

Noordwijk, 8 April 1997  
7287/97 (Presse 102)

**Declaration by the Ministers of the European Union and of the Rio Group  
on the continuing hostage situation at the Embassy of Japan in Peru**

The Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the European Union and the Rio Group, on the occasion of their VIIth institutionalized meeting in Noordwijk in the Kingdom of the Netherlands, having regard to the continuation of the hostage-taking by a terrorist group on the premises of the Embassy of Japan in Peru, hereby reiterate :

1. Their strongest condemnation of all terrorist acts and their readiness to cooperate in fighting this scourge by all legal means.
  2. Their demand that all the hostages be released immediately.
  3. Their solidarity with all the hostages and their families.
  4. Their support for the Government of Peru and for the efforts to find a peaceful solution to this situation.
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