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Pat COX warns United States against any unilateral pre-emptive action in Iraq

Responding to questions on Iraq at the US-Ireland Business Summit in Washington DC today, Pat Cox, the President of the European Parliament, emphasised the EU's strong conviction that any unilateral pre-emptive action would carry very considerable risks. Any decision on military action on Iraq should be firmly rooted in international law and supported by the United Nations.

"In the fight against terrorism, the US does not have to stand alone," said Pat Cox. "At the same time we believe that doing nothing is not an option. I commend the fact that President Bush will be going to the United Nations on Thursday 12 September, and that he is now beginning to connect with his allies."