Statement

by the Spokesperson on the murder of Mykola Zelenec in Luhansk

"We are appalled and saddened by the kidnapping and brutal murder of Mykola Zelenec, Lithuania’s Honorary Consul, by illegal armed groups in Luhansk. We strongly condemn this act of terror and convey our sincere condolences to his family and loved ones.

Those responsible for this crime must be held accountable and brought to justice.

The tragic death of Mykola Zelenec adds to the increasing toll of casualties in Eastern Ukraine. This demonstrates again the urgency to put an immediate end to the violence and the need to take steps towards de-escalation of the crisis. Now more than ever a political, sustainable solution must be found in order to prevent future senseless loss of lives.

To this end, we also urge Russia to immediately cease its actions destabilising Ukraine and to join our efforts to restore peace and security in Ukraine.”

FOR FURTHER DETAILS:
Michael Mann +32 498 999 780 - +32 2 584 9780 - Michael.Mann@eeas.europa.eu @EUHighRepSpox
Maja Kocijancic +32 498 984 425 - +32 2 298 65 70 - Maja.Kocijancic@ec.europa.eu @AshtonSpox Maja
Sebastien Brabant +32 460 75 09 98 - Sebastien.Brabant@ec.europa.eu
Eamonn Prendergast +32 460 75 32 93 – Eamonn.Prendergast@ec.europa.eu
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