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**Javier SOLANA,  
EU High Representative for the CFSP,  
following detention of Aleksandr Milinkevich and  
Belarusian opposition leaders**

Javier SOLANA, EU High Representative for Common Foreign and Security Policy (CFSP), issued the following statement following the detention in Minsk of Aleksandr Milinkevich and other opposition leaders:

*"I am deeply disturbed by the arrest and imprisonment of Mr Aleksandr Milinkevich and other opposition leaders for taking part in a rally, as well as of others exercising their legitimate political rights. I urge the Belarusian authorities to release and rehabilitate them immediately. I also reiterate the EU's call to the Belarusian authorities to swiftly liberate all political prisoners previously detained, including Mr Aleksandr Kozulin."*