

Spanish Presidency of the European Union

OSCE Permanent Council No. 811
Vienna, 27 May 2010

EU statement on Belarus

The EU recalls its 25 February 2010 statement on fundamental freedoms in Belarus as well as the March 31st High Representative's declaration on behalf of the UE on the situation in Belarus.

The European Union is deeply concerned by the police raids made on 18 May on premises connected with "Tell the Truth" - the civic society movement campaigning on societal issues in Belarus.

The EU calls on the Belarusian authorities to comply fully with its OSCE commitments related to freedom of expression, access to information and freedom of assembly and association.

The EU firmly believes that unhindered expression of differing opinions as well as access to free and pluralistic sources of information constitute essential bases of a vigorous democracy. This is of particular importance in the run-up to the forthcoming Presidential elections in Belarus.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Los países candidatos TURQUÍA, CROACIA* y la ANTIGUA REPÚBLICA YUGOSLAVA DE MACEDONIA*; los países del Proceso de Estabilización y Asociación y los países candidatos potenciales, ALBANIA, BOSNIA Y HERZEGOVINA y MONTENEGRO; los países de la Asociación Europea de Libre Comercio y los miembros del Espacio Económico Europeo, ISLANDIA y NORUEGA se suman a esta declaración.

*Croacia y la Antigua República Yugoslava de Macedonia siguen perteneciendo al proceso de Estabilización y Asociación