




Bruss

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**Declaration by the Presidency on behalf of the European Union
on the signature of the Russian-Ukrainian political treaty**

The European Union welcomes the signing of the political treaty between Russia and Ukraine by President Yeltsin and President Kuchma in Kiev on 31 May 1997.

The EU is aware of the efforts undertaken by both countries to reach agreement on the numerous bilateral issues. The agreement testifies to the statesmanship of both presidents and governments.

The EU considers this agreement an important step towards peace and stability on the European continent.

The Central and Eastern European countries associated with the European Union, Cyprus, Iceland and Norway align themselves with this declaration.
