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Declaration by the Presidency on behalf of the European Union

on the final report of the Commission for Historical Clarification

in Guatemala

The European Union has noted with satisfaction the work of the Commission for Historical clarification, which has complied with its mandate to investigate objectively and impartially and elucidate the human rights violations and violence relating to the armed confrontation in Guatemala and to recommend measures to promote peace and national reconciliation. The publication and intended widespread dissemination of the Commission's final report represent an important step in the ongoing process towards the full implementation of the peace accords.

The Union, whilst noting the Guatemalan Government's initial reaction to the report, is encouraged by the subsequent assurances which its ambassadors have received over the Government's commitment to the report. The Union urges the Guatemalan authorities to take all steps to implement the Commission's recommendations to the fullest possible extent as a further new element to the existing peace process, in order to strenghten democratisation and to lay the foundations for true reconciliation in Guatemalan society. The Union reiterates its support for all efforts to consolidate the peace process in Guatemala.