



EUROPEAN UNION

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**Statement by
the spokesperson of HR Catherine Ashton,
on the normalisation of relations between Turkey and Armenia**

The spokesperson of High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy/Vice President of the Commission Catherine Ashton issued a following statement today:

"The High Representative has taken note of the decision by Armenia to suspend the procedure of ratification of bilateral protocols relating to the normalization of relations with Turkey.

The High Representative is pleased to note that Armenia remains committed to pursue the process of normalization of Armenian-Turkish relations but at the same time expresses concern about the loss of momentum in this process. The EU reiterates its call to both countries to continue their dialogue and remain committed to the process of normalization without preconditions and in a reasonable timeframe.

The High Representative believes that the full normalization of bilateral relations between Armenia and Turkey will contribute to security, stability and cooperation in the Southern Caucasus. The EU will continue to provide its political and technical support to this process and stands ready to help implementing the steps agreed between the two countries."

P R E S S

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