



EUROPEAN UNION

OSCE Forum for Security Co-operation Nr 791 Vienna, 3 June 2015 EU Statement on Implementation of UNSCR 1325

The European Union and its Member States warmly welcome Ambassador Byrganym Aitimova, Mr. Antti Häikiö and Ambassador Miroslava Beham to the FSC and thank them for the interesting and comprehensive presentations. Our thanks also go to the Chairmanship of Montenegro for arranging this important discussion. Security dialogues of this kind are needed in order to improve the implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 1325 in the OSCE area.

Furthermore, we welcome two recent appointments by the Serbian Chairmanship of Ambassador Aitimova as the Chair of the Informal Working Group on Gender Issues and Ambassador Verveer as the Special Representative of the CiO on Gender Issues.

The European Union is committed to ensuring the promotion of the Women, Peace and Security agenda, both internally and in its relations with third countries. The EU has adopted its Comprehensive approach to UNSCRs 1325 and 1820 in 2008 as well as a revised operational document on their implementation within the EU CSDP in 2012. In 2015, we will refresh the EU indicators established to improve the effectiveness and we will proceed to our third reporting cycle. Last week the EU Foreign Affairs Council welcomed the High Representative's intention to establish a new high-level function dedicated for UNSCR 1325 and gender related matters.

Implementation of the objectives of the UNSCR 1325 and its follow-up resolutions in the areas of prevention, participation, protection and ending impunity for perpetrators of sexual violence, is a long-term undertaking, which requires the concerted efforts of OSCE participating States and executive structures. Involving the non-governmental sector, supporting the women's civil society organisations in their efforts to participate in peace-building and conflict resolution processes are of utmost importance in this regard. We welcome continued discussion among participating States in line with

relevant OSCE commitments undertaken inter alia, in Vilnius, Kyiv and Basel. In our view, one of the focus areas for this continued interest is the voluntary reporting on the implementation of the UNSCR 1325 as part of the information exchange on the Code of Conduct on Politico-Military Aspects of Security.

In addition to the reporting on the implementation of the UNSCR 1325, we consider it beneficial to discuss the information that has been provided with a view of lessons learned and possible good practices for the national implementation. We welcome the recent OSCE/UN regional consultation in Vilnius to discuss the progress as well as challenges of UNSCR 1325 implementation in the OSCE area and look forward to the conclusions from this meeting and its contribution to the Global Study which will be presented at the high level review meeting at the UN Security Council in October. Following consultations held in January with the UN drafting team of the Global Study, the EU itself provided input to the Study in March.

One of the areas where the goals and principles of UNSCR 1325 should be firmly anchored is OSCE-led mediation efforts. We encourage women's participation throughout the conflict cycle, including in decision making and mediation, and are looking forward to an exchange of views on how the OSCE could improve its activities and show leadership in this regard.

We are pleased that the FSC was able to agree upon the importance of including Women, Peace and Security in the MC decision 10/14 on SALW and SCA adopted in Basel. At the same time, we encourage all participating States to take further steps to take into account gender aspects in the implementation of all politico-military commitments. Additionally, we underline the importance of implementation of the Ministerial Council Decision on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women, and other OSCE commitments on these issues.

We are convinced that UNSCR 1325 with its cross dimensional nature has an important role to play in all dimensions of the OSCE work – especially in the politico-military dimension – and needs to be implemented in a holistic and comprehensive manner. Furthermore, we wish to reiterate our support to the development of an OSCE-Wide Action Plan on UNSCR 1325 and call for developing and renewing national action plans on women, peace and security. We also look forward to timely

drafting and adoption of an Addendum to the Action Plan for the Promotion of Gender Equality, as tasked by the Basel Ministerial Council.

The candidate countries the FORMER YUGOSLAV REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA*, MONTENEGRO, ICELAND** and ALBANIA, the country of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidate BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA, and the EFTA countries LIECHTENSTEIN and NORWAY, members of the European Economic Area, as well as UKRAINE, the REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA, GEORGIA and ANDORRA align themselves with this statement.

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

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