



European Union
Intersessional Meeting
Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention
Geneva, 19-21 June 2023
Statement on universalization

Mr. President,

I have the honor to speak on behalf of the European Union.

The candidate countries Türkiye, North Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia, Albania, Ukraine, Republic of Moldova and Bosnia and Herzegovina¹ align themselves with this statement.

Mr. President,

The European Union stands united in its support for the universal ban on anti-personnel mines and calls on all States that have not yet done so to join the Treaty. The EU appeals to all actors to refrain from the production, stockpiling, trade and transfer of anti-personnel mines and strongly condemns their use anywhere, anytime, and by any actor, whether States or non-State actors. The European Union considers the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention to be a key disarmament instrument. Its integrity, full implementation and strict application must be guaranteed, and universal adherence thereto must be pursued.

The Council Decision (CFSP) 2021/257 in support of the Oslo Action Plan, adopted on 18 February 2021, provides over 2.6 million EUR for an extended period of 4 years with the objective to contribute to the full implementation of the Oslo Action Plan and its concrete actions. The EU Council Decision carries out a variety of universalization efforts under the President's mandate.

The Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention can continue to count on the EU's support and commitment to defend and strengthen the global norm against anti-personnel mines and to support the full implementation of the Convention.

Thank you, Mr. President

¹ North Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia, Albania and Bosnia and Herzegovina continue to be part of the Stabilisation and Association Process