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DECLARATION BY THE PRESIDENCY
ON BEHALF OF THE EUROPEAN UNION
ON NORTH KOREA

The announcement made on 4 April by the North Korean people's army that it would give up its duty concerning maintenance and administration of the demilitarised zone, and the subsequent violations of the armistice agreement by North Korean troops in the joint security area have led to worldwide concern.

The European Union urges the authorities in Pyongyang to cease all activities which could result in a further increase in the tension on the Korean peninsula, and to abide by the terms of the armistice agreement.

The European Union recognises that the armistice has been instrumental in maintaining peace and security on the Korean peninsula and believes it should remain in place until such time as a peace treaty could be negotiated between all the parties concerned including the Republic of Korea.