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Presidency draft of an EU statement concerning the ICTY indictment against Milosevic

For discussion among EU representatives at the preperatory meeting for a Stability Pact for South Eastern Europe, Petersberg, 27. May 1999 (* 62 Entreso Reputers Denvers)

The European Union takes note of the decision of the Prosecutor of the ICTY. The Tribunal is an independent, judicial organ. Indictment decisions are for the Tribunal.

The European Union has always supported the work of the Tribunal, and will continue to do so. We are all obliged to cooperate with the Tribunal. Our obligations to the Tribunal will remain unaltered by the outcome of the Kosovo crisis.

The European Union is committed to press for a settlement of the Kosovo issue, in line with the principles laid down by the international community, and to persuade Belgrade to accept such a solution. This by no means implies negotiating on these demands, which have to be accepted by the Belgrade leadership.

In pursuit of this objective there will need to be discussions with the competent authorities in Belgrade, authorities capable of implementing and accepting a UN Security Council Resolution.

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