STATEMENT

by the Spokesperson of EU High Representative Catherine Ashton

on the deadly explosions 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 strongly condemns today's bomb attacks which once again targeted Beirut. She extends her condolences to the families of the victims and wishes a speedy recovery to those who have been injured.

The High Representative is deeply concerned regarding the spiral of violence in Lebanon, reaffirms that terrorism and any use of violence against civilians – and especially children – are completely unacceptable. She calls for the perpetrators of these heinous acts to be brought to justice. Four days ago, the High Representative welcomed the formation of a new government, as a key step in Lebanon's efforts to tackle effectively the extraordinary security, economic and political challenges the country is facing. The High Representative reconfirms that EU will stand by Lebanon to face those challenges."

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