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Declaration by the Presidency on behalf of the European Union
on relations between Bulgaria and FYROM

With great satisfaction, the EU welcomes the Joint Declaration by the Republic of Bulgaria and the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, which will help to facilitate the conclusion of further bilateral agreements. The Republic of Bulgaria and the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia have thereby set an example of how difficult questions can be solved amicably and in a spirit of good neighbourliness. The EU regards the signing of these agreements as a valuable contribution to stability and security in a region, where the potential for co-operation has not yet been exhausted. Equally, the EU recognises the intensified dialogue between the Republic of Bulgaria and Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia as an important step towards their further integration into European structures. The EU will continue to support both the Republic of Bulgaria and the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia to this end.