Statement by the spokesperson of EU High Representative Catherine Ashton on North Korea’s planned satellite launch

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 Catherine Ashton is deeply concerned by North Korea’s plan to launch a ‘satellite’ in the period between 10 - 22 December.

Such a launch would be in breach of North Korea’s obligations under UNSC 1718 and 1874.

It would furthermore be a provocative act, threatening peace and security in the region, and lead to a further isolation of the DPRK, thus undermining ongoing diplomatic efforts to find a peaceful solution to the nuclear issue.

The High Representative calls on North Korea to comply fully with its obligations and to refrain from attempting a satellite launch.

Developments will be monitored closely and key partners in the region consulted."

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