



National Assembly Republic of Serbia

Delegation for relations with Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbia, Montenegro and Kosovo

Committee on European Integration

5th Inter-parliamentary Meeting 18-19 April 2011 Brussels

SPECIAL STATEMENT

on current political developments in Serbia:

In view of the rising political tensions in Belgrade and lack of mutual trust between the ruling coalition and opposition forces, the delegates to the 5th EP-Serbia Inter-Parliamentary Meeting **urge the SNS leader Mr Tomislav Nikolić to immediately stop his hunger strike.**

It is essential that political discourse returns to the established democratic procedures and to the institutional framework. All political disagreements should be dealt with within the framework of democratic institutions. Serbia will achieve a candidate status for the membership of the European Union only by meeting the benchmarks set out by the Commission. Mutual trust and stepping up the accession process is the only way to achieve this strategic goal. It is necessary that Serbia's political leadership first returns to a responsible democratic dialogue.

The candidate status is within Serbia's reach.

Brussels, 19 April 2011