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Declaration by the High Representative on behalf of the European Union on the alignment of certain third countries with Council Decision 2014/74/CFSP amending Council Decision 2013/255/CFSP concerning restrictive measures against Syria

On 10 February 2014, the Council adopted Decision 2014/74/CFSP\(^1\) amending Council Decision 2013/255/CFSP.

The Decision allows for the release of frozen funds of the Central Bank of Syria and of Syrian state-owned entities to make payments on behalf of the Syrian Arab Republic to the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) for activities related to the OPCW verification mission and the destruction of Syrian chemical weapons, and in particular to the OPCW Syrian Special Trust Fund for activities related to the destruction of Syrian chemical weapons.

The Candidate Countries the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia*, Montenegro*, Iceland\(^+\) and Serbia*, the Countries of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidates Albania and Bosnia and Herzegovina, and the EFTA countries Liechtenstein and Norway, members of the European Economic Area, as well as the Republic of Moldova and Georgia align themselves with this Decision.

They will ensure that their national policies conform to this Council Decision.

The European Union takes note of this commitment and welcomes it.

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\(^{1}\) Published on 11.2.2014 in the Official Journal of the European Union no. L 40, p. 63.

* The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro and Serbia 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.

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