

**Joint statement of the Latvian Presidency of the Council of the EU  
and Commission on Justice and Home Affairs  
Eastern Partnership Ministerial Meeting**

29 January 2015, in Riga

The Latvian Presidency of the Council of the EU in close cooperation with the Commission organized the second Justice and Home Affairs Eastern Partnership Ministerial Meeting on 29 January in Riga.

The meeting was intended to follow up the developments made in the judiciary, law enforcement and corruption fields in Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Republic of Moldova and Ukraine since the previous ministerial meeting that took place on 7-8 October, 2013. Special attention during the discussions was paid to a closer cooperation of the law enforcement institutions, establishing efficient to fight corruption and strengthening the independence of judges and prosecutors and ensuring prosecutorial reforms.

During the meeting the participants recognized the importance of cooperation in the framework of the Eastern Partnership, in particularly in the Justice and Home Affairs area.

The Presidency and the EU Commission welcomed recent justice and law enforcement reforms in several countries of the Eastern Partnership and reiterated the importance of political commitment and sustainable implementation of the reforms. The participants acknowledged the far-reaching effects of the identified discussion issues to other cooperation areas, such as mobility and security.

The Presidency and the EU Commission further reiterated the principles of the cooperation laid down by the joint declaration that was adopted during the previous JHA Eastern Partnership Ministerial meeting and confirmed the determination to continued cooperation.