



**EUROPEAN UNION**

**OSCE Permanent Council N° 1187  
Vienna, 31 May 2018**

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**EU Statement in Response to the Statement of Georgia on  
the decision of the Syrian regime to establish diplomatic  
relations with the Georgian breakaway regions of Abkhazia  
and South Ossetia**

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The European Union strongly condemns the decision of the Syrian regime to establish diplomatic relations with the Georgian breakaway regions of Abkhazia and South Ossetia. This decision clearly violates international law and the principle of territorial integrity as defined by the United Nations Charter and relevant UN Security Council resolutions and has no legal standing.

The European Union has called for this decision to be reversed.

The European Union reiterates its firm support for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Georgia within its internationally recognised borders.

We remain firmly committed to conflict resolution in Georgia and to a policy of non-recognition and engagement with its breakaway regions using all instruments, including the EU and OSCE tools, at our disposal through a comprehensive approach.

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, and the EFTA country LIECHTENSTEIN, member of the European Economic Area, as well as UKRAINE, the REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA 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.