Jerusalem, 13 April 2016

The EU Missions in Jerusalem and Ramallah condemn death sentence issued in Gaza

The EU Missions in Jerusalem and Ramallah condemn the death sentence issued by a Civil Court in Gaza on 12 April. This is the fifth death sentence to be issued this year in Gaza.

As in their most recent statement on 15 January, the EU Missions in Jerusalem and Ramallah recall the EU's firm opposition under all circumstances to the use of capital punishment. The EU considers that abolition of the death penalty contributes to the enhancement of human dignity and the progressive development of human rights. It considers capital punishment to be cruel and inhuman, that it fails to provide deterrence to criminal behaviour, and represents an unacceptable denial of human dignity and integrity.

The authorities in Gaza must refrain from carrying out any executions of prisoners and comply with the moratorium on executions put in place by the Palestinian Authority, pending abolition of the death penalty in line with the global trend.

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