

P R E S S R E L E A S E

Brussels, 13 December 2001

15310/01 (Presse 470)

P 190/01

**Declaration by the Presidency on behalf of the European Union
on the initiatives taken by the President of Latvia to amend the electoral law**

The European Union notes the important initiatives taken by the President of the Republic of Latvia to amend the electoral law by abolishing language requirements as a condition of the right to stand as a candidate at general and local elections.

Since such a reform would indeed be a step in the direction of democracy and respect for human rights, the EU has no doubt that the Latvian authorities will be anxious to endorse it as soon as possible.

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