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EUROPEAN UNION

OSCE Permanent Council Nr 1143 Vienna, 27 April 2017

EU statement on ODIHR's election monitoring activities

The EU underlines its full support for the mandate and autonomy of ODIHR. Many participating States, including in the European Union, also more recently such as in France which currently hosts an OSCE ODIHR Election Observation Mission, have benefitted from ODIHR's advice and support in implementing OSCE commitments.

We reiterate in particular our strong support for ODIHR's observation methodology which is applied equally in all participating States. It is based on the principles of independence, impartiality and professionalism as spelled out in Ministerial Council Decision 19/06 on Strengthening the effectiveness of the OSCE. The European Union fully supports the preparation as well as the conduct of ODIHR's election observation without due restrictions and limitations imposed by participating States.

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, as well as UKRAINE, the REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA, GEORGIA and SAN MARINO align themselves with this statement.

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