



## EUROPEAN UNION

### OSCE Permanent Council No 1120 Vienna, 24 November 2016

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#### **EU Statement on Ilgar Mammadov's complaint to the Supreme Court of Azerbaijan**

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The negative ruling by the Supreme Court of Azerbaijan on an appeal from opposition politician Ilgar Mammadov runs counter to the 2014 judgement by the European Court of Human Rights on his case.

The European Union has been following Mr Mammadov's case closely and was present for the 18<sup>th</sup> November court proceedings, together with other international observers. The EU has raised this case at every opportunity, such as during the visit of the High Representative/Vice-President, Federica Mogherini, to Baku on 29 February and as part of recent positive discussions with Azerbaijan on Justice, Freedom, Security, Human Rights and Democracy, which resumed on 12-13 October 2016.

We call on Azerbaijan to uphold its obligations as a member of the Council of Europe and to meet its commitments taken under the European Convention on Human Rights, to comply with judgements of the Court of Human Rights and to release Mr Mammadov.

The Candidate Countries the FORMER YUGOSLAV REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA\*, MONTENEGRO\* 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 align themselves with this statement.

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