

P R E S S R E L E A S E

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**Declaration by the Presidency on behalf of the European Union
on the Sixth Anniversary of the Iranian Fatwa against Salman Rushdie**

Six years after the publication of the fatwa condemning the British author Salman Rushdie to death and calling for his assassination, the European Union solemnly reaffirms its condemnation of this sentence.

Decided in defiance of the Universal Declaration on Human Rights and the principle of the sovereignty of States, in particular regarding the protection by the latter of their nationals, this sentence is null and void.

The European Union renews its demand to Iranian leaders to abide by international law and accept all the consequences of doing so.