



## EUROPEAN UNION

**OSCE Permanent Council Nr 870  
Vienna, 23 June 2011**

### **EU statement on the occasion of the completion of the mandate of the OSCE Secretary General, H.E. Ambassador Marc Perrin de Brichambaut**

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The EU would like to take this opportunity to bid farewell to our outgoing OSCE Secretary General, H.E. Ambassador Marc Perrin de Brichambaut, and to thank him for sharing his thoughts concerning the OSCE.

We would like to warmly thank him for all his valuable work over the past six years. These years have been challenging for the OSCE, but also presented an opportunity to renew and reinvigorate our Organisation. While we witnessed once again conflict among participating States, Heads of State or Government met last year in Astana, reconfirmed our common commitments and gave new strategic vision to the Organisation. Throughout these years, Ambassador Brichambaut guided the work of the OSCE with great dedication and a steady hand and gave excellent advice to the successive Chairmanships-in-Office.

In his first address as Secretary General to the Permanent Council in July 2005, Ambassador Brichambaut stated that he intended to use his role 'as an impartial and informed senior OSCE official, to express independent points of view designed to promote the interest of the Organisation'. Ambassador Brichambaut has excelled in implementing this approach, which is highly valued by the EU.

We are particularly grateful to the Secretary General for promoting closer ties between the EU and the OSCE. He has been a keen supporter of using the full potential of the existing frameworks for such co-operation, as well as of the OSCE's role in promoting European security and stability.

We believe that Secretary General Brichambaut has left a lasting legacy of achievements.

Monsieur le Président,

En conclusion, nous souhaiterions saisir cette occasion pour lui exprimer nos meilleurs vœux pour son avenir tant professionnel que personnel.

The candidate countries TURKEY, CROATIA\*, the FORMER YUGOSLAV REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA\*, MONTENEGRO\* and ICELAND\*\*, the countries of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidate countries ALBANIA, BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA and SERBIA, the European Free Trade Association countries LIECHTENSTEIN and NORWAY, members of the European Economic Area, as well as the REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA, ARMENIA, AZERBAIJAN, GEORGIA, ANDORRA and SAN MARINO align themselves with this statement.

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

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