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Statement by the spokesperson of High Representative Catherine Ashton on her phone call with Lakhdar Brahimi

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

"The High Representative spoke yesterday with Lakhdar Brahimi, the recently appointed UN-League of Arab States Joint Special Representative for Syria. They discussed the extremely difficult situation in Syria, and the immediate priority to reduce violence.

The High Representative reaffirmed the EU's full support for Mr. Brahimi's challenging mission. She also assured him that he can count on not only her personal commitment but also the EU's assistance to him and his team in this important task of working towards a peaceful political solution to the crisis. The humanitarian situation remains a top priority for the EU.

Close coordination and united diplomatic action by the international community are pre-requisites for his success. The EU calls on the members of the UN Security Council and all parties to provide Mr. Brahimi with the support he requires, and will continue to closely coordinate with the UN and the League of Arab States."

P R E S S

FOR FURTHER DETAILS:
Michael Mann +32 498 999 780 - +32 2 299 97 80 - Michael.Mann@eeas.europa.eu
Maja Kocijancic +32 498 984 425 - +32 2 298 65 70 - Maja.Kocijancic@ec.europa.eu
Sebastien Brabant +32 460 75 09 98 - Sebastien.Brabant@ec.europa.eu
COMM-SPP-HRVP-ASHTON@ec.europa.eu
www.eeas.europa.eu

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