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EUROPEAN UNION

**OSCE Permanent Council Nr 1052
Vienna, 14 May 2015**

**EU statement on Abduction and illegal detention of
Ukrainian citizens by the Russian Federation**

The European Union once again calls on Russia to respect its international commitments and immediately release Nadiya Savchenko, Oleh Sentsov and all other Ukrainian citizens illegally detained in Russia. We recall that all hostages and illegally detained persons related to the conflict in and around Ukraine should be released as stipulated in the Minsk package.

Last week's extension of the pre-trial detention of Nadiya Savchenko until 30 June is extremely worrying in view of her hunger strike to protest her abduction and illegal detention. We underline that Russia bears a responsibility for Nadiya Savchenko's very fragile health. Reports that Nadiya Savchenko will soon be transferred to the city of Voronezh are of great concern. This would significantly hinder monitoring of her trial and conditions of imprisonment by international observers.

The Candidate Countries the FORMER YUGOSLAV REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA*, MONTENEGRO* 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, THE REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA, GEORGIA 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.