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EUROPEAN UNION

OSCE Permanent Council Nr 1046 Vienna, 27 March 2015

EU statement on arrests of suspects in the Srebrenica genocide

The EU and its Member States take note of the arrests upon order by the Office of the War Crimes Prosecutor of Serbia last week, of the eight individuals suspected of crimes linked to the Srebrenica genocide. We commend the progress made in investigating these crimes. We praise the cooperation on this matter between Serbia and Bosnia and Herzegovina, particularly in the context of the protocol signed by the Prosecutor's Offices to exchange information and evidence on perpetrators of war crimes, crimes against humanity and genocide. The introduction of joint investigative teams is an important additional step in this endeavour.

The EU and its Member States continues to be strongly committed to ensuring that there is no impunity for individuals who commit war crimes and will follow with great attention further proceedings of this case. Justice for war crimes is crucial, for the victims, their families, as well as for the broader efforts towards reconciling societies within the countries concerned.

The Candidate Countries the FORMER YUGOSLAV REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA*, MONTENEGRO*, ICELAND+ and ALBANIA*, and the EFTA countries LIECHTENSTEIN and NORWAY, members 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 the EFTA and of the European Economic Area.