EUROPEAN UNION

OSCE Permanent Council No. 1232
Vienna, 13 June 2019

EU Statement on the so-called "elections" in the Georgian region of South Ossetia

As regards the so-called "elections" that took place on 9 June in the Georgian breakaway region of South Ossetia, we recall that the European Union does not recognise the constitutional and legal framework in which these so-called "elections" took place. We view the so-called "elections" and their outcome as illegal.

The decision by the de facto authorities in the Georgian region of South Ossetia to conduct the so-called "elections" goes against the ongoing efforts to peaceful resolution of the conflict. The European Union reaffirms its commitment to a peaceful resolution of the conflict in Georgia, including through its co-chairmanship of the Geneva International Discussions and the EU Monitoring Mission.

The European Union reiterates its firm support for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Georgia within its internationally recognized borders. We call on the Russian Federation to fulfil its obligations under the ceasefire agreement of 12 August 2008 and its subsequent implementing measures of 8 September 2008 and to provide EUMM access to the whole territory of Georgia, including the regions of Abkhazia and South Ossetia as per its mandate.

The Candidate Countries REPUBLIC OF NORTH MACEDONIA*, MONTENEGRO* and ALBANIA*, the EFTA countries ICELAND and NORWAY, members of the European Economic Area, as well as UKRAINE, the REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA, ANDORRA and SAN MARINO align themselves with this statement.
* Republic of North Macedonia, Montenegro and Albania continue to be part of the Stabilisation and Association Process.