

## **EUROPEAN UNION**

Brussels, 20 September 2012 A 411/12

## Statement by the Spokesperson of EU High Representative Catherine Ashton on the abuse of prisoners in Georgian Penitentiary System

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

"The High Representative is appalled by the shocking footage of abuses committed against inmates in Gldani prison. She recalls that all countries are obliged to comply with the unconditional prohibition of any form of torture and ill-treatment. She notes that the Government has taken the initial steps to address this matter and stresses that it is of vital importance that these and other incidents are thoroughly and transparently investigated and that those responsible are held to account."

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