
**SPEECH BY HIGH REPRESENTATIVE/VICE-PRESIDENT KAJA KALLAS AT THE EP PLENARY
SESSION JOINT DEBATE ON THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST**

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19.06.2025

European Union External Action (17 June 2025)

Dear President,

Honourable Members of the European Parliament,

Israel and Iran have exchanged attacks for five days now.

The escalation we see is extremely dangerous for many reasons, including civilian casualties and the risk of radioactive spillage.

The impact of the crisis on global energy markets is also a risk. The conflict has already triggered the largest oil price surge in in a single day in three years. As President von der Leyen said, the EU stands ready to coordinate with partners to protect market stability.

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