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## STATEMENT

by the Spokesperson of EU High Representative Catherine Ashton on the signing of the UN Convention Against Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment by Vietnam

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 warmly welcomes the signing of the UN Convention Against Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (UNCAT) by Vietnam on 7 November 2013.

She is encouraged by this important step towards improvement of the legal framework for protection of human rights in Vietnam, which was announced during the EU-Vietnam Human Rights Dialogue on 11 September.

The High Representative now looks forward to timely ratification and implementation of UNCAT."