



## EUROPEAN UNION

**OSCE Permanent Council Nr 833  
Vienna, 4 November 2010**

### **EU response to the report by the OSCE Representative to the Latvian-Russian Joint Commission on Military Pensioners, Lt Colonel Helmut Napiontek**

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The European Union welcomes Lieutenant Colonel Napiontek again to the Permanent Council and thanks him for his latest annual report.

We note from the report that no meeting of the Commission took place in 2010 and indeed that no new individual cases have been brought to the Commission's attention for almost two years.

We would like to commend both State parties for the excellent cooperation without having to resort to the Commission. Like Lieutenant Colonel Napiontek, we too would wish to see this cooperative approach extended to enable a common understanding to be reached on the principles to apply for determination of the list of eligible military pensioners.

In the light of the foregoing, we could support the proposal to consider a temporary suspension of the OSCE Representation to the Commission, on the understanding that the Representative could attend the Commission meetings if so requested by one of the parties.

The candidate countries TURKEY, CROATIA\*, the FORMER YUGOSLAV REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA\* and ICELAND\*\*, the countries of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential 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 the REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA and GEORGIA align themselves with this statement.

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

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