

Jerusalem, 11 October 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 in Gaza on 9th October.

As in last week's statement of 7th October, 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 protection 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.

Furthermore, yesterday, on the European and World Day against the Death Penalty, the Council of Europe and the European Union have reaffirmed their strong and unequivocal opposition to capital punishment in all circumstances and for all cases.

The de facto 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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