

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
on the promulgation of a Constitutional Framework
for Provisional Self Government in Kosovo
and the announcement of Kosovo-wide elections**

The European Union warmly welcomes the promulgation of a Constitutional Framework for Provisional Self-Government in Kosovo by the Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General Mr. Hans Haekkerup in Pristina yesterday. The EU commends the work accomplished by the UNSRSG. This document represent a landmark step in the implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 1244, which foresees the establishment of provisional institutions of self government.

This is a decisive move towards the establishment of meaningful and democratic self-government in Kosovo. The Constitutional Framework provides the common institutional groundwork for the way ahead, pending a final political settlement.

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The challenge of building functioning institutions safeguarding fundamental human rights and capable of supporting a multi-ethnic society based on democratic principles and tolerance is a major one. The success of this endeavour ultimately rests with the people of Kosovo themselves and their representatives. The EU is prepared to continue to assist in the effort to build a democratic and prosperous society where violence is shunned and genuine reconciliation can be achieved.

The EU also welcomes the announcement by SRSG Haekkerup of Kosovo-wide elections on 17 November 2001. It urges all individuals and communities to participate actively and constructively and to refrain from all acts of violence in the process leading to this most important election for Kosovo.
