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EUROPEAN UNION

OSCE Permanent Council Nr 1012 Vienna, 24 July 2014

EU Statement on Alexander Sodiqov

The European Union welcomes the release on 22 July of Mr Alexander Sodiqov, PhD student at the University of Toronto and researcher participating in a legitimate academic research project for the University of Exeter following his detention without charge since June 16.

However, we note with concern reports that his release may not be unconditional and for example that restrictions may remain on his movement. We therefore encourage rapid clarification regarding the formal conclusion of the case.

The Candidate Countries the FORMER YUGOSLAV REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA*, MONTENEGRO*, ICELAND+, SERBIA* 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, as well as UKRAINE 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.

+ Iceland continues to be a member of the EFTA and of the European Economic Area.