

Brussels, 4 October 1997

11004/97 (Presse 289)
P. 97/97

**Declaration by the Presidency on behalf of the European Union on
the Slovak Parliament's decision in the case of the MP Frantisek Gaulieder**

The European Union expresses regret at the Slovak Parliament's decision of 30 September to ignore the opinion of 24 July 1997 of the Constitutional Court on the issue of the term of office of the MP Frantisek Gaulieder.

By ignoring the ruling of the Constitutional Court and thereby its authority, the Slovak Parliament is creating doubts about its desire to consolidate democracy and the rule of law in Slovakia.

The Union would have wished to note a decision which observed Slovak constitutional principles, by the Parliament of a country with which it has concluded an Association Agreement and to which it has offered the prospect of accession.
