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From: General Secretariat of the Council
To: Permanent Representatives Committee/Council

Subject: Draft REGULATION OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL amending Regulation (EU) 2018/1806 listing the third countries whose nationals must be in possession of visas when crossing the external borders and those whose nationals are exempt from that requirement (Kosovo*) **(first reading)**

- Adoption of the Council's position at first reading and of the statement of the Council's reasons
= Statement

Statement of the Slovak Republic

The Slovak Republic regrets that the final presidency compromise proposal doesn't reflect the Slovak position submitted during the written consultation on paragraph 5, reflecting the language of Roadmap towards a visa-free regime with Kosovo*, Ad I. Requirements related to Readmission and Reintegration, part Readmission, stating - *Ensure that readmission procedures, conducted through the appropriate channels, function in relation to all Member States.*

The Slovak Republic believes that the above mentioned amendment would ensure the clarity and removed the ambiguity in the interpretation.

* This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244 (1999) and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence.