S T A T E M E N T

by the Spokesperson of EU High Representative Catherine Ashton

on the terrorist attack in Beirut

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 is appalled by the bombing in southern Beirut near the Iranian embassy, which killed and injured many people including embassy staff. She extends her condolences to the families of the victims and expresses her sympathy to the people of Lebanon.

She condemns this terrorist attack in the strongest terms and reaffirms that the use of violence against civilians cannot be accepted. She calls for a swift investigation into the events to bring the perpetrators to justice.

The High Representative calls on all sides to facilitate the course of investigations and justice, and to fully cooperate with the Lebanese authorities. She underlines the need for all Lebanese to help maintain peace and security in the country.

The High Representative reiterates the European Union’s continued support to Lebanon and commitment to Lebanon's unity, independence, sovereignty, and territorial integrity."

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