

Readout of the telephone conversation between President Charles Michel and President of Iran Hassan Rouhani



President of the European Council Charles Michel had a call with President Hassan Rouhani, President of Islamic Republic of Iran on Thursday 18 February 2021.

They discussed the socio-economic and health impact of the Covid-19 pandemic and had an exchange of views on the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPoA).

The President of the European Council highlighted the importance that the EU attaches to the full implementation of the JCPoA in the context of the global nuclear non-proliferation architecture. President Michel expressed concern over actions which constituted a departure from Iran's commitments under the Agreement, including the announced decision to suspend the Additional Protocol. In this context, President Michel underlined the importance of continued cooperation with the International Atomic Energy Agency, also in light of the upcoming visit of IAEA Director General Rafael Mariano Grossi to Iran.

President Michel indicated that preserving a space for diplomacy, underpinned by positive steps, was crucial at this stage.

The EU will continue to deploy efforts to facilitate the full implementation of the JCPoA and the return of the United States of America to the Agreement. Global peace, security and economic development can only be achieved through multilateral action.

The state of bilateral relations, including human rights issues, were also discussed as well as the importance of global solidarity and international cooperation in combatting the Covid-19 pandemic.