UN chief 'deeply troubled' by Saudi confirmation of Jamal Khashoggi's death

In a <u>statement</u> released on Friday, UN Secretary-General António Guterres said that he is "deeply troubled" by the reported confirmation of the death of Jamal Khashoggi.

A tweet posted by the Saudi Foreign Ministry on Friday states that the missing Saudi journalist, a columnist with the Washington Post newspaper, was killed, claims reportedly echoed on Saudi State TV.

The tweet says that "discussions that took place with the citizen Jamal Khashoggi during his presence in the Consulate of the Kingdom in Istanbul…did not go as required and escalated negatively which led to a fight…which aggregated the situation and led to his death."

The Secretary-General extended his condolences to Mr. Khashoggi's family and friends and stressed the need for a prompt, thorough and transparent investigation into the circumstances of Mr. Khashoggi's death and full accountability for those responsible.

Mr. Guterres's comments are the latest in a chorus of concern and condemnation over Mr. Khashoggi's disappearance from UN officials and independent UN human rights experts.

Over the last few days, statements regarding the Khashoggi disappearance have been released by the offices of UN human rights chief <u>Michelle Bachelet</u>, the Chair of the UN Working Group on Enforced Disappearances, <u>Bernard Duhaime</u>, and the Chair of the UN Working Group on Business and Human Rights, <u>Dante Pesce</u>.