



EUROPEAN UNION

**OSCE Permanent Council N°1165
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**EU Statement on the verdict in the case of Ratko Mladić of
the International Criminal Tribunal for the former
Yugoslavia**

The EEAS Spokesperson issued a statement on the judgement, pronounced yesterday, in the case of Ratko Mladić before the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia (ICTY). The verdict touches upon some of the darkest, most tragic events of Bosnia and Herzegovina's, the Western Balkans', Europe's recent history, including the genocide in Srebrenica. Delivering justice and fighting impunity for the most horrific crimes is a fundamental human obligation. Our sympathies are with those who survived and those who lost their loved ones.

While we don't comment individual judgements, we fully respect the decisions of the ICTY and support its work.

We regret trends observed in the region to deny crimes and reject facts as established in the judgments of the ICTY. The attempts to justify war crimes and revisionism constitute a threat to the stability of the entire region.

We urge all states to cooperate fully with ICTY as well as its successor Mechanism for International Criminal Tribunals. This includes accepting without reservations and implementing the judgements and rulings of the ICTY.

The European Union trusts that all the countries in the region are determined and committed to work towards reconciliation, regional cooperation and good neighbourly relations. We expect all political leaders in the region to honour the victims by promoting and respecting these commitments, and to continue building lasting peace and reconciliation.

The Candidate Countries the FORMER YUGOSLAV REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA*, MONTENEGRO* and ALBANIA*, the Country of the Stabilisation and Association Process and Potential Candidate BOSNIA and HERZEGOVINA, and the EFTA countries ICELAND and NORWAY, members of the European Economic Area, as well as UKRAINE, the REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA, ANDORRA 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.