

Statement on the escalation of violence in South West Syria

 eeas.europa.eu/delegations/syria/47896/statement-escalation-violence-south-west-syria_en

Once again civilians are paying the highest price of the war in Syria.

The recent escalation of violence in the south west of the country and the continuous airstrikes by the Syrian regime and its allies have already forced more than 270.000 civilians from their homes. Just recently, three health workers from the Union of Medical Care & Relief Organisations were killed. Critical infrastructure, including several health facilities has been destroyed.

Such attacks are clear violations of international law and international humanitarian law that also put at risk any progress in Geneva for the resumption of the political talks under UN mediation. The renewed violence can also have serious repercussions for the security of neighbouring countries, possibly leading to new waves of refugees and internally displaced people.

We call for an immediate cessation of hostilities, the respect of the de-escalation agreement and full humanitarian access to all Syrian people in need. We will continue to support humanitarian partners to step up their response to address the critical needs of those displaced and their host communities.

Lauranne DEVILLE ([link sends e-mail](#)).

Press Officer for Foreign Affairs and Security

+32 (0)2 29 92256

+32 (0) 460 758 775

Daniel PUGLISI ([link sends e-mail](#)).

Press Officer for Humanitarian Aid and Crisis Management

+32 (0)2 29 69140

+32 (0)460 767374