



Jerusalem

02/08/2018 - 13:10

LOCAL STATEMENTS

Local EU statement on settlement activity in Batn Al-Hawa, Silwan

Jerusalem

2 August

The European Union Representative and the EU Heads of Mission in Jerusalem and Ramallah issue the following statement:

The EU missions in Jerusalem and Ramallah express serious concern at the official inauguration on 1st August of a touristic center, run by a settler organization, in the Batn al-Hawa/Silwan neighbourhood of occupied East Jerusalem, in the compound from which five households of the Palestinian Abu Nab family were evicted in 2015.

Around 180 Palestinian households in East Jerusalem, out of which approximately 100 in Batn al-Hawa alone, face the risk of eviction from their homes, directly facilitating further settlement growth in the city, as in this instance.

The EU missions in Jerusalem and Ramallah recall the successive Foreign Affairs Council Conclusions and statements in which the EU has repeated its strong opposition to Israel's settlement policy and actions taken in this context, including evictions and demolitions. Settlement activity in East Jerusalem seriously jeopardises the possibility of Jerusalem serving as the future capital of both States, is illegal under international law, and undermines the viability of the two-state solution and the prospect for a lasting peace.

Contact:

EU Press Office on +972-2-541 5888

www.eeas.europa.eu

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http://eueuropaeas.fpfis.slb.ec.europa.eu:8084/delegations/palestine-occupied-palestinian-territory-west-bank-and-gaza-strip/49056/local-eu-statement-settlement-activity-batn-al-hawa-silwan_en