## **European Parliament**

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Delegation to the EU-Armenia Parliamentary Partnership Committee, the EU-Azerbaijan Parliamentary Cooperation Committee and the EU-Georgia Parliamentary Association Committee

## STATEMENT BY THE CHAIRMAN OF THE DELEGATION, MEP Sajjad KARIM

## on the parliamentary elections in Armenia

**Brussels, 10 December 2018 -** "Yesterday's snap parliamentary elections in Armenia saw the large victory of acting Prime Minister Pashinyan's My Step Alliance. The new political landscape within the National Assembly of Armenia brings additional responsibility for the government to implement its reform agenda notably as regards the electoral framework and the fight against corruption.

The official Elections Observation Mission dispatched by the European Parliament was headed, like in 2017, by our colleague Ms Heidi Hautala, MEP. It found that these elections have been generally well administered, albeit within a short period of time. The overall absence of electoral irregularities and malpractices, such as vote buying and pressure on voters, allowed for a genuine competition. As a consequence, public trust in the process was high. We welcome these positive trends and wish to underline that the European Parliament stands ready to help the National Assembly of Armenia further improve electoral legislation ahead of future elections.

Our Delegation is especially grateful to the Elections Observation Mission for the work they have done on the ground on this very important occasion."

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