

**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  
concerning the situation in Algeria**

The European Union is deeply shocked at the wave of killings and other atrocities which have plunged Algeria into bloodshed. It sends its condolences to the victims and to their families and friends.

The European Union reaffirms its outright condemnation of all acts of terrorism and indiscriminate violence.

The European Union refers to its declaration published on 10 June 1997 following Algeria's parliamentary elections and reiterates its encouragement for the political and economic reform process in Algeria. It voices the hope that the local elections due to be held on 23 October 1997 can help build a democratic society free from violence.