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**Declaration by the Presidency on behalf of the European Union
on the situation in Guinea-Bissau**

The Presidency, on behalf of the European Union, strongly condemns the attempted military coup by some elements of the armed forces against the duly elected democratic institutions and representatives of Guinea-Bissau.

The EU wishes to stress that, within a democracy, disputes should only be settled in compliance with democratic principles.

The EU calls for the rapid reestablishment of constitutional order and security in Guinea-Bissau to prevent further bloodshed, and commends the efforts made by the Guinea-Bissau authorities to avoid any further loss of civilian lives and to ensure protection to all EU nationals residing in Bissau.

The EU will continue to follow closely events in Guinea-Bissau.