

EU 6 Stake out on the situation in the Middle East

I would like to make the following statement today on behalf of the five EU Members of the Security Council (Belgium, France, Germany, Poland and the UK), joined today by Estonia as a forthcoming EU Member of the Security Council.

"We as Member States of the European Union strongly condemn the demolition by Israel of Palestinian buildings in the district of Wadi al Hummus, in the South East of Jerusalem.

We remain seriously concerned by the continued demolition of Palestinian property by Israeli authorities. In all but the most exceptional of circumstances, [demolition](#) in occupied territories is contrary to International Humanitarian Law and to UNSC resolutions. The practice causes unnecessary suffering to ordinary Palestinians and is harmful to the peace process.

In this specific case, the demolitions were particularly egregious as a number of the buildings were located in Areas A and B, under the jurisdiction of the Palestinian Authority according to the Oslo Agreements, and thus constitute a violation of these agreements. They set a dangerous precedent that directly jeopardises the two state solution."