

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

Brussels, 19 April 1995

6542/95 (Presse 123)
P. 38/95

**Declaration by the Presidency on behalf of the European Union
on the events in Samashki (Chechnya)**

Declaration issued by the Presidency (Paris, 15 April 1995)

The European Union has received a number of reports according to which flagrant violations of human rights have been committed in Samashki.

The European Union has been greatly disturbed by the events which have taken place in Samashki.

- The European Union utterly condemns atrocities committed against civilians in violation of basic human rights.
 - Once again, it earnestly appeals to the Russian authorities to put an end to violence against the people, to conclude a cease-fire without delay, to start negotiations to solve the conflict by political, not military means, and to allow humanitarian aid to be sent to the stricken population without hindrance, in keeping with international humanitarian law.
 - Once again, it urges that the OSCE Assistance Group in Chechnya be set up quickly so that it can help to achieve these objectives.
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