

**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  
on the recent violence in Abidjan, in particular the Yopougon massacre**

The European Union, which has expressed its grave concern about the recent spate of violence, will pay very close attention to the findings of the investigations into the Yopougon massacre in Abidjan. It notes, in this connection, the willingness expressed by the Ivorian Government to get to the bottom of the massacre, *inter alia* by setting up a national commission of enquiry.

The European Union calls on all Ivorians to respect human rights and civil liberties in the course of the current political process.

The Central and Eastern European countries associated with the European Union, the associated countries Cyprus, Malta and Turkey, and the EFTA countries, members of the European Economic Area align themselves with this declaration.

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