

STATEMENT

on recent attacks against UNIFIL

by the Bureau of the European Parliament's Delegation for relations with the Mashreq countries

17 October 2024

Chair [Laurent Castillo](#) (EPP, FR) and Vice-Chairs [Cecilia Strada](#) (S&D, IT) and [Leoluca Orlando](#) (Greens, IT), said:

“We express our deep concern about the critical situation along the Blue line in Southern Lebanon and the attacks by the Israeli Defence Forces (IDF) against the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL), which left several peacekeepers wounded, as confirmed by [the Foreign Affairs Council of 14 October 2024](#).

We recall the European Union’s position that such attacks against UN peacekeepers constitute a grave violation of international law and are totally unacceptable and must stop immediately. The troops and other personnel of UNIFIL, [to which sixteen EU Member States](#) (Austria, Croatia, Cyprus, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Malta, Netherlands, Poland, Spain) currently contribute, are working under difficult conditions in the defence of international peace and security.

Parliament, in previous resolutions, has:

- [recalled the importance of providing EU support to the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon](#) and Lebanon’s armed forces and internal security forces in order that they fulfil their essential role;
- [condemned Hezbollah’s attacks against Israel and Israeli air strikes in Lebanon](#) and urgently calls on both parties to show restraint and cease hostilities.

Thus, we reiterate the [EU’s call](#) for an immediate ceasefire in Lebanon, and for all parties to commit and work towards the full implementation of Security Council Resolution 1701”.

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