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**STATEMENT BY
AMBASSADOR VÉRONIQUE ROGER-LACAN, PERMANENT
REPRESENTATIVE OF FRANCE TO THE OSCE, AT THE 1117th
MEETING OF THE OSCE PERMANENT COUNCIL**

3 November 2016

**On the occasion of the visit to the OSCE of the
Albanian Minister for Foreign Affairs, Ambassador Ditmir Bushati**

France associates itself with the statement made by the European Union and would like to add a few words in its national capacity.

We welcome and appreciate the launch following the Western Balkans Summit in Paris on 4 July 2016 of the activities of the Regional Youth Cooperation Office (RYCO), which offers a unique opportunity for fostering and expediting reconciliation in the region.

We hope that this new body with its headquarters in Tirana will make young people in the region aware of how they have more points in common than reasons to feel different.

We are convinced that there is great potential for synergy between the work of the RYCO and the OSCE.

Thank you.