## Syria at the core of Federica Mogherini's bilateral meetings in Bonn and Munich

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Federica Mogherini, High Representative of the European Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy/Vice-President of the European Commission, held today a series of bilateral meetings in the margins of the G20 Foreign Ministers' meeting in Bonn and of the Munich Security Conference. Syria was at the core of the agenda of the exchanges the HRVP had after having attended the meeting of the Friends of Syria group on Friday morning in Bonn.

The HRVP met with the United Nations Special Envoy, Staffan de Mistura, the Foreign Ministers of Iran, Javad Zarif, and of Turkey, Mevlüt Çavusoglu, and the President of the International Committee of the Red Cross, Peter Maurer, Anas al-Abdeh, President of the Syrian Opposition Coalition, and the Secretary General of the Arab League, Ahmed Aboul Gheit, with whom she discussed also the situation in the Middle East and in Libya.

Mogherini updated her interlocutors on the regional initiative on Syria the European Union has been conducting with the regional actors over the last months and on the preparations of the Brussels conference on the future of Syria and the region. The HRVP stressed the importance of the resumption of the intra-Syrian talks in Geneva on the 23 February as set by the UNSE de Mistura, and to put on track an inclusive political process.

The implementation of the Iran nuclear deal was also discussed in the meetings with Minister Zarif and with Director General of the IAEA Yukiya Amano. HRVP Mogherini reiterated the need for all sides to firmly stick to their commitments under the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA). In this respect and in her capacity as coordinator of the Joint Commission the HRVP recalled that the deal is delivering on its objectives and underscored the need for a full and effective implementation by all sides throughout the lifetime of the agreement. The JCPOA is a stabilising factor and a key part of non-proliferation architecture and has to be kept and thoroughly implemented.

Mogherini met also with the new Mexican Foreign Minister Luis Videgaray. They agreed to strengthen and deepen the bilateral partnership and committed to bring forward the negotiations on the modernisation of the EU-Mexico Global Agreement with the aim to finalise the agreement soon.

The HRVP had in Munich an exchange of views with President Hashim Thaçi of Kosovo to discuss the latest developments in EU-Kosovo relations as well as the developments in the Western Balkans region. They have also touched upon the dialogue for the normalisation of relations between Pristina and Belgrade, where the High Representative stressed the importance of strong commitment of both sides to work together, on the implementation of the agreements reached and on the way forward.