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**STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENCY ON BEHALF OF THE EUROPEAN UNION ON  
THE OCCASION OF THE DEATH OF THE PRESIDENT  
OF THE REPUBLIC OF CROATIA, DR. FRANJO TUDJMAN**

Deeply saddened by the news of the tragic loss to the Croatian people, as a result of the death of the President of the Republic of Croatia, Dr. Franjo Tudjman, the Presidency of the Council of the European Union wishes to convey to the people of Croatia its deepest sympathy.

The Presidency of the European Union wishes to assure the Croatian people, in its time of grief, that it is willing to work for the further development of relations between the European Union and Croatia.

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