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Joint Statement by High Representative Catherine Ashton and Commissioner Štefan Füle on completion of negotiations on the future Association Agreement with Armenia

Catherine Ashton, High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy, and Štefan Füle, EU Commissioner for Enlargement and European Neighbourhood Policy, made today the following statement:

"We are delighted to confirm the substantive completion of the negotiations on the future Association Agreement between the European Union and Armenia, including the establishment of a Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Area (DCFTA), on which negotiators reached agreement in Yerevan yesterday.

This is a very positive development, and we look forward to the initialling of this Association Agreement at the next Eastern Partnership Summit to be held in Vilnius on 29 November 2013, and to the subsequent signing of the Agreement as soon as the technical procedures are completed.

The completion of these negotiations, launched in 2010, represents a significant achievement for both the European Union and Armenia. The Association Agreement will allow the EU and Armenia to drive forward together a programme of comprehensive modernization and reform based upon shared values, political association and economic integration. The Agreement will have a direct positive impact on daily life and will bring Armenia and all its citizens closer to the European Union. We express our appreciation to the negotiators on both sides for reaching this excellent outcome."

P R E S S

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