



EUROPEAN UNION
DELEGATION TO BANGLADESH

POLITICAL, ECONOMIC, TRADE, PRESS AND INFORMATION SECTION

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For immediate release

PRESS RELEASE

Heads of Mission of the European Union resident in Bangladesh called today on the Honourable Foreign Minister, H.E. Abul Hassan Mahmood Ali MP.

The Heads of Missions shared with the Hon' Foreign Minister their concerns regarding the situation in Bangladesh in relation with the multiplication of security incidents.

They highlighted the recent barbaric attacks and growing numbers of innocent victims, including bloggers, religious minorities, human rights activists, law enforcement officers and foreigners.

The Heads of Mission submitted that these attacks constitute an unprecedented threat to human rights and freedom of expression and belief. These could undermine the international reputation of Bangladesh as an open and tolerant society and the stability and prosperity of the country.

They urged the Government to break this cycle of violence by bringing the perpetrators to justice and ensure the protection of all citizens at risk.

The EU Heads of Mission recalled the EU principled opposition to the death penalty in all cases and under any circumstances.

The EU Heads of Mission equally supported that law enforcement operations should be pursued alongside a broader engagement towards countering violent extremism.

Finally, the Heads of Mission expressed their conviction that an effective and comprehensive response to militancy includes promoting democratic accountability, freedom of expression, vibrant media, tolerance and the empowerment of civil society.

They offered to strengthen their partnership and cooperation with Bangladesh to combat terrorism of which Europe is also a target.

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