



EUROPEAN UNION

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**Statement in New York by
EU High Representative Catherine Ashton
on the death of Osama Bin Laden**

Here in New York, it is impossible not to be reminded of the murderous legacy of Osama Bin Laden. He and the Al Qaeda network have been responsible for the deaths of thousands of innocent people across the world, including the Arab world.

The special operation carried out last night in Pakistan directed at Osama Bin Laden's hideout represents a major blow against both Al Qaeda and terrorist activities worldwide. We need to remain vigilant in our efforts to completely disable the Al Qaeda network, as the threat of retaliatory action remains serious.

I would like to congratulate the US, pay tribute to its determination and efficiency in reducing the threat posed by terrorists and underline the close cooperation between the EU and US in the fight against terrorism.

I would like to emphasize that Pakistan is an important partner of the European Union and that Pakistan's role for security and stability is crucial to the region as a whole.

P R E S S

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