Jerusalem
04 December 2018

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

The European Union Representative issues the following statement in agreement with the EU Heads of Mission in Jerusalem and Ramallah.

The EU Missions in Jerusalem and Ramallah condemn the six death sentences issued in the Gaza Strip on 3 December 2018.

The EU Missions in Jerusalem and Ramallah recall their 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.

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 the abolition of the death penalty in line with the global trend and following the signing of the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.

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