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Statement by the Spokesperson of EU High Representative Catherine Ashton on the recent massacre in Bayda, Banyas region, in Syria

The spokesperson of Catherine Ashton, High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy and Vice President of the Commission, issued the following statement today:

"The High Representative condemns in the strongest terms the brutal massacre by the Syrian armed forces and its militias in the town of Bayda, Banyas province, claiming the lives of dozens of people, including women and children.

This heinous act shows the responsibility of the Syrian regime in instigating sectarian violence and escalating the conflict. It is of outmost urgency that the regime responds to the repeated calls of the EU and the international community to engage in negotiations for a political settlement of the conflict.

The High Representative reiterates the EU's firm position that there will be no impunity for those responsible for such crimes."

P R E S S

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