

## Hezbollah: EU decision 'hostile, unjust'

The Shiite group Hezbollah on Monday described the decision by the European Union to blacklist their military wing as "hostile and unjust."

"Hezbollah expresses its absolute rejection of the EU's decision to blacklist the party's military wing, and deems it a hostile and unjust decision that is not based on any justifications or evidence," Hezbollah said in its statement issued later in the night.

The military party also said that the decision was the result of the US and Zionist pressure exerted on the EU.

"The decision seems as if it was written with a US hand and Zionist ink; Europe only had to add its signature stamp for approval," the statement said.

"If the EU thinks that by abiding by the US logic of blackmail and issuing this decision that it is reserving its position in our Arab and Islamic region, we assure it that the US had preceded it with such a decision and only gained more losses and failures from it," the statement added.

EU foreign ministers on Monday added Hezbollah's military wing to its list of "terrorist organizations."

The decision came after some of EU's 28 foreign ministers overcame reservations in some member states that such a move would further destabilize Lebanon where the militant group is a major political force.

To do so, ministers agreed that EU political and economic links with Lebanon would be maintained.

They also highlighted the fact that it is the military wing alone that is blacklisted after Hezbollah was blamed for a deadly attack on Israeli tourists in Bulgaria last year.