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Answer given by High Representative/Vice-President Kallas
on behalf of the European Commission
(15.9.2025)

The German Embassy in Somalia informed the European External Action Service that their standing policy is not to share information on abduction cases.

In line with Council Directive 2015/637, the consular protection for EU citizens abroad, including in crisis situations, rests with the EU Member State of their nationality, when represented in the country, like in this case. Therefore, while deeply concerned by the abduction, the Commission respects the lead of relevant German authorities, including the Crisis Management Centre of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Berlin, in handling her case.

The Commission, through the Directorate-General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (DG ECHO), holds an institutional and legal responsibility, as part of its Duty of Care, to clearly define roles and responsibilities within the organisation, adapt its security measures to changing security environments and to provide a maximum of protection to DG ECHO staff from foreseeable risks. Additionally, DG ECHO is recommending partners to continuously update their security standards to the latest best practices to ensure the safety and security of their staff. Nevertheless, this is the responsibility of its partners to ensure their implementation.

The EU remains ready to support German authorities if requested, including through the EU Delegation in Somalia.