Jerusalem, 21 March 2016

EU Heads of Mission meet the Jerusalem Islamic Waqf Council

EU Heads of Mission in Jerusalem and Ramallah met with members of the Jerusalem Islamic Waqf Council. The diplomats were briefed about recent developments at the Haram al-Sharif/Temple Mount.

The EU is concerned about worrying developments and violent clashes at the Haram al-Sharif / Temple Mount. The EU reiterates the importance of upholding the Status Quo for the holy sites in Jerusalem, including with regard to Jordan's special role. Any unilateral attempt to change the Status Quo could have deeply destabilizing effects.

The EU calls on all actors on the ground and in the wider region to show calm and restraint in order to prevent any escalation, and to work towards restoring the dignity and safety of this holy site.

The diplomats encourage continued dialogue between the parties to ease the tensions at the Haram al-Sharif / Temple Mount.

The EU position on Jerusalem remains unchanged: the aspirations of both parties must be fulfilled and a way must be found through negotiations to resolve the status of Jerusalem as the future capital of both states.

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