



**EUROPEAN UNION**

**OSCE Annual Security Review Conference  
Vienna, 28 – 30 June 2016**

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**Working Session I  
EU Statement on “Conflict Situations in the OSCE area –  
security aspects”**

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Earlier today we discussed the conflict in and around Ukraine and tomorrow we will have wider discussions on the conflict cycle. We welcome this important opportunity to discuss in more depth the conflict situations in the OSCE area. The OSCE provides a useful and important platform for dialogue, rebuilding trust and restoring security based on OSCE principles and commitments.

Protracted conflicts in our region pose a very serious threat to the security of the entire OSCE area. The status quo is detrimental to security. The resolution of the existing conflicts in the OSCE area remains a priority for the EU and our positions on these conflicts are well known.

The EU supports the existing formats of negotiations and calls on all actors involved to demonstrate commitment to conflict settlement. The EU will continue to promote and support confidence building measures to assist the resolution of these conflicts, in co-operation with the OSCE and other relevant interlocutors.

We commend the German OSCE Chairmanship-in-office, Frank-Walter Steinmeier, for his personal engagement on these issues and the CiO Special Representative Ambassador Cord Meier-Klodt and EU Special Representative Salber for their work.

Nagorno-Karabakh

We would like to reiterate our firm support to the Minsk Group co-chairs in their efforts to assist the sides reach a negotiated and peaceful long-lasting resolution of the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict.

We welcome the agreements reached during the May 16<sup>th</sup> meeting in Vienna and the June 20<sup>th</sup> meeting in St. Petersburg aimed at reducing the risks of further violence. We urge the sides to implement these agreements as soon as possible.

We welcome the agreement related to the expansion of the Office of the Personal representative of the Chairman in Office and would like to see its speedy implementation as a first step towards reducing tensions and consolidating the ceasefire on the ground. We welcome the co-Chairs initiatives and efforts to propose measures aimed at strengthening implementation of the ceasefire, improving the atmosphere on the ground, and promoting understanding among the people of the region.

#### Republic of Moldova

Against the backdrop of difficult economic situation and tensions in the region, the EU encourages Ukraine and Russia to continue their support to the settlement of the conflict in the Republic of Moldova.

After the suspension of talks for the last two years, we commend the German OSCE Chairmanship-in-office and its Special Representative Ambassador Cord Meier-Klodt for their efforts in resuming the official “5+2” talks in Berlin on 2-3 June.

We support a peaceful and comprehensive settlement of the conflict with respect for the territorial integrity and sovereignty of the Republic of Moldova. We encourage mediators and observers to continue their unanimous support to the settlement of the conflict, appeal to all participants in the “5+2” talks to address all three baskets in negotiations and look forward to a result-oriented Bavaria Conference on 12-13 July.

#### Georgia

We reiterate our firm support for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Georgia within its internationally recognised borders. And repeat our deep concern about the continuing Russian military and security-related presence, infrastructure reinforcements and ongoing ‘borderisation’ in and along the Georgian breakaway regions. In this context, we continue to believe that a clear non-use of force commitment by Russia is necessary.

The EU calls on Russia to fulfil its obligations under the ceasefire agreement of 12 August 2008. We recall our concern regarding so-called agreements signed between Russia and the breakaway regions of Abkhazia and South Ossetia, the "treaties on Alliance and Strategic Partnership/Integration", which violate fundamental norms of international law, including the principles of inviolability of Georgia's sovereignty, territorial integrity and internationally recognized borders.

We remain convinced that there is an urgent need for a meaningful cross-dimensional OSCE presence throughout Georgia, in particular for the benefit of the civilian population, including robust monitoring capacity able to operate unhindered across the Administrative Boundary Lines. The EU also calls for EUMM access to the breakaway regions.

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 countries ICELAND, LIECHTENSTEIN and NORWAY, members of the European Economic Area, as well as UKRAINE, the REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA and SAN MARINO align themselves with this statement.

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