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Declaration by the Presidency on behalf of the European Union
on Presidential elections in Tajikistan

The EU is deeply concerned about the undemocratic events and procedures in connection with the presidential elections in Tajikistan. It considers the election as not compatible with democratic principles and values. The EU does not see any progress in the democratic development of Tajikistan, if basic rules of civil society are not respected but are even violated.

The EU urges in particular the government of Tajikistan to adopt and implement democratic procedures and rules for the upcoming parliamentary elections to ensure that the elections are fully free and fair. It is in the interest of the Tajik people that the necessary conditions are created for all political forces of the country to participate, on an equal basis, in preparing and conducting the forthcoming parliamentary elections according to OSCE principles.

The EU strongly supports the peace process in Tajikistan, and links future development of contractual relations between the EU and Tajikistan to it. Only the normalisation of society can enable Tajikistan to implement international commitments. Moreover, the peace process alone can ensure that the security situation continues to improve, and so facilitate the provision of international assistance.

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