

EUROPEAN UNION

Delegation of the European Union to the Republic of Lebanon

Beirut, 18 May 2011

Press Release

Ambassador Angelina Eichhorst meets with Minister Ziyad Baroud

Ambassador Angelina Eichhorst, Head of the Delegation of the European Union to Lebanon, met with H.E. the Minister of Interior and Municipalities, Ziyad Baroud, this afternoon. Discussions focused on the current state of affairs.

Following the meeting, Ambassador Eichhorst said: "I have discussed with Minister Baroud the current state of affairs, in particular the case of the seven kidnapped Estonians. The EU is deeply concerned about the fact that seven weeks after the kidnapping we still have no news of the whereabouts of the seven Estonians who visited Lebanon as tourists, as cyclists, and were kidnapped during the daytime". She added: "We understand that the Lebanese authorities have exerted all efforts to locate and release the kidnapped and to bring the kidnappers to justice. The Estonian authorities are working very closely with the Lebanese authorities, EU member states, NATO members, and officials from neighbouring countries. The Estonian Minister of Foreign Affairs, Urmas Paet, has already visited Lebanon twice. Regrettably until now there has been no sign of life from the kidnapped since the video tape released nearly a month ago. We urge all parties to continue their efforts and call upon the kidnappers to release these innocent European citizens as soon as possible".