



EUROPEAN UNION

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## Statement by the spokesperson of the EU High Representative Catherine Ashton on Camp Ashraf

The spokesperson of Catherine Ashton, High Representative of the European Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy and Vice President of the Commission, issued the following statement today:

*"The High Representative would like to commend the ongoing efforts of Martin Kobler, the Special Representative of the Secretary-General and head of the UN Assistance Mission for Iraq (UNAMI), to find an urgent solution for an orderly departure of the residents of Camp Ashraf before the end of this year.*

*As the High Representative stated after her meeting with Mr Kobler on 8<sup>th</sup> December, the EU fully supports the work of UNAMI and UNHCR. It is now essential that all concerned parties show flexibility and cooperate fully and constructively with the UN in this process, which offers the only available prospect for a safe way forward. The High Representative reiterates her call on the government of Iraq to continue its discussions with Mr Kobler in order to come to an acceptable solution. She also calls on the Camp residents and their leadership, as well as on EU Member States and third countries to cooperate fully and without delay with the UN plan. Tangible and visible progress in the coming days in line with the UN plan is of the utmost importance.*

*All parties, and all those who have any influence upon them, must make the security and safety of the residents their utmost priority."*

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**P R E S S**

FOR FURTHER DETAILS:

Michael Mann +32 498 999 780 - +32 2 299 97 80 - [Michael.Mann@eeas.europa.eu](mailto:Michael.Mann@eeas.europa.eu)

Maja Kocijancic +32 498 984 425 - +32 2 298 65 70 - [Maja.Kocijancic@ec.europa.eu](mailto:Maja.Kocijancic@ec.europa.eu)

Sebastien Brabant +32 498 986 433 - [Sebastien.Brabant@ec.europa.eu](mailto:Sebastien.Brabant@ec.europa.eu)

[COMM-SPP-HRVP-ASHTON@ec.europa.eu](mailto:COMM-SPP-HRVP-ASHTON@ec.europa.eu)

[www.eeas.europa.eu](http://www.eeas.europa.eu)

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