

Damascus, 14 May 2012

Local European Union Statement on Syria

The European Union Delegation issues the following statement in agreement with the EU Heads of Mission in Syria:

"The EU Delegation is extremely concerned at the continued arrest and detention of political figures, activists and intellectuals, and members of their families, and fears for their safety, as well as for the safety of those already in detention. Security forces continue with their intimidation of the families of activists, and with the detention of doctors and humanitarian workers. The Delegation is particularly concerned at the targeting of wounded in hospitals and in private homes.

The arrest of opposition activists over the last few weeks runs contrary to the Syrian government's commitments in the Kofi Annan plan backed by the UN Security Council, particularly in relation to release of detained persons and respect for freedom of association and right to peaceful demonstration. The EU Delegation calls on the government to release all those detained for their political views."