



**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**



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Declaration by the Presidency on behalf of the European Union on the elections in Mauritania

The European Union welcomes that Presidential elections in Mauritania were held on 18 July.

The elections are a crucial part of the consensual Dakar agreement that constitutes the framework for a return to a constitutional order in Mauritania. The EU stresses the need for an inclusive national dialogue to be sustained.

The EU notes that, according to international observers, the elections have taken place in a calm atmosphere, without major incidents. Allegations of electoral fraud should be properly investigated and decided upon by the competent Mauritanian institutions in accordance with national law and international standards. The EU is looking forward to the final certification by the Constitutional Council before assessing the results of the election.

The EU encourages all parties in Mauritania to continue to support the peaceful return to the democratic process that was interrupted by the coup one year ago, thus paving the way for a normalisation in the EU's relationship with Mauritania.

P R E S S

The Candidate Countries Turkey, Croatia* and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia*, the Countries of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidates Albania, Montenegro, Serbia, and the EFTA countries Iceland and Norway, members of the European Economic Area, as well as Ukraine, the Republic of Moldova, Armenia and Georgia align themselves with this declaration.

* Croatia and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia continue to be part of the Stabilisation and Association Process
