



## German Presidency of the European Union

### **646<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Permanent Council**

**18 January 2007**

## EU Statement on Energy Security

The European Union welcomes the fact that crude oil supplies from the Russian Federation via the Republic of Belarus to the European Union, which were suspended at the beginning of this year, have resumed. In this regard, the EU takes positive note of the call on the parties to reach a mutually satisfactory solution, made by the OSCE Chairman in Office, the Spanish Foreign Minister Miguel Angel Moratinos, on January 9.

Being concerned about secure energy supplies, the European Union is convinced that disputes over energy matters should always be settled in an orderly, non-confrontational manner, avoiding negative impact on energy security of a third party. The relevant instruments are provided for in the Energy Charter Treaty.

The mutual energy relationships between states must be predictable, transparent and reliable. This also means that existing supply commitments must be honoured. Building on the basis of reliability and partnership, the EU will intensify its bilateral dialogue with participating States on energy.

Recalling the Brussels decision on energy security dialogue in the OSCE, the EU encourages OSCE participating States to strengthen their dialogue on energy security, involving producing, transit and consuming countries.

The Candidate Countries Turkey, Croatia and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia\*, the Countries of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidates Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, and Serbia, as well as Ukraine align themselves with this statement.

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