



EUROPEAN UNION

OSCE Forum for Security Co-operation Nr 777 Vienna, 28 January 2015

EU Statement on Nuclear Non-Proliferation

The European Union (EU) would like to thank today's speakers for their presentations on nuclear non-proliferation.

We reiterate on this occasion that the European Union continue to consider the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) as the cornerstone of the global nuclear non-proliferation regime, the essential foundation for the pursuit of nuclear disarmament in accordance with Article VI of the NPT and an important element in the further development of nuclear energy applications for peaceful purposes.

In view of current proliferation risks, we are convinced that today the NPT is more important than ever. We must strengthen its authority and integrity. We reaffirm our full support for all three pillars of the Treaty and the implementation of commitments undertaken during previous Review Conferences.

The European Union will continue to promote a comprehensive, balanced and substantive implementation of the forward-looking 2010 NPT Review Conference Action Plan and is committed to working with all States towards a successful conclusion and substantial outcome to the 2015 Review Conference.

We welcome the updating of the OSCE Principles Governing Non-Proliferation in 2013 in which all OSCE participating States unanimously reconfirmed their commitment to prevent proliferation in all its aspects of nuclear, chemical or biological weapons and their means of delivery. They furthermore committed themselves to strengthen the non-proliferation regime through full implementation of their existing international obligations, multilateral agreements and instruments, while benefiting also from the entire range of multilateral and bilateral arrangements and determined

national efforts. OSCE assistance to participating States in their implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 1540 (2004) is one such important effort.

In this context, we welcome the signature by the five nuclear weapon States of the Protocol to the Central Asia Nuclear Weapons Free Zone Treaty in the margins of the Third session of the Preparatory Committee of the 2015 NPT Review Conference in April-May last year.

The EU recalls its strong condemnation of the violation of several commitments by the Russian Federation to refrain from the threat or use of force against the territorial integrity or sovereignty of Ukraine under the Budapest memorandum of 1994 on security assurances in connection with Ukraine's accession to the NPT as a non-nuclear weapon State. We express our concern about the possible consequences of further deterioration of the international context on disarmament efforts.

Mr Chairman, we would like to once again thank you and today's speakers for giving us this opportunity to discuss an important topic on the international non-proliferation agenda.

The candidate countries the FORMER YUGOSLAV REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA*, MONTENEGRO, ICELAND**, and ALBANIA, the country of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidate BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA, and the EFTA country NORWAY, member of the European Economic Area, 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.

** Iceland continues to be a member of EFTA and the European Economic Area.