STATEMENT

by EU High Representative Catherine Ashton on the continuation of executions in Taiwan

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

"I regret the latest set of five executions which took place in Taiwan on 29 April 2014.

I recognise the sufferings of the victims of the crimes involved, and express my sincere sympathy to their families. However, capital punishment can never be justified. The European Union opposes capital punishment under all circumstances and calls for its universal abolition.

I call on the authorities in Taiwan to introduce an immediate moratorium on executions as recommended by international experts in March 2013, following Taiwan's first human rights report."

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