



**COUNCIL OF  
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

**Brussels, 4 January 2009  
S1/09**

**Javier SOLANA,  
EU High Representative for the CFSP,  
visits the Middle East  
from Sunday, 4 January to Thursday, 8 January 2009**

Javier SOLANA, EU High Representative for the Common Foreign and Security Policy (CFSP), is travelling to the Middle East from Sunday, 4 January to Thursday, 8 January 2009 in order to discuss the extremely serious situation in Gaza and in southern Israel with the leaders in the region as part of the European Union's efforts to secure a cease-fire and to facilitate humanitarian relief for the victims of the conflict.

Mr SOLANA is travelling with the EU delegation, led by the Czech Presidency, to Egypt, Israel, the Palestinian Territories and Jordan. Mr SOLANA will then remain in the region and will travel on Tuesday to Syria and Lebanon for talks with leaders in Damascus and Beirut.

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*Please see our website for updated details of Mr SOLANA's programme*

**FOR FURTHER DETAILS:**  
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