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Statement by the Spokesperson on the latest announcement on settlement expansion in Ramat Shlomo

The Israeli District Planning and Building Committee this week took a decision allowing for further settlement expansion in Ramat Shlomo. Already in November 2014, the EU's Foreign Ministers unanimously expressed their concerns at the announcement of new housing units and called on Israel to reverse that decision.

Israel's determination to continue its settlement policy despite the urging of the international community, not only threatens the viability of the two state solution but also seriously calls into question its commitment to a negotiated agreement with the Palestinians.

Settlements are illegal under international law. The EU and its Member States are committed to ensure continued, full and effective implementation of existing EU legislation and bilateral arrangements applicable to settlements.