

**EUROPEAN UNION****OSCE Permanent Council Nr 957
Vienna, 27 June 2013**

**EU statement on the Transnistrian so-called legal act on
the border**

The EU would like to draw the attention of the Permanent Council to the statement of 21 June by EU High Representative Catherine Ashton on the Transnistrian so-called legal act on the border:

“I support the statement made on 17 June by OSCE Chairperson-in-Office, Ukrainian Foreign Minister Leonid Kozhara, regarding the Transnistrian de facto authorities' so-called legal act on the border.

I urge the two sides of the Transnistrian conflict to work in a constructive spirit, within the framework of the '5+2' negotiating process, towards a peaceful settlement. I reaffirm the EU's commitment to supporting the settlement process, in the interest and for the benefit of the populations on the ground, through dialogue with all the parties concerned and through an extensive programme of confidence-building measures open to both sides.

In this context, I wish to recall that two decades of unresolved conflict have led to the continuous deterioration of living conditions in the affected areas, and that only a forward-looking, peaceful, negotiated solution that will respect the fundamental rights of all the citizens residing within the internationally recognised borders of the Republic of Moldova will be able to bring a viable settlement conducive to lasting peace and prosperity on the 1istru / Dniester River.”

The Acceding Country CROATIA*, the Candidate Countries the former Yugoslav Republic of MACEDONIA*, MONTENEGRO*, ICELAND+ and SERBIA*, the Countries of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidates ALBANIA and BOSNIA and HERZEGOVINA, and the EFTA countries LIECHTENSTEIN and NORWAY, members of the European Economic Area, as well as GEORGIA, align themselves with this statement.

* Croatia, 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 the EFTA and of the European Economic Area.