



EUROPEAN UNION

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**Statement by the spokesperson of HR Catherine Ashton
on the Political Crisis in the Maldives**

The spokesperson of High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy/Vice President of the Commission Catherine Ashton issued the following statement today:

"The High Representative notes with concern current political developments in the Maldives and in particular the violence which has accompanied demonstrations in the capital, Male.

She calls on all sides to show restraint and to work towards a peaceful and consensual solution to the political situation confronting the country. Cooperation between the Presidency and Parliament should be restored as soon as possible. Following the constitution of an inter-party committee of parliamentarians to resolve the current crisis, she supports all efforts to find a solution between the Maldivians themselves.

All political actors in the Maldives should respect the constitution and due legal process, and contribute constructively to the consolidation of the country's democratic institutions. The issues facing the Maldives must be speedily resolved, so as to preserve and strengthen the progress achieved to date."

P R E S S

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