



Extraordinary Foreign Affairs Council on Egypt: extracts from the press conference by Catherine ASHTON, High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy and Vice-President of the EC

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In light of recent developments in Egypt, the EU Foreign Ministers strongly condemned all acts of violence and said the recent operations of the Egyptian security forces were disproportionate. They also reiterated their calls for an end to violence, its full support for dialogue and an inclusive political process, as well as the democratic future of Egypt, leading to the holding of free and fair elections and the establishment of a civilian government. They agreed to suspend export licenses to Egypt of any equipment which might be used for internal repression.



Only the original language version is authentic and it prevails in the event of its differing from the translated versions.

| TIME | DESCRIPTION | DURATION |
|----------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|
| 00:00:00 | Title | 00:00:05 |
| 00:00:05 | Arrival of Catherine Ashton, High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy and Vice-President of the EC, at the press conference (2 shots) | 00:00:07 |
| 00:00:12 | Cutaway of press | 00:00:04 |
| 00:00:16 | SOUNDBITE (English) by Catherine Ashton: We strongly condemn all acts of violence and we do believe that the recent operations of the Egyptian security forces have been disproportionate. We were worried about the resulting alarming number of people who have been killed. We also condemn acts of terrorism such as the murder of policemen in the Sinai, attacks on government installations, destruction of many churches and the targeting of the Coptic community, and mosques. We call on all sides to halt the cycle of violence, to stop the provocations and hate speech. We want and urge all political parties to engage in a real and inclusive dialogue to restore the democratic process and national dialogue that can be open to all. Political groups should not be excluded as long as they renounce violence and respect democratic principles. Political reconciliation and working together is surely the right solution. | 00:00:59 |

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| 00:01:15 | Cutaway | 00:00:04 |
| 00:01:19 | SOUNDBITE (English) by Catherine Ashton: The EU stands ready to support Egypt in this process. We have agreed as well to review the issue of our assurance to Egypt with the understanding that assistance to the most vulnerable groups and civil society must continue. Member States also agreed to suspend export licenses to Egypt of any equipment which might be used for internal repression and to reassess export licences of equipment covered by Common Position 2008/944/CFSP. | 00:00:36 |
| 00:01:55 | Cutaway | 00:00:05 |
| 00:02:00 | SOUNDBITE (English) by Catherine Ashton still on the same issue: Member States also agreed to suspend export licenses to Egypt of any equipment which might be used for internal repression and to reassess export licences of equipment covered by Common Position 2008/944/CFSP. That is the conclusion they have reached, suspension of licenses, reassessing common position and for each Member State to now take that and as always to interpret that in the context of relationship with Egypt. | 00:00:40 |
| 00:02:40 | Cutaway | 00:00:04 |
| 00:02:44 | SOUNDBITE (English) by Catherine Ashton: All Member States of the EU feel very strongly that they want to continue to support the people of Egypt, especially the vulnerable people of Egypt. | 00:00:12 |
| 00:02:56 | Cutaway | 00:00:04 |
| 00:03:00 | SOUNDBITE (English) by Catherine Ashton: In talking today, ministers were thinking about their deep concern about the situation, their real worries about the violence, the need to move away from that and also the need to make sure that we are clear in our condemnation of violence, and clear in our desire to see Egypt move forward. | 00:00:25 |
| 00:03:25 | Cutaway | 00:00:02 |
| 00:03:27 | END | 00:00:00 |