



EUROPEAN UNION

Brussels, 9 January 2011
A 008/11

Statement by EU High Representative Catherine Ashton on demolition and settlements in East Jerusalem

Catherine Ashton, High Representative of the European Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy, and Vice President of the European Commission made today the following statement:

"I strongly condemn this morning's demolition of the Shepherd Hotel and the planned construction of a new illegal settlement. I reiterate that settlements are illegal under international law, undermine trust between the parties and constitute an obstacle to peace. Furthermore, we recall that East Jerusalem is part of occupied Palestinian territory; the EU does not recognise the annexation by Israel.

We are also concerned by the recent upsurge of violence in the Occupied Palestinian territory, and deeply regret the loss of life. We call on all parties to exercise restraint, and for a halt to all violence."

P R E S S

FOR FURTHER DETAILS:

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