STATEMENT

by the Spokesperson of EU High Representative Catherine Ashton on the conviction of Malaysian opposition politician Anwar Ibrahim

The spokesperson of Catherine Ashton, High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy and Vice President of the Commission, issued the following statement today:

"The High Representative is concerned at the reversal of Malaysian opposition leader Anwar Ibrahim's acquittal. The conduct of this high-profile trial has raised a number of concerns regarding due legal process.

The EU is concerned at what appears to be selective prosecution against Mr Anwar and the hasty conclusion of the appeals procedure which directly impacts on his participation in the democratic process.

The EU nevertheless notes that the carrying out of the verdict has been stayed and bail granted to the defendant pending his appeal. The EU will continue to follow the case closely."

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