

Spanish Presidency of the European Union**OSCE Permanent Council No. 808
Vienna, 6 May 2010****EU statement on the detention of Nematillo Botakuziev
by the authorities in Tajikistan**

As indicated at last week's meeting of the Permanent Council, the EU would like to return to the case of the Mr Nematillo Botakuziev, a Kyrgyz citizen and human rights defender. We thank the Tajik delegation for the information provided last week. The EU remains concerned about his continued detention by the Tajik State Committee on National Security.

The UNHCR, the OSCE Office in Tajikistan, and EU Heads of Mission in Dushanbe have all raised concerns about the detention of Mr Botakuziev with the relevant authorities in Tajikistan, including with Foreign Minister Zarifi. The EU Special Representative for Central Asia, Pierre Morel, also raised the issue with Tajikistan in the margins of last week's EU / Central Asia Ministerial Meeting in Brussels. EU Member States Ambassadors in Dushanbe have again raised the issue on Friday, 30 April, this time with Deputy Foreign Minister Yuldashev.

The European Union urges the Tajik authorities to allow Mr Botakuziev unimpeded access to his lawyer and for a representative of the UNHCR to visit him in his place of detention, in line with Tajikistan's international human rights commitments.

Los países candidatos CROACIA* y la ANTIGUA REPÚBLICA YUGOSLAVA DE MACEDONIA*, los países del Proceso de Estabilización y Asociación y los países candidatos potenciales, ALBANIA, BOSNIA Y HERZEGOVINA, MONTENEGRO y SERBIA, los países de la Asociación Europea de Libre Comercio y los miembros del Espacio Económico Europeo, ISLANDIA y NORUEGA, al igual que la REPÚBLICA DE MOLDAVIA se suman a esta declaración.

*Croacia y la Antigua República Yugoslava de Macedonia siguen perteneciendo al proceso de Estabilización y Asociación.