# STATEMENTS BY THE SPOKESPERSON

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# Statement by the Spokesperson on the escalation of violence in and around Gaza

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The escalation of violence in and around Gaza during the last hours is very alarming.

The indiscriminate firing of rockets or other actions targeting civilians is unacceptable and must stop.

The EU urges both parties to step back from the brink and avoid any further actions that would contribute to the escalation, put civilians' lives at risk, and jeopardise recent efforts towards reducing tensions.

All violent actions have to stop immediately.

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