EUROPEAN UNION

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Statement by EU High Representative Catherine Ashton
on the sectarian violence in Egypt

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

"I am deeply concerned about the rising sectarian violence in Egypt in recent days. I regret the loss of life and that many were injured. My condolences go to the families and friends of those who have been killed or hurt.

I call on the Egyptian authorities to take all the necessary measures to ensure the security and protection of Egyptian citizens and bring those responsible to justice. Freedom of religion or belief is a universal human right which needs to be protected everywhere and for everyone.”