



**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**



Council conclusions on the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK)

*3222nd FOREIGN AFFAIRS Council meeting
Brussels, 18 february 2013*

The Council adopted the following conclusions:

1. "The Council condemns in the strongest terms the nuclear test conducted by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) on 12 February which clearly violates its international obligations under UN Security Council Resolutions 1718, 1874 and 2087, and demands that it abstains from further tests. This nuclear test represents a serious threat to regional and international peace and security and is furthermore a serious affront to the principles set out in the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty (CTBT). The EU calls on the DPRK to sign and ratify the CTBT without delay.
2. The Council deplores that the DPRK has once again chosen the ill-advised path of provocation and isolation, in defiance of the international community's united condemnation of its use of ballistic missile technology on 12 December 2012. The pursuit by the DPRK of its illegal nuclear and ballistic missile programmes constitutes a grave challenge to the international nuclear non-proliferation regime and presents the risk of aggravating regional tensions. These do not serve the DPRK's claimed objective of improving its security.
3. The Council recalls that UN Security Council Resolution 2087, unanimously adopted on 22 January this year, provides for a strengthening of sanctions already in force and expresses the UN Security Council's determination to take significant action in the event of a further launch or nuclear test. As a first step in defence of the international non-proliferation regime, the Council therefore decides to further strengthen sanctions against the DPRK by adopting EU autonomous measures in addition to those contained in UN Security Council Resolution 2087. These new measures relate to trade in conventional weapons involving the DPRK and to the export to the DPRK of certain key materials for the ballistic missile sector, as well as financial restrictions.

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4. Furthermore, the Council judges that the increased risk posed by the DPRK's new provocative act warrants further robust and effective measures by the international community aimed at preventing the DPRK from pursuing its nuclear and ballistic programmes, including its uranium enrichment activities. In consultation with key partners and in light of ongoing deliberations in the UN Security Council, the EU will consider the imposition of further appropriate restrictive measures to support this objective, including in the financial sector.

 5. The EU calls upon the DPRK to re-engage constructively with the international community and in particular the members of the Six-Party Talks, in order to work towards lasting peace and security on a nuclear-free Korean peninsula and as the best means to secure a more prosperous and stable future for the DPRK. The EU stands ready to continue working with its partners in support of these objectives."
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