



EUROPEAN UNION

**OSCE Permanent Council Nr 1012
Vienna, 24 July 2014**

**EU Statement on the Detention of Ukrainian Helicopter Pilot
Nadiia Savchenko**

We reiterate our deep concern about the continuing detention of the Ukrainian pilot Nadiia Savchenko who was abducted by militants in eastern Ukraine and trafficked from Ukraine to the Russian Voronezh pre-trial detention centre.

This raises questions about the respect by the Russian Federation of its international obligations. We call on the Russian Federation to abide by its obligations as a Member State of the Council of Europe and party of the European Convention on Human Rights. In that context, we welcome that Ukraine's Consul in the Russian Federation has been able to meet with her. We call for the immediate release of Nadiia Savchenko.

Mr Chairman, on 18 July the Ukrainian journalist Yevgeny Agarkov was arrested in Voronezh where he was covering the case of Nadiia Savchenko. His arrest was based on a lack of accreditation issued by the Russian Foreign Ministry. He received an administrative fine and was ordered to be expelled from Russia. We share the concern as expressed by the Representative on Freedom of the Media, Dunja Mijatovic, in her 21 July statement and call on the immediate release of Yevgeny Agarkov.

The Candidate Countries MONTENEGRO*, ICELAND+ 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 and GEORGIA align themselves with this statement.

* 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.