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Statement by the spokesperson of EU High Representative Catherine Ashton on the recent spate of terrorist attacks in Iraq

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 condemns in the strongest terms the spate of terrorist attacks in the past days in Iraq, which have killed dozens of innocent civilians and members of the security forces, and injured hundreds more. The High Representative is appalled by the bombing of a funeral at a mosque in Tuz Khurmatu, in the disputed territories. She expresses her deepest condolences to the families of the victims.

The High Representative remains confident that the Iraqi people will remain steadfast in their continued rejection of attempts by extremists to undermine the security and the stability of Iraq through such senseless use of violence.

She calls again upon the Government of Iraq and all Iraqi political leaders to engage in an inclusive and genuine dialogue. Ensuring effective and inclusive democratic governance in all of Iraq, underpinned by rule of law and respect of the Constitution, represents the best chance to ultimately defy the continuing unacceptable violence."

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P R E S S

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