



PC.DEL/744/16  
27 May 2016

ENGLISH only

**EUROPEAN UNION**

**OSCE Permanent Council Nr 1101  
Vienna, 26 May 2016**

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**EU statement on the Lifting of Parliamentary Immunity in  
Turkey**

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We are closely monitoring the decision on 20 May by the Turkish Parliament to permit the lifting of parliamentary immunity of a large number of Members of Parliament.

The right to a fair trial is fundamental to the rule of law, and key to ensure public confidence in the judiciary. Any alleged wrongdoing or crime committed by members of parliament should be subject to due process, free from political interference.

We join the call of ODIHR Director Michael Georg Link and OSCE PA President Ilkka Kanerva on the Turkish authorities to uphold their commitment to promoting political pluralism and providing political parties with the necessary legal guarantees to enable them to compete on the basis of equal treatment before the law and by the authorities.

The Candidate Countries the FORMER YUGOSLAV REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA\*, MONTENEGRO\*, SERBIA\* and ALBANIA\*, the Country of the Stabilisation and Association Process and Potential Candidate BOSNIA and HERZEGOVINA, and the EFTA countries ICELAND and NORWAY, members of the European Economic Area, as well as ARMENIA align themselves with this statement.

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