



## **EUROPEAN UNION**

**Permanent Council Nr 881  
Vienna, 22 September 2011**

### **EU statement on northern Kosovo**

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The European Union expresses its concern about the situation in northern Kosovo and urges all sides to refrain from statements and actions likely to stir tensions, to help defuse the tensions and do all that is necessary to calm down the situation.

The EU once more urges all sides to focus efforts on resolving outstanding issues through the EU facilitated dialogue. Dialogue is the only way to ensure the inclusion of all sides' views and unilateral or disproportionate actions must be avoided.

In this context, the EU welcomes the results of the EU facilitated dialogue meeting of 2 September, which led to an agreement on customs stamps. We call on both sides to ensure and facilitate full implementation of the agreements reached so far in order to ease people's lives in Kosovo, and we look forward to further progress at the next round of the dialogue at the end of September.

The EU supports the efforts of EULEX and KFOR to de-escalate tensions on the ground and to maintain security and we call on all sides to co-operate with them.

The candidate countries TURKEY, CROATIA\*, the FORMER YUGOSLAV REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA\*, MONTENEGRO\* and ICELAND\*\*, the country of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidate country BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA, the European Free Trade Association countries LIECHTENSTEIN and NORWAY, members of the European Economic Area, as well as UKRAINE, ARMENIA and ANDORRA 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.