

**Statement of the Presidium of the Baltic Assembly
in support of aspirations of
Georgia, Ukraine, Azerbaijan and Moldova
to join the European Union**

The Baltic Assembly

emphasises the importance of the Eastern Partnership Summit held on 28–29 November 2013 in Vilnius in the framework of the Lithuanian presidency of the Council of the European Union;

condemns use of force in Kyiv to disperse protesters who over the last days have expressed their support for Ukraine's integration into the European Union. The use of force goes against the principles to which all participants agreed during the Eastern Partnership Summit in Vilnius;

reiterates its unequivocal support to the aspirations of Georgia, Ukraine, Azerbaijan and Moldova towards deeper integration into the European structures;

notes that open economies, the rule of law, as well as inclusive politics, are the cornerstones of prosperity of the European Union, and they also have a positive effect on our eastern partners and other countries;

acknowledges that the countries of the Eastern Partnership region share the objectives of economic and political union and look forward to joining a stronger European Union, which pursues its fundamental goals and is more visible in the world;

welcomes the significant irreversible and sustainable political and economic reforms that have been implemented by Georgia, Ukraine, Azerbaijan and Moldova for the benefit of their citizens; and **indicates** that the speed of future change depends on each individual country;

emphasises that the resolution of protracted conflicts in Moldova, Georgia and Azerbaijan, should remain high on the international agenda and efforts to achieve conflict resolution should be increased;

attests to the readiness of the Baltic Assembly to assist Georgia, Ukraine, Azerbaijan and Moldova by sharing the reform experience gained by the Baltic States during their accession to the European Union.

2 December 2013, Tbilisi