Yesterday, together with Foreign Minister Zarif, I announced that the Foreign Ministers of the E3+3 and Iran, under my facilitation, had reached an agreement on the Iranian nuclear issue. I attach a copy of the Joint Statement. It was an historic day representing the opening of a new chapter in our relationship with Iran.

I also attach a copy of the main text of the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA): this together with the five annexes is available on the EEAS website.

The Plan of Action represents a comprehensive solution that builds the confidence of the international community in the exclusively peaceful nature of Iran’s nuclear programme through a combination of strict limits on Iran’s nuclear activities (enrichment capacity, stockpile, centrifuge production, plutonium production) and strong verification measures. It provides for the lifting of nuclear related sanctions once the IAEA has verified that Iran has implemented the necessary steps on the nuclear side.

The agreement will now be endorsed by the UN Security Council through the adoption of a new UN Security Council resolution and it has also to undergo the necessary Congress and parliamentary review process in the US (the Corker review).

Sanctions will be lifted in stages: economic and financial sanctions (for the EU in particular banking, financial and oil) on “Implementation Day” upon IAEA verification that Iran has implemented the necessary steps (not expected before the end of the year), and non-proliferation related sanctions after 8 years (or at the ‘IAEA Broader Conclusions’). The UN arms embargo will be lifted after 5 years and restrictions on missiles after 8 years. The transfer of proliferation related sensitive goods will be reviewed and approved by a procurement channel. I have been entrusted to ensure the coordination of this mechanism. The UN Security Council will remain seized of the issue for ten years. Until the implementation of the JCPOA, the existing measures under the Joint Plan of Action (JPOA) will remain in place.
This agreement is important under the aspect of non-proliferation and security. But it has the potential to deliver much more. We are creating the conditions for building trust and opening a new chapter in our relation. In my joint statement with Foreign Minister Zarif I referred to our responsibility to our generation and the future ones, and this is true first of all in relation to the Iranian young people that celebrate the deal in the streets of their country. The agreement could also open the way to exploring new regional dynamics: we should use the trust and confidence that the implementation of the deal will bring, to unlock more cooperative approaches to address some of the region's most urgent and dramatic security challenges.

Yours sincerely,

Federica Mogherini

Cc: H.E. Mr Edgars Rinkēvičs, Minister for Foreign Affairs