PRESS RELEASE

High Representative Catherine Ashton travels to the Republic of Korea

On 23 May High Representative of the European Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy/Vice-President of the Commission Catherine Ashton will make an official visit to the Republic of Korea.

As part of her visit, High Representative Ashton will further consolidate the legal and institutional framework governing EU-Korea relations by signing a Framework Participation Agreement aimed at facilitating future Korean Participation in EU Common Security and Defence Policy operations. South Korea will be the first country to have entered into this trio of agreements with the EU (trade, political and now security), which is testimony to the breadth and dynamism of the EU-Korea Strategic Partnership.

In Seoul, HRVP Ashton will meet President Park Geun-hye and carry out consultations with Foreign Minister Yun Byung-se. They will discuss a broad range of bilateral and international issues, especially the state of the Strategic Partnership, security cooperation, non-proliferation and recent developments in our respective neighbourhoods including the DPRK, North East Asia cooperation and other international issues, such as Ukraine, Iran and Syria.

FOR FURTHER DETAILS:
Michael Mann +32 498 999 780 - +32 2 584 9780 - Michael.Mann@eeas.europa.eu @EUHighRepSpox
Maja Kocijancic +32 498 984 425 - +32 2 298 65 70 - Maja.Kocijancic@ec.europa.eu @AshtonSpox Maja
Sebastien Brabant +32 460 75 09 98 - Sebastien.Brabant@ec.europa.eu
Eamonn Prendergast +32 460 75 32 93 – Eamonn.Prendergast@ec.europa.eu
Follow us on Twitter @eu_e eas
www.facebook.com/EuropeanExternalActionService
www.eeas.europa.eu

EN
Speaking ahead of her visit, Catherine Ashton said: "I am looking forward to meeting President Park and to holding discussions with Foreign Minister Yun to further consolidate the very positive state of EU-Korea relations. Ours is a dynamic partnership based on shared fundamental values and principles and a firm belief in multilateralism and respect for international law. I look forward to exploring ways in which the EU and Korea can further develop cooperation on global, international and regional issues and support each other's efforts to promote peace, stability and prosperity in our respective regions."

For more information: http://eeas.europa.eu/korea_south/index_en.htm