

**P R E S S   R E L E A S E**

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**Declaration by the Presidency on behalf of the European Union  
following the elections in Honduras on 25 November**

The European Union congratulates the Honduran people and political parties on the democratic maturity they showed once again in the general election held on 25 November 2001.

The European Union congratulates Mr Ricardo Maduro on his appointment as President of the Republic and wishes him every success in his task.

The European Union appreciates the manner in which President Flores' Government has managed affairs, thus helping to consolidate democracy in the country and strengthen the rule of law.

The European Union will continue to support Honduras and President Maduro as he confronts the major challenges facing his country.

The Central and Eastern European countries associated with the European Union, the associated countries Cyprus, Malta and Turkey, and the EFTA countries, members of the European Economic Area align themselves with this declaration.

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