EUROPEAN UNION

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Statement by EU High Representative Catherine Ashton on violence in Lebanon

Catherine Ashton, High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy, made today the following statement:

"I extend my deepest sympathy to the families of the victims, to the Lebanese Armed Forces and to all those who have suffered from violence during the clashes in Sidon.

The European Union reiterates its commitment to Lebanon's peace, unity, sovereignty and independence. The EU strongly supports all national institutions in their efforts to preserve peace and security. The EU also supports the judiciary in combating impunity and holding to account all those who resort to violence.

During my last visit to Lebanon of 17-18 June, I recalled EU support for Lebanon's policy of dissociation from the conflict in Syria. Today I urge once again all the parties to show restraint and fully abide by the commitments made in the Baabda Declaration.

My support goes to all those working to de-escalate tensions through dialogue and peaceful means."

P R E S S

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