

Brussels, 14 June 2014 140614/01

STATEMENT

on shooting down of a Ukrainian airplane close to the Luhansk airport

"We are saddened by the dramatic loss of around 50 military personnel caused by the shooting down of a Ukrainian airplane close to the Luhansk airport. We offer our sincere condolences to the families of the victims.

This meaningless violence constitutes a further escalation of the destabilising actions by separatists in Eastern Ukraine. It adds to other developments of concern over the last days, including the reported incursion of tanks from Russia into Ukraine.

We call for an end to these acts of violence and other provocations. There is an urgent need for de-escalation which means an immediate cease fire and the flow of illegal fighters and arms into Ukraine brought to a halt. In this regard we reiterate our call on Russia to use its influence on the separatist groups who need to be disarmed."