Remarks by Javier SOLANA,
EU High Representative for the CFSP,
on the verdict of the International Court of Justice in The Hague
concerning the direct responsibility of the Serbian government for genocide
in Bosnia during the 1992-95 war

Javier SOLANA, EU High Representative for the Common Foreign and Security Policy (CFSP), made today the following comments on the judgement of the International Court of Justice concerning the application of the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide (Bosnia and Herzegovina v. Serbia and Montenegro):

"Today's verdict of The Hague Tribunal is to be welcomed. We accept it, and we think that it will contribute to close the debates of a dramatic history that was very painful and very damaging for many people. I expect that the parties concerned in the region will accept, fully respect and implement all aspects of the judgement.

I have not yet studied the verdict in detail, but there is one thing that I would like to underline: There is no collective punishment. It is good that, in the end, the highest tribunal in the world has closed that page and I hope that this will help the final reconciliation of the peoples of the Balkans."

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