling previous statements on the draft law on “Freedom of Conscience and Religious Organisations in the Kyrgyz Republic” and the recommendations offered by independent experts of the ODIHR, the European Union notes with concern the signing of a decree promulgating this law by President Bakiev.

We note that President Bakiev tasked the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic and the relevant authorities to establish a commission with the participation of different confessions’ representatives in order to examine and resolve their concerns. The EU encourages the Kyrgyz authorities to work with the OSCE Centre in Bishkek and ODIHR’s experts to address these issues.

The EU acknowledges the concerns of the Kyrgyz authorities to contain religious extremism and radicalisation and stands ready to cooperate with the Kyrgyz Republic to address these issues in line with all OSCE commitments.

The candidate countries TURKEY, CROATIA* and FORMER YUGOSLAV REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA*, the countries of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidate countries ALBANIA, BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA, MONTENEGRO and SERBIA, the European Free Trade Association countries and members of the European Economic Area ICELAND and NORWAY, as well as UKRAINE, the REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA and GEORGIA align themselves with this statement.

*Croatia and Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia continue to be part of the Stabilisation and Association Process.