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**OSCE Permanent Council N° 1210
Vienna, 20 December 2018**

**EU Statement in response to the Report by the Special
Representatives of the OSCE Chairperson in Office on
Youth and Security**

1. The European Union warmly welcomes the Special Representatives of the Chairperson in Office on Youth and Security and thanks them for their presentation.
2. We commend their work throughout the year and the continued support to the youth and security agenda by the Italian Chairperson in Office which, with its comprehensive approach to all three dimensions, have contributed to mainstreaming UNSCRs 2250 (2015) and 2419 (2018) on youth in the maintenance of international peace and security.
3. We welcome the adoption of a declaration on the role of youth in contributing to peace and security efforts at the Ministerial Council recently held in Milan. We would have liked to see a stronger and more ambitious text adopted. The declaration is however a significant step forward in the efforts to further promote youth and security agenda also within the OSCE.
4. As you said in your presentation, the declaration comes at a timely moment to guide our Organization's joint efforts in the future, and adds up to the over 50 ministerial level decisions and declarations including provisions on youth and education adopted since the contribution of youth was first recognized in the Helsinki Final Act.



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5. We continue to encourage OSCE participating States to explore ways in which the Malaga Decalogue adopted last year in the framework of the conference “Working with youth and for youth: strengthening security and cooperation on line” could be implemented in the OSCE.
6. The OSCE Group of Friends of Youth and Security, chaired by the Spanish Permanent Representative, is a privileged forum for discussions and exchanges among the OSCE Secretariat, institutions and field operations, delegations and external stakeholders together with the special representatives. We encourage participating States and Partners for Cooperation to actively engage in these debates with the aim of moving forward the youth and security agenda.
7. We welcome OSCE executive structures and field operations work in youth related issues.
8. We acknowledge the valuable work that has been done since 2015 by the Youth and Security CiO Special Representatives and we commend the intention of the incoming Slovak Chairmanship to continue to support their work. We look forward to fruitful co-operation with the Special Representatives on Youth and Security in the coming year.

The Candidate Countries the FORMER YUGOSLAV REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA*, MONTENEGRO*, SERBIA* and ALBANIA*, the Country of the Stabilisation and Association Process and Potential Candidate BOSNIA and HERZEGOVINA, the EFTA countries ICELAND, and LIECHTENSTEIN, members of the European Economic Area, as well as UKRAINE, the REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA, GEORGIA, ANDORRA and SAN MARINO align themselves with this statement.

* The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia and Albania continue to be part of the Stabilisation and Association Process.