



PERMANENT REPRESENTATION OF PORTUGAL  
TO THE OSCE

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Portugal 2007- Presidency of the European Union

## Portuguese Presidency of the Council of the European Union

**683<sup>rd</sup> Meeting of the Permanent Council**

**25<sup>th</sup> October 2007**

### Statement of the European Union in response to the address by Ambassador Miroslav Lajcak, High Representative and EU Special Representative for Bosnia and Herzegovina

The European Union welcomes Amb. Miroslav Lajcak to the Permanent Council today.

We commend the close cooperation between the OHR/EUSR and the OSCE, in working in areas such as elections, education, human rights, and justice reform.

We reiterate our full support to the HR/EUSR, and his efforts to advance reforms which, especially in the case of police reform, are essential for Bosnia and Herzegovina to move forward. The EU also fully supports the High Representative's recently announced measures, which aim at improving and strengthening the functionality of the institutions of Bosnia and Herzegovina, in accordance with the Dayton Peace Agreement.

We wish the High Representative and his staff every success in their endeavours.

The Candidate Countries Turkey, Croatia and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia\*, the Countries of the Stabilisation and Association Process Albania and Montenegro, as well as Ukraine, the Republic of Moldova, Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia align themselves with this statement.

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\* Croatia and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia continue to be part of the Stabilisation and Association Process.