



**EUROPEAN UNION**

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**EU Statement on the ratification process of the Prespa agreement**

The European Union warmly welcomes the next crucial step in the ratification of the Prespa agreement, taken with the vote by the Hellenic Parliament last Friday, January 25, which follows the vote on constitutional amendments by the Parliament in Skopje on January 11.

From the very beginning, the European Union has strongly supported the historic Prespa agreement, following negotiations under the auspices of the UN. It took political courage, leadership and responsibility on all sides to resolve one of the most entrenched disputes in the region. Both countries have seized this unique opportunity which sets an example of reconciliation for Europe as a whole, strengthening peace and security in the region and giving a further boost to the European perspective of the countries in the region.

While we look forward to the next procedural steps leading towards the entry into force and the full implementation of the agreement, we can already say with confidence today that Athens and Skopje have, together, written a new page of our common European future.

The Candidate Countries MONTENEGRO\*, SERBIA\* 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, GEORGIA, ANDORRA and SAN MARINO align themselves with this statement.

\* Montenegro, Serbia and Albania continue to be part of the Stabilisation and Association Process.