Contracting Parties to the Treaty on European Union and the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, hereinafter referred to as "the Member States",

hereinafter referred to as "the Union Party",

of the one part,

and

JAPAN,

of the other part,

hereinafter jointly referred to as "the Parties",

REAFFIRMING their commitment to the common values and principles, in particular democracy, the rule of law, human rights and fundamental freedoms, which constitute the basis for their deep and long-lasting cooperation as strategic partners;

RECALLING the increasingly close ties forged between them since the issuance of the Joint Declaration on Relations between the European Community and its Member States and Japan in 1991;

WISHING to build on and to enhance the valuable contribution to their relations made by the existing agreements between them in various fields;

RECOGNISING that the increasing worldwide interdependence has led to the need for deepened international cooperation;

CONSCIOUS, in this regard, as like-minded global partners, of their shared responsibility and commitment to setting up a just and stable international order in accordance with the principles and purposes of the Charter of the United Nations, and to achieve peace, stability and prosperity of the world as well as human security;

RESOLVED, in this regard, to work closely to address major global challenges that the international community has to face, such as proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, terrorism, climate change, poverty and infectious diseases, and threats to common interest in the maritime domain, cyberspace and outer space;

RESOLVED also, in this regard, that the most serious crimes of concern to the international community as a whole must not go unpunished;

DETERMINED, in this regard, to strengthen their overall partnership in a comprehensive manner by expanding political, economic and cultural ties and by agreements;

DETERMINED also, in this regard, to enhance their cooperation and to maintain the overall coherence of the cooperation, including by strengthening consultations at all levels and by taking joint actions on all issues of common interest;