



Brussels, 08 July 2014  
140708/02

## STATEMENT

### by the Spokesperson on rocket fire from Gaza and on-going retaliation operations of the Israeli Defence Forces

*"We are following with grave concern the rapidly deteriorating situation in the South of Israel and the Gaza Strip.*

*The EU strongly condemns the indiscriminate fire into Israel by militant groups in the Gaza Strip. The EU deplores the growing number of civilian casualties, reportedly among them children, caused by Israeli retaliatory fire. The safety and security of all civilians must be of paramount importance.*

*The EU calls on all sides to exercise maximum restraint to avoid casualties and re-establish calm. To this end the EU calls on parties in the region to do their utmost to achieve an immediate ceasefire.."*

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#### FOR FURTHER DETAILS:

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