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Declaration by the European Union on Kosovo

- 1. The International Community continues to exert strong pressure on the Belgrade authorities to reverse their course of action in Kosovo and accept its demands for a political solution. The Council reaffirmed the EU's full support for the efforts, including a possible mission to Belgrade in the coming days, by the President of Finland, Martti Ahtisaari, on behalf of the EU, in close cooperation with the US, Russia and the United Nations. In this regard, the Council expects Belgrade to translate its reported statements into a firm, unambiguous and verifiable commitment to accept the G8 principles and a UNSC resolution. The Presidency will remain in close contact with President Ahtisaari with a view to his attending the European Council in Cologne.
- 2. The Council welcomed the strong endorsement by the international community of the Stability Pact for South East Europe and the result of the Petersberg Conference of 27 May. Work should now be carried forward urgently to clear remaining open issues among participants. The EU looks forward to an early Ministerial meeting to adopt the Stability Pact, and welcomed the Presidency's preparations for it.