



EUROPEAN UNION

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## **Statement by the Spokesperson of High Representative Catherine Ashton on the political situation in Egypt**

The spokesperson of the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy/Vice President of the Commission Catherine Ashton issued the following statement today:

*"High Representative Catherine Ashton congratulates the Egyptian people on a successful second round of the Presidential election that should shortly result in the proclamation of a democratically elected head of state, a major step forward in the ongoing transition.*

*She is, however, concerned about latest institutional developments surrounding the vote, in particular the dissolution of parliament and the constitutional declaration of 17 June, which seriously constrains the powers of the President, and creates uncertainties about the drafting of a new constitution.*

*The High Representative stresses the importance of democratic institutions, a representative constitutional process and a speedy handover. The transition must respect the Egyptian people's aspirations and demands for dignity, democracy and freedom. The High Representative reiterates the EU's eagerness to engage with Egypt's democratically elected authorities."*

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**P R E S S**

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