Jerusalem, 15 April 2016

Local EU statement on construction work on the separation barrier at Cremisan

The EU Missions in Jerusalem and Ramallah are deeply concerned at the relaunch of works for the construction of the separation barrier in the Cremisan valley. Once built, the barrier will severely restrict access of almost 60 Palestinian families to their agricultural land and profoundly affect their livelihoods.

EU missions in Jerusalem and Ramallah recall the EU's strong opposition to Israel's settlement policy and actions taken in this context, such as building the separation barrier beyond the 1967 line, demolitions and confiscation - including of EU funded projects - evictions, forced transfers including of Bedouins, illegal outposts, settler violence and restrictions of movement and access, as most recently stated in the Conclusions of the Foreign Affairs Council on 18 January 2016. EU Heads of Mission in Jerusalem and Ramallah have on several occasions visited the site of the planned construction, and repeatedly expressed concern over the planned route of the barrier and reiterated that the barrier is illegal under international law wherever built on occupied land.

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