



EUROPEAN UNION

OSCE Permanent Council Nr 849 Vienna, 3 February 2011

EU statement regarding freedom of the media in Member States of the European Union

At the meeting of the Permanent Council on 20 January, the Ambassador of the Russian Federation delivered a statement on freedom of the media in certain Member States of the European Union.

Freedom of the media is, of course, a fundamental freedom and priority for the European Union itself, as well as one of the cornerstones of the OSCE. We therefore collectively welcome this interest and continue to be ready to engage in a substantive and constructive dialogue on issues related to freedom of the media within the OSCE and beyond. As declared in the Astana declaration, these commitments are matters of direct and legitimate concern to all participating States and do not belong exclusively to the internal affairs of the State concerned.

As indicated by the EU in the run up to the Astana Summit, updating existing OSCE freedom of media commitments and enhancing their implementation due to rapid change in recent years in the media field is a key objective of the EU in the human dimension.