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**United Kingdom
Delegation**

To the Organisation for Security and
Cooperation in Europe (OSCE)
Vienna

Jaurèsgasse 12
1030 Vienna

Telephone: 71613-3304
Facsimile: 71613-3900

United Kingdom Presidency of the Council of the European Union

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EU Statement on Uzbekistan

The European Union also has concerns about developments in Uzbekistan. These include the detention of opposition leader Sanjar Umarov, treatment of human rights defenders and pressure on the international media. The Presidency of the European Union has already made statements on 19 and 25 October expressing concern about the treatment of Elena Urlaeva and Sanjar Umarov. We reserve the right to revert on these issues at a later Permanent Council.

The Acceding Countries Bulgaria and Romania, the Candidate Countries Turkey and Croatia¹, the Countries of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidates Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Serbia and Montenegro, EFTA countries Iceland and Norway, members of the European Economic Area align themselves with this declaration.

¹ Croatia continues to be part of the Stabilisation and Association Process