



**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

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**Javier SOLANA,
EU High Representative for the CFSP,
today met the President and the Registrar
of the International Criminal Court (ICC)**

Javier SOLANA, EU High Representative for the Common Foreign and Security Policy (CFSP) today met the President of the International Criminal Court (ICC), Mr Sang-Hyun SONG, and the Registrar, Ms Silvana ARBIA.

Mr Solana and the representatives of the ICC discussed the European Union's support for the Court, including the situation generated after the issuance of the arrest warrant against the President of Sudan.

Mr Solana welcomed the very good progress made by the Court in recent years in helping to establish an international order based on the rule of law, in line with the European Union's core values. Mr Song underlined that the Court had already proved its judicial nature and independence and recalled that effective cooperation from States was crucial for the Court to be able to fulfil its mandate.

The High Representative emphasised the EU's support for the ICC and its efforts to ensure that the most serious crimes of concern to the international community do not go unpunished. He stressed that peace and justice are not contradictory aims and that lasting peace cannot be achieved without a suitable response to calls for individuals to be held accountable for the most serious international crimes. Mr Solana encouraged the Court to engage more with the African Union (AU) and offered the support of the EU delegation to the AU to help the Court in establishing its liaison office. He added that the EU would continue to offer strong support for the work of the Court in these difficult times.

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