



## EUROPEAN UNION

### OSCE Forum for Security Co-operation Nr 732 Vienna, 30 October 2013

#### EU Statement on Conventional Arms Control

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The European Union (EU) and its Member States would like to thank the Luxembourg Chair of the Forum for Security Cooperation (FSC) for organising this Security Dialogue on the on-going challenges in relation to conventional arms control and Confidence- and Security-Building Measures (CSBM) in the OSCE. We would also like to welcome and thank today's presenters Dr. Valentyn Badrak, Director Centre for Army, Ukraine, and Ambassador Lamberto Zannier, Secretary General of the OSCE, for their thought-provoking analysis and proposals.

We still view the existing commitments on CSBMs and arms control regimes, as set out in Astana, Vilnius and other relevant OSCE documents, to be valid basis for further discussions. We reiterate that revitalising, updating and modernising the comprehensive acquis should contribute to charting a way towards the security community identified at the Astana Summit and be one of the building blocks in the framework of the "Helsinki +40" process.

We favour general and strategic discussions on conventional arms control in the framework of the FSC Security Dialogue. As we stated earlier this year discussions should be coherent with related activities, create added value and avoid duplication with other formats.

We take note of Dr. Badrak's views expressed in his presentation. Specific issues, such as modernisation of existing framework versus development of new mechanisms, identifying potential new elements in a new regime, and updating existing instruments, are essential and

must be dealt with when the time is right and within the appropriate format.

One thing we all should be able to agree on, which remains important for European security, is to find a solution in order to overcome the impasse on conventional arms control. A modern and effective conventional arms control regime would bolster the security and stability of the whole OSCE area. We therefore support discussions on conventional arms control aiming at opening the way for committed and result-oriented negotiations.

To conclude, we would like to thank again the speakers and the FSC Chairmanship for providing us with the opportunity to exchange views on conventional arms control in Europe.

The candidate countries the FORMER YUGOSLAV REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA\*, MONTENEGRO, ICELAND\*\* and SERBIA, the countries of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidate countries ALBANIA and BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA, the European Free Trade Association countries LIECHTENSTEIN and NORWAY, members of the European Economic Area, as well as UKRAINE, the REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA, ARMENIA, GEORGIA, ANDORRA and SAN MARINO align themselves with this statement.

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\* The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro and Serbia continue to be part of the Stabilisation and Association Process.

\*\* Iceland continues to be a member of EFTA and the European Economic Area.