



EUROPEAN UNION

Brussels, 6 February 2013  
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**Statement by EU High Representative Catherine Ashton  
following the meetings with President Nikolić  
and President Jahjaga**

The High Representative of the European Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy and Vice President of the Commission issued the following statement today:

*"I met today in Brussels President Nikolić and President Jahjaga in the context of the efforts for the normalisation of relations between the two sides. After meeting them separately, I held a joint meeting with the two Presidents that took place in an open and constructive atmosphere.*

*We discussed the on-going dialogue that I am facilitating between Prime Minister Dačić and Prime Minister Thaçi. The dialogue has already produced a number of significant achievements thanks to the constructive engagement from both sides. We are now tackling the issue of northern Kosovo and the coming weeks will be critical. Both President Nikolić and President Jahjaga have assured me of their continued support and commitment to the dialogue and their respective European agendas.*

*I reaffirmed the European perspective for both Serbia and Kosovo and encouraged both sides to continue with the efforts needed for further progress towards the European Union, along the lines of the December 2012 Conclusions of the Council of the EU."*

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**P R E S S**

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FOR FURTHER DETAILS:

Michael Mann +32 498 999 780 - +32 2 584 9780- [Michael.Mann@eeas.europa.eu](mailto:Michael.Mann@eeas.europa.eu)  
Maja Kocijancic +32 498 984 425 - +32 2 298 65 70 - [Maja.Kocijancic@ec.europa.eu](mailto:Maja.Kocijancic@ec.europa.eu)  
[COMM-SPP-HRVP-ASHTON@ec.europa.eu](mailto:COMM-SPP-HRVP-ASHTON@ec.europa.eu)  
[www.eeas.europa.eu](http://www.eeas.europa.eu)

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