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STATEMENT

by the Spokesperson of EU High Representative Catherine Ashton on the shooting across the Blue Line between Lebanon and Israel

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:

"The High Representative is worried by the shooting incidents across the Blue Line between Israel and Lebanon, which reportedly led to the killing of an Israeli soldier and later the shooting of two Lebanese soldiers.

She urges Israel and Lebanon to act with utmost restraint and calls on all parties to actively help defuse tensions.

The High Representative underlines the EU support to the role of UNIFIL in supporting peace and stability in South Lebanon. She welcomes and supports the ongoing UNIFIL investigation to establish facts on the ground.

The High Representative reiterates the importance for both Israel and Lebanon to abide by and fully implement UN Security Council Resolution 1701, with a view to a long-term solution leading to restoring peace in the region."