



EUROPEAN UNION

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## **Statement by the High Representative Catherine Ashton, on the extension of restrictive measures against the Syrian regime**

Catherine Ashton, the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy and Vice-President of the Commission, made today the following statement:

*“Today the European Union has adopted new restrictive measures against the Syrian regime. This step is a direct consequence of the appalling and unacceptable escalation of the brutal campaign the regime has been waging against the Syrian people, including by large-scale use of brute military force. Our measures are targeted at depriving the regime of financial revenues and the support base necessary for maintaining its violent repression. We aim our action at putting an end to the bloodshed and assisting the Syrian people to achieve their legitimate aspirations.*

*The measures we have adopted today include a ban on the import of Syrian crude oil to the European Union and a broadening of our approach to imposing an asset freeze and travel ban on those benefiting from or supporting the Syrian regime. We are designating four additional individuals and three entities in this context. The EU will consider further measures in the light of developments to support the Syrian people.”*

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**P R E S S**

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