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Declaration by the Presidency on behalf of the European Union
on the ratification of the 6th Protocol of
the European Convention for the Protection of Human Rights
by Latvia

The European Union welcomes the ratification on 15 April of the 6th Protocol of the European Convention for the Protection of Human Rights by the Latvian Saeima, which was approved by a great majority. This step reinforces Latvia's commitment to the promotion of human rights. The ratification already bans the imposition of the death penalty in Latvia. The European Union is confident that the relevant amendments to the Latvian Criminal Code will also take place in due course.

The European Union once again reaffirms its support for the Council of Europe's position calling for the universal abolition of the death penalty and insisting on the maintenance, in the meantime, of existing moratoria on executions in Europe.