

PRESS RELEASE

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**Declaration by the Presidency on behalf of the European Union
on the recent developments in Myanmar/Burma**

The EU strongly deplores the actions of the Burmese authorities to hinder the free movement of Daw Aung San Suu Kyi. Furthermore, the EU condemns the decision of the Burmese authorities to force her to return back to Yangon after she had spent six days in her car in protest against the Burmese authorities which deprived her of the possibility to take part in a meeting with members of the NLD. The EU considers this to be an unacceptable violation of her right of free movement and association. Furthermore, this decision has only increased the isolation of the Burmese government and will have further negative repercussions on the international reputation of the authorities in Yangon.

The EU remains concerned about the health and safety of Daw Aung San Suu Kyi.

The EU calls upon the authorities in Burma to allow Daw Aung San Suu Kyi free movement and expresses its hope that the Burmese government will take all necessary steps urgently to start a meaningful dialogue between the government and the opposition, in particular the NLD and representatives of ethnic minorities. As a first step, Parliament should be convened as soon as possible. Meanwhile international pressure on Burma should be maintained.

The Central and Eastern European countries and Cyprus associated with the European Union and the EFTA countries Iceland and Norway, members of the European Economic Area align themselves with this declaration.
