

Spanish Presidency of the European Union

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Joint statement by High Representative Catherine Ashton and Commissioner Štefan Füle on the Serbian Declaration on Srebrenica

The European Union would like to draw the attention of the Permanent Council to the “Joint statement by High Representative Catherine Ashton and Commissioner Štefan Füle on the Serbian Declaration on Srebrenica” as issued on 31 March 2010:

"The European Union welcomes the adoption by the Serbian Parliament of the declaration on Srebrenica. This is an important step for the country in facing its recent past, a process which is difficult but essential for Serbian society to go through. This is not only important for Serbia, it is the key for the reconciliation for the whole region. We appreciate the role of everyone who made such a step possible.

While recalling the European Parliament's resolution on Srebrenica of January 2009, the European Union notes the reaffirmation to fully cooperate with the International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia (ICTY), in particular the arrest and handing over of the remaining fugitives,

and to continue the domestic processing of war crimes. These are crucial elements for stability and reconciliation in the region and for Serbia's EU accession perspective."