



EUROPEAN UNION

OSCE Forum for Security Co-operation Nr 653 Vienna, 27 July 2011

EU statement on the bomb blasts in Oslo and the killings at Utoya Island in Norway

The European Union would like to draw the attention of this Forum to the Statements made on 22 and 23 July 2011 by EU High Representative, Catherine Ashton and President of the European Council, Herman Van Rompuy on the bomb blasts in Oslo and the killings at Utoya Island in Norway (SEC.DEL/291/11, SEC.DEL/292/11, SEC.DEL/295/11).

The EU is deeply shocked by these tragic events that claimed so many lives, mainly young people. We express our great sadness, deepest sympathy and extend our most sincere condolences to the families and friends of the victims.

The EU strongly condemns these criminal acts of violence for which there can never be any excuse or justification.

In the spirit of partnership between the EU and Norway, we share the sadness and grief of the Norwegian people at this difficult and painful time.

The candidate countries TURKEY, CROATIA*, the FORMER YUGOSLAV REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA* and MONTENEGRO*, the countries of the

Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidate countries ALBANIA and SERBIA, the European Free Trade Association country LIECHTENSTEIN, as well as UKRAINE, ARMENIA, GEORGIA, ANDORRA and SAN MARINO align themselves with this statement.

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

**Iceland continues to be a member of the EFTA and the European Economic Area.