

Statement on behalf of the European Union and its Member States

by

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Delegation of the European Union to the United Nations

at the Sixth Committee

on the Agenda item 168:

Report of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country

United Nations

Thank you, Mr./Madam Chair,

I have the honour to speak on behalf of the European Union and its Member States.

The Candidate Countries North Macedonia , Montenegro , Serbia , Albania , Ukraine, the Republic of Moldova, and Bosnia and Herzegovina , align themselves with this statement.

Mr./Madam Chair,

We thank the Chair of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country for the presentation of the report of the Committee.

more, that the observance of privileges and immunities, is an issue of utmost importance, to enable the full participation of all delegations in the work of the United Nations, thereby allowing the UN to fully and efficiently discharge its responsibilities and fulfil its purposes.

Once again, the adoption of the Recommendations and Conclusions required extensive and difficult negotiations. We welcome the successful conclusion of , despite the challenges, thanks to the constructive engagement of all the members of the Committee. We commend, in particular, the Chair of the Committee for her determination in reaching this outcome.

During the reporting period, the Committee examined several important topics, including issuance of visas and travel restrictions by the Host Country, the security of premises of Missions and safety of their personnel.

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

We appreciate the challenges and complexities faced by host countries of international organizations.

We acknowledge the commitment of the United States, to engage on all matters related to its status as Host Country and to uphold its obligations under the UN Headquarters Agreement. In this context, we stress the importance of the full participation of all delegations in the work of the UN and we note the information provided by the Host Country in relation to the facilitation and improvement of its visa procedures.

We also acknowledge the views and serious concerns of some other members of the Committee and affected Member States.

In this context, we reiterate our encouragement to

full range of issues discussed in the Committee, remains the best avenue for finding acceptable solutions in line with international law.

Thank you.