

PRESS RELEASE

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**Declaration by the Presidency on behalf of the European Union
on events Indonesia**

The recent upsurge in violence and loss of life in Indonesia is disturbing. The EU calls on the Indonesian Government to investigate thoroughly the reported deaths, most recently the six deaths on 12 May, and the allegations of kidnapping and torture and to ensure that those responsible are made accountable for their actions.

We also call on the authorities to refrain from the use of lethal force. We renew our call on the Indonesian Government to respect individual rights.

The EU has frequently urged the Indonesian authorities to exercise maximum restraint in handling civil disturbances and stressed the importance of respecting freedom of association and speech. The confrontation with the students underlines the urgent need for political reform in Indonesia.

The countries of Central and Eastern Europe, Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Romania, the Slovak Republic, Slovenia and Cyprus, associated to the European Union and the EFTA countries members of the European Economic Area align themselves with this declaration.