



Jerusalem, 30 January 2013

## **Local EU statement on Palestinian civilians killed in the occupied Palestinian territory**

The EU missions in Jerusalem and Ramallah are deeply concerned by the number of Palestinians killed recently in the oPt, in separate incidents involving recourse by Israeli forces to lethal force. It is important that any such incidents are investigated thoroughly. We note that the Israeli authorities have launched investigations into each case and that Israel's commander of operations in the West Bank has ordered an immediate review of the rules of engagement.

We reiterate the need for security forces, whether Israeli or Palestinian, to refrain from use of lethal force, except in cases where there is a real and imminent threat to life.

Moreover, EU missions in Jerusalem and Ramallah express their concern at the continuing incursions by Israeli forces into Area A. Incursions by Israeli forces into Palestinian cities where the Palestinian Authority, under the Oslo Accords, assumes the powers and responsibilities for internal security and public order put in jeopardy the internationally recognized success of Palestinian institution building efforts.

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