



Brussels, 17 October 2013  
131017/01

## S T A T E M E N T

**by the Spokesperson of EU High Representative Catherine Ashton following  
the meeting with Swiss Foreign Minister Burkhalter**

The spokesperson of Catherine Ashton, High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy and Vice President of the Commission, issued the following statement today:

*"High Representative Catherine Ashton met Swiss Foreign Minister Didier Burkhalter in Neuchatel today. They discussed various international issues as well as bilateral relations between the European Union and Switzerland.*

*The High Representative thanked Minister Burkhalter for co-hosting the talks of E3+3 with Iran in Geneva. They also discussed international efforts to find a diplomatic solution to the Syrian crisis. The High Representative was also pleased to hear about the Swiss plans for their chairmanship of the OSCE in 2014.."*

---

FOR FURTHER DETAILS:

Michael Mann +32 498 999 780 - +32 2 584 9780- [Michael.Mann@eeas.europa.eu](mailto:Michael.Mann@eeas.europa.eu) @EUHighRepSpox  
Maja Kocijancic +32 498 984 425 - +32 2 298 65 70 - [Maja.Kocijancic@ec.europa.eu](mailto:Maja.Kocijancic@ec.europa.eu) @AshtonSpox Maja  
Sebastien Brabant +32 460 75 09 98 - [Sebastien.Brabant@ec.europa.eu](mailto:Sebastien.Brabant@ec.europa.eu)  
Nabila Massrali +32 460 75 41 75 - [Nabila.Massrali@ec.europa.eu](mailto:Nabila.Massrali@ec.europa.eu)  
Eamonn Prendergast +32 460 75 32 93 - [Eamonn.Prendergast@ec.europa.eu](mailto:Eamonn.Prendergast@ec.europa.eu)  
Traversa Maria Lyra +32 2 2956368 [Maria-Lyra.TRAVERSA@ec.europa.eu](mailto:Maria-Lyra.TRAVERSA@ec.europa.eu)  
Iulia Costea +32 460 75 07 17 - [Iulia.Costea@ec.europa.eu](mailto:Iulia.Costea@ec.europa.eu)

Follow us on Twitter [@eu\\_eas](https://twitter.com/eu_eas)

[www.facebook.com/EuropeanExternalActionService](http://www.facebook.com/EuropeanExternalActionService)

[www.eeas.europa.eu](http://www.eeas.europa.eu)