



**EUROPEAN UNION**

**OSCE Permanent Council No 1067  
Vienna, 10 September 2015**

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**EU Statement in Response to the Report by OSCE Project  
Co-ordinator for Ukraine**

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The European Union and its Member States warmly welcome H.E. Ambassador Vaidotas Verba, the OSCE Project Co-ordinator in Ukraine, back to the Permanent Council. Ambassador, we thank you for your opening remarks and for a detailed report.

We commend the PCU and its staff for their important work in support of Ukraine's reform process. In particular, we reiterate our support for PCU programmes on democratisation and good governance, and on the rule of law and human rights, including in the field of elections, media freedom, civil society development, prevention of torture, anti-corruption, and strengthening the judiciary.

We stress the importance of close cooperation and coordination between the PCU, and the SMM, ODIHR, the High Commissioner on National Minorities and the Representative on Freedom of the Media. Coordination with other international actors is also needed in order to achieve the greatest possible impact on the ground in Ukraine. To this end, we commend the recent steps taken to enhance the cooperation between the PCU and the EU Advisory Mission to Ukraine in the civilian fields of security and justice sector reform. We also welcome the further improved cooperation between the PCU and the Ukrainian government. For instance, we warmly support the PCU's cooperation with the State Emergency Service of Ukraine and the FSC Support Section of the CPC to assist in clearing territories in Eastern Ukraine of unexploded ordnances. We encourage the Ukrainian government to fully draw on the PCU's expertise and potential.

We underline that for all field operations, effective evaluation is essential to ensure efficient use of resources and to collect and employ best practices. We would

welcome if Ambassador Verba could shed more light on efforts undertaken to enhance the mission's evaluation practices. We would also be grateful if he could highlight some of the key impacts made by his office through its work in this reporting period.

We thank Ambassador Vaidotas Verba once again for his report and we wish the Project Coordinator and his Office all the best for the future.

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 country LIECHTENSTEIN, member of the European Economic Area, as well as UKRAINE, the REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA, GEORGIA, ANDORRA 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.

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