## **EUROPEAN UNION**



Delegation of the European Union to the Republic of Lebanon

Beirut, 29 August 2014

## **PRESS RELEASE**

## Statement by the EU High Representative's Spokesperson on the situation in Lebanon

"We strongly condemn the continued attacks by violent extremist groups against the Lebanese Armed Forces (LAF) in the area of Arsal in eastern Lebanon, which resulted in the death and injury of LAF soldiers and officers. Those abducted must be released immediately.

We extend our sincere condolences to the families of all victims, we wish a prompt recovery to those injured in the attacks and express our sympathy to the people living in the Arsal region.

The EU fully supports Lebanon in all efforts needed to address the severe security, political, economic and social challenges the country is facing. We welcome the determination of Lebanese political leaders to put an end to terrorism and violent extremism, and commend the Lebanese security agencies for their joint efforts in responding, on the front line, to the numerous security threats and challenges.

The EU reaffirms its commitment to the unity, stability, independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of Lebanon. We will continue to provide assistance to Lebanon, both in our bilateral relation and in response to the Syrian crisis."