



EUROPEAN UNION

OSCE Permanent Council Nr 1149 Vienna, 8 June 2017

EU statement on the election of new government of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia

Following the Joint Statement by High Representative/Vice-President Mogherini and Commissioner Hahn on 1st June, we reiterate that the EU is committed to the EU integration process of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia in line with the EU Enlargement Process, including the principle of good neighbourly relations and the European perspective of the region. As set out in European Council and Council Conclusions, maintaining good neighbourly relations, including a negotiated and mutually accepted solution to the name issue, under the auspices of the UN, remains essential.

In this context, we expect the new government to commit strongly to the reforms recommended by the European Union and to implement all parts of the Przino Agreement and the Urgent Reform Priorities. All the necessary conditions have to be set up to allow the Special Prosecutor to carry out successfully her mandate. We also encourage full implementation of the Ohrid Framework Agreement and strengthening of good neighbourly relations.

We expect all parliamentary parties to put their divisions aside and work jointly on delivering on a common reform agenda, that would benefit the democracy and stability of the country and of the whole region. This is essential to keep the country on its European integration path, a process that the citizens clearly want and deserve. We are ready to offer our support in this regard.

The European Union appreciates the Austrian Chairmanship's efforts to address the political situation in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, including the visit to Skopje last month by Special Representative Ambassador

Strohal. We also take this opportunity to underline our support for the OSCE's Mission to Skopje. We hope that the new Government will look to strengthen and develop co-operation and partnership with Ambassador Suomalainen and her team and all OSCE structures.

The Candidate Countries MONTENEGRO*, SERBIA* and ALBANIA*, the Country of the Stabilisation and Association Process and Potential Candidate BOSNIA and HERZEGOVINA, and the EFTA country NORWAY, member of the European Economic Area, as well as UKRAINE align themselves with this statement.

* Montenegro, Serbia and Albania continue to be part of the Stabilisation and Association Process.