

Human Rights Commissioner condemns violence against demonstrators in Syria

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13.04.2011 - Press release 

Commenting on the situation in Syria after the violent breaking up of demonstrations Federal Government Commissioner for Human Rights Policy and Humanitarian Aid Markus Löning said today (13 April):

“We must assume that in recent days more than 100 demonstrators have been killed by Syrian security forces. I strongly condemn this brutal treatment of people standing up for democracy and the rule of law. Those responsible must be brought before a court. Also in Syria, freedom of opinion and assembly must be fully respected. The abuse, expulsion, and dismissal of Syrian and international journalists are completely unacceptable. I call on the Syrian leaders to protect the freedom of the press and release all political prisoners. The momentum towards freedom in the region cannot be crushed. It is time for far-reaching reforms in Syria. President Assad is called upon to start taking the necessary steps and to prevent further escalation.”

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