



EUROPEAN UNION

OSCE Permanent Council No. 1236

Vienna, 18 July 2019

EU Statement on Turkey

On 15 July 2016, the people of Turkey witnessed a coup attempt that claimed the lives of hundreds of innocent civilians and left more than 2.000 people injured. As we did three years ago, we reiterate our strong condemnation of the coup attempt, express solidarity with the Turkish people and full support for the democratically elected institutions of the country.

Respect for and the promotion of human rights, fundamental freedoms and the rule of law are essential principles of the European Union. As a key partner and a candidate country, as well as a member of the Council of Europe, Turkey has subscribed to these principles. We have repeatedly expressed our serious concerns about the disproportionate scale and scope of measures taken by the authorities in the aftermath of the coup attempt. We note with grave concern that a number of these measures in practice remain in place even after the lifting of the state of emergency. We recall the international standards and the obligations to which Turkey has subscribed and committed itself, including within the OSCE, and we reiterate our call on Turkey to urgently reverse all these negative trends.

The Candidate Countries REPUBLIC OF NORTH 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 ARMENIA align themselves with this statement.

* Republic of North Macedonia, Montenegro and Albania continue to be part of the Stabilisation and Association Process.