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EU statement on the earthquake in Japan

In line with the statement of the European Council and the Joint statement by Herman Van Rompuy President of the European Council and Jose Manuel Barroso President of the European Commission, the EU would like to express its deep concern at the news of the devastating earthquake which struck Japan, causing thousands of fatalities and serious material damage.

We express our solidarity and condolences to the people and government of Japan, and to the families of the victims at this difficult time. In addition to national responses, the EU stands ready to assist in any way we can in case of need.

The candidate countries TURKEY, CROATIA*, the FORMER YUGOSLAV REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA* and ICELAND**, the countries of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidate countries ALBANIA, BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA and SERBIA, the European Free Trade Association countries LIECHTENSTEIN and NORWAY, members of the European Economic Area, as well as UKRAINE, the REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA, ARMENIA, ANDORRA and SAN MARINO align themselves with this statement.

*Croatia and the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia continue to be part of the Stabilisation and Association Process.

**Iceland continues to be a member of the EFTA and the European Economic Area.