

## Afghanistan: Statement by the High Representative/Vice-President



The European Union strongly condemns today's attack against First Vice President Amrullah Saleh and expresses its full support to the democratic institutions of the Republic. We express our condolences to and solidarity with the families of the civilian bystanders who were killed and wish those injured in the attack a full and swift recovery.

The attempted assassination of Mr Saleh follows many other unacceptable attacks on members of parliament, peace activists, journalists and religious leaders.

Those who seek to weaken the peace process by indiscriminately targeting and hurting officials and civilians, in breach of international law, will not prevail and will have to bear responsibility for their acts.

At this critical moment of Afghanistan's road to lasting peace, the European Union reiterates its determination to support all sincere efforts to finalise the last steps to start a genuine intra-Afghan Negotiation process.