EUROPEAN UNION

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Statement by the Spokesperson of High Representative Catherine Ashton on the situation in Egypt

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

"The High Representative deplores the loss of life this morning at the Republican Guard HQ. She notes that an inquiry has been set up into the tragic events and trusts that this will be conducted quickly, in a thorough and impartial manner. She sends her deepest condolences to the families of the victims on all sides.

She reiterates in the strongest possible terms her call for utmost restraint and an immediate end to the violence. Dialogue and inclusiveness are the only way forward in speedily restoring a civilian and democratic framework.

She calls on all sides, but particularly on the Interim Presidency and those in a position of authority and influence, to reach out to all political forces, and to move rapidly toward reconciliation. All those who claim legitimacy must act in a responsible way for the good of the country and avoid any provocation or escalation of violence."

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P R E S S

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