



STATEMENTS BY THE SPOKESPERSON

Statement on the most recent developments in Gaza

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Yesterday, at least nine Palestinians, including a minor and a journalist wearing a “press” jacket, were killed in Gaza and hundreds were injured by Israeli live fire. This raises serious questions about the proportionate use of force which must be addressed. Reports by the Israeli Defense Forces about throwing of stones and firebombs against their positions and attempts to cross the fence into Israel must also be clarified.

The EU is deeply saddened by the further loss of life. We wish a speedy recovery to all those injured. All concerned need to enable the quick delivery of medical equipment to those who need it, and allow medical deferrals to hospitals outside Gaza for humanitarian reasons.

The European Union reiterates its previous call for utmost restraint. The priority now must be to avoid any further escalation and loss of life. Palestinian factions must engage seriously to allow the Palestinian Authority to resume its full responsibilities in Gaza, which is crucial for improving the situation of the people in Gaza. The EU stands ready to continue to support this process with all the instruments at its disposal.

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