

# Statement by Commissioner for Humanitarian Aid and Crisis Management Christos Stylianides on the earthquake on the Iran/Iraq border

*The earthquake that struck the area on the border between Iran and Iraq last night has taken the lives of hundreds of people and caused extensive damage across the two countries.*

*On behalf of the European Union, I express our heartfelt condolences to the victims and their families at this time of great sadness.*

*The European Union stands by the people of Iran and Iraq and the authorities and their efforts to respond to this tragedy.*

*We are committed to help both countries and provide any humanitarian assistance necessary.*

*At this stage, our humanitarian partners in the region have immediately started to provide emergency assistance.*

*We are in touch with the authorities in Iran and Iraq and our 24/7 Emergency Response Coordination Centre is closely monitoring developments in the area.*