

Spanish Presidency of the European Union

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EU statement on Armenia

The EU is pleased to note that the rally to mark the second anniversary of the 1 March 2008 events was this year authorized by the Yerevan authorities. This is a welcome development in view of last year's situation.

The EU believes that the police assistance programme run by the OSCE Office in Yerevan contributed to the improved standards of conduct of the police, which facilitated the orderly and safe conduct of the rally. We congratulate both the Armenian authorities and the OSCE Office in Yerevan for their positive engagement and effective implementation of this programme.

The EU believes that for Armenia to truly move on from the events of March 2008 a thorough investigation should be held into the tragic deaths of protesters and security personnel. Follow-up of the recommendations of the Ad Hoc Parliamentary Committee Report of September 2009 is important in this context. The issue of those who,

even after the amnesty of June 2009, remain in detention regarding their political activities should also be resolved.

The EU has also noted that the 8 March 2010 OSCE/ODIHR report into the conduct of the trials that followed the 1 March events identifies shortcomings in Armenia's justice system. We encourage the Armenian authorities to use the recommendations the report contains to support their ongoing efforts to reform the country's justice system in line with international standards and OSCE commitments. The EU stands ready to assist Armenia in this area.

Los países candidatos TURQUÍA, CROACIA* y la ANTIGUA REPÚBLICA YUGOSLAVA DE MACEDONIA*, los países del Proceso de Estabilización y Asociación y los países candidatos potenciales, ALBANIA, BOSNIA Y HERZEGOVINA, MONTENEGRO y SERBIA, los países de la Asociación Europea de Libre Comercio y los miembros del Espacio Económico Europeo, ISLANDIA y NORUEGA, al igual que UCRANIA y la REPÚBLICA DE MOLDAVIA se suman a esta declaración.

*Croacia y la Antigua República Yugoslava de Macedonia siguen perteneciendo al proceso de Estabilización y Asociación.