



EUROPEAN UNION

OSCE Permanent Council Nr 1021 Vienna, 30 October 2014

EU Statement on the Russian Federations proposal on a so-called “Draft Treaty on Alliance and Integration”

The European Union expresses concern at the Russian Federation’s proposal on a so-called “Draft Treaty on Alliance and Integration” with the breakaway region of Abkhazia in Georgia. We are closely following developments in this regards. Such steps violate Georgia’s territorial integrity and sovereignty and would contradict principles of international law, OSCE principles and commitments and Russia’s international commitments made in 2008.

Any actions that undermine the security and stability on the ground must be avoided. We encourage all participants to use the Geneva International Discussions constructively. It is the only forum in which to address and resolve the challenges stemming from the conflict in Georgia with the participation of all stakeholders.

The European Union’s position on the protracted conflict in Georgia is well-known: we support the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Georgia within its internationally recognized borders and we reiterate our concern about the continuing Russian military and security related presence and infrastructure reinforcements in the Georgian breakaway regions of Abkhazia and the Tskhinvali region/South Ossetia. The EU calls on Russia to fulfil its obligations under the ceasefire agreement of 12 August 2008 and its subsequent implementing measures of 8 September 2008, including providing EUMM access to the breakaway regions. The EUMM plays a leading role in the IPRMs within its stabilization, normalization and confidence-building mandate. We also reiterate our call for unhindered access for humanitarian organisations.

The European Union reserves the right to come back to the issue at the Permanent Council on 6 November in connection with the address by the Co-Chairmen of the Geneva International Discussions.

The Candidate Countries the FORMER YUGOSLAV REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA*, MONTENEGRO*, ICELAND+ and ALBANIA*, the Country of the Stabilisation and Association Process and Potential Candidate BOSNIA and HERZEGOVINA, as well as UKRAINE and the REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA align themselves with this statement.

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

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