



EUROPEAN UNION



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**Declaration by High Representative, Catherine Ashton,
on behalf of the EU on the violent crackdown
on peaceful demonstrators in Syria**

The EU expresses its profound concern and strongly condemns the violent repression, including through the use of live ammunition, of peaceful protests in various locations across Syria in recent days resulting in the death of several demonstrators, wounded persons and arbitrary detentions, which is unacceptable.

The EU calls on the Syrian authorities to refrain from using violence and to listen to the legitimate aspirations of the people and address them through inclusive political dialogue and genuine reforms and not through repression.

The EU expects that the Investigation Committee created by the Ministry of Interior after the violent repression in the city of Daraa will ensure that those responsible for the death and injury of peaceful protestors are held accountable.

The EU calls on the Syrian authorities to respect its international commitments to human rights and fundamental freedoms.

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