EUROPEAN UNION

Brussels, 11 January 2012
A 7/12

Statement by the spokesperson of the EU High Representative Catherine Ashton on the French journalist killed in Homs (Syria)

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

"High Representative Catherine Ashton strongly condemns the death of France 2 reporter Gilles Jacquier and of the other victims of the attack today in the Syrian city of Homs. She expresses her condolences to the family of Mr. Jacquier and the families of all the victims of this terrible attack.

The High Representatives reiterates her call for an immediate end to violence in Syria. She is concerned by the recent escalation of violence in the country. The High Representative calls for a rapid investigation to clarify the circumstances leading to this tragedy. The Syrian authorities have a responsibility to guarantee the safety of journalists in their country. The press must be allowed to carry out its vital role of providing independent information on events in Syria without fear of violence or repression."

P R E S S

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