



**COUNCIL OF  
THE EUROPEAN UNION**



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**Declaration by the Presidency on behalf of the European Union  
on a Chinese test of an anti-satellite weapon**

The EU is very concerned about a recent weapons test where a Chinese missile destroyed a Chinese satellite.

A test of an anti-satellite weapon is inconsistent with international efforts to avert an arms race in outer space and undermines security in outer space. In this context the EU reaffirms the importance of security in outer space, and the urgency of preventing an arms race in outer space and is ready to contribute to that objective. EU stands by its position that the exploration and use of outer space, including the Moon and other celestial bodies, shall be for peaceful purposes only and shall be carried out for the benefit and in the interest of all countries.

**P R E S S**

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In this context the EU recalls the Outer Space Treaty and calls upon all signatory States to abide by their commitment to exercise their space activities in accordance with international law and in the interest of maintaining international peace and security.

The EU calls upon China to subscribe to the Hague Code of Conduct Against the Proliferation of Ballistic Missiles.

The Candidate Countries Turkey, Croatia\* and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia\*, the Countries of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidates Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Montenegro, and the EFTA countries Liechtenstein and Norway, members of the European Economic Area, as well as Ukraine and the Republic of Moldova align themselves with this declaration.

\* Croatia and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia continue to be part of the Stabilisation and Association Process.

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