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Statements by the HR/VP

Statement by High Representative/Vice-President Federica Mogherini on the continuing Gaza escalation

Indiscriminate rocket attacks from Palestinian militants in Gaza must stop immediately: the European Union reiterates its fundamental commitment to the security of Israel. We express our condolences to the family of all the victims and to the Israeli people, and wish a speedy recovery to the wounded.

These attacks provoke unspeakable suffering to the Israelis and serve only the cause of endless violence and of an endless conflict.

A new escalation risks also to reverse the work to relieve the suffering of the people in Gaza who are already paying a high price with many victims that we mourn. And it puts in further danger the prospects for long-term solutions, which will require the return of the Palestinian Authority to Gaza, credible security guarantees for Israel and a lifting of restrictions of access and movement.

The European Union reiterates its full support to the push of Egypt and the United Nations to reduce tensions in Gaza and expect the parties to work with them to restore calm. Together with the international community, we will keep working to bring relief to all those suffering from this conflict and cooperating with those who serve the cause of peace.

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