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**DECLARATION BY THE PRESIDENCY**  
**ON BEHALF OF THE EUROPEAN UNION**  
**ON THE RECENT VIOLENCE IN CYPRUS**

The European Union strongly deplores the recent violence in Cyprus and the disproportionate use of force by the security forces in the north of Cyprus in response to unauthorised entry into the buffer zone. It condemns the brutal killings of Tassos Isaac and Solomos Solomou and expresses its deep concern about the injuries sustained by many others, including United Nations peacekeeping personnel.

The European Union calls for restraint and calm in the wake of these tragic events. It urges both sides to avoid further confrontation and to cooperate fully with UNFICYP in its efforts to defuse tensions.

The recent events have again highlighted the urgent need to intensify efforts to promote a comprehensive political settlement in Cyprus, under the aegis of the United Nations. The European Union reiterates its full support for the work of the Secretary-General and his special representative in this regard.

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