

EN

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Answer given by High Representative/Vice-President Borrell i Fontelles
on behalf of the European Commission
(17.9.2024)

The situation in Bangladesh has developed rapidly. The former Prime Minister of Bangladesh stepped down on 5 August 2024 and the President of Bangladesh dissolved parliament on 6 August 2024 in view of fresh elections. A transitional government was established on 8 August 2024. The EU has responded consistently, saying that human rights violations, including the recent violence and killings, should end immediately and be subjected to an impartial investigation that should lead to those responsible being held accountable¹.

The EU calls for a peaceful and inclusive transition towards democratic elections. The EU is a long-term partner of Bangladesh and stands ready to engage with the new administration on how to support a democratic transition and ensure respect of human rights.

It is for the Council to decide unanimously on restrictive measures (sanctions) in line with EU legislation. The discussions in the Council leading up to any such decision are confidential and the EU cannot comment on them.

¹ https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eeas/bangladesh-statement-spokesperson-recent-developments_en,
https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eeas/bangladesh-statement-high-representative-recent-developments_en?s=164,
https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eeas/bangladesh-statement-high-representative-latest-developments_en,
https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eeas/bangladesh-statement-high-representative-new-interim-government_en