



EUROPEAN UNION

Delegation of the European Union to the Council of Europe

Strasbourg, 8 October 2014

EU Statement on the award of the Vaclav Havel Human Rights Prize to Anar Mammadli

The European Union Delegation to the Council of Europe issues the following statement in agreement with the EU Heads of Mission in Strasbourg:

The EU would like to welcome the award of the 2nd Vaclav Havel Human Rights Prize to Anar Mammadli by the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe.

Mr Mammadli and his NGO, the Election Monitoring and Democracy Studies Centre have played an important role in promoting a democratic society in Azerbaijan also as independent election monitors. The EU has expressed its concerns over his arrest and sentencing.

The Václav Havel Human Rights Prize is awarded to reward outstanding civil society action in defence of human rights in Europe and beyond. The choice of Anar Mammadli reflects how much the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe values his contribution to constructing a democratic society.

The Candidate Countries "the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia"*, Montenegro *, Iceland+, Albania, Serbia and the EFTA countries Liechtenstein and Norway, members of the European Economic Area, as well as San Marino align themselves with this statement.

* "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."