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EUROPEAN UNION

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EU Statement on the transfer of Dr Leyla Yunus from jail

The Baku Court of Appeal decided yesterday to transfer human rights defender Dr Leyla Yunus to house arrest on medical grounds. This is a welcome and positive humanitarian gesture which follows a similar decision on 12 November with regard to Dr Yunus' husband, Mr Arif Yunus.

The European Union hopes further steps will follow. We are ready to deepen and broaden our relations with Azerbaijan.

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 LIECHTENSTEIN and NORWAY, members of the European Economic Area, as well as 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.