

PRESS RELEASE

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**Declaration by the Presidency on behalf of the European Union
on the Democratic Republic of Congo**

The European Union strongly condemns the attack on the president of the Democratic Republic of Congo, Laurent-Désiré Kabila, as it condemns all such political violence.

The European Union appeals for calm and urges all Congolese parties to work towards national reconciliation and a process of democratisation.

The European Union urges all parties to the Lusaka agreement to respect their commitment to the accord, to comply with relevant UN Security Council resolutions, to show restraint and to work together, in words and in deeds, for a peaceful resolution of the conflict in the Democratic Republic of Congo.

The European Union reiterates its support for the territorial integrity of the Democratic Republic of Congo and its commitment to support the implementation of the Lusaka agreement in full.

The European Union urges the authorities of the Democratic Republic of Congo to uphold the rule of law and to guarantee the safety of all civilians on its territory.

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

**Internet: <http://ue.eu.int/Newsroom>
E-mail: press.office@consilium.eu.int**

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