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# Prohlášení Statement Déclaration

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České předsednictví  
v Radě EU

Czech Presidency  
of the Council of the EU

Présidence tchèque  
du Conseil de l'UE

2009

Vienna 26 February 2009

## **Permanent Council No. 751 EU Statement on legislation on freedom of religion in Kazakhstan**

The EU welcomes the information provided by Ambassador Abdrakhmanov at the last meeting of the Permanent Council regarding the Constitutional Council's findings on the proposed amendments to the law on freedom of religion or belief. Since, this information has also been relayed in a spot report issued on 13 February by the OSCE Centre in Astana.

The EU recalls its earlier statements of October 23rd and November 13th and 27th 2008. In this regard the EU welcomes the fact that the Constitutional Council has passed a ruling in favour of protecting constitutionally guaranteed basic freedoms.

The EU encourages Kazakh authorities to take into due consideration the recommendations presented in the ODIHR's final review of the draft law that was provided to them on 19 January, as well as views of civil society representatives.

The EU would appreciate being informed about further steps being undertaken regarding this issue.

The candidate countries TURKEY, CROATIA\* and the FORMER YUGOSLAV REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA\*, the countries of the Stabilisation and

[Stálá mise České Republiky při OBSE](#)

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Association Process and potential candidate countries ALBANIA, BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA, MONTENEGRO and SERBIA, the European Free Trade Association countries and members of the European Economic Area ICELAND and NORWAY, as well as the REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA and GEORGIA align themselves with this statement.

\*Croatia and the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia continue to be part of the Stabilisation and Association Process.