

PRESS RELEASE

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**Declaration by the European Union on EU Support
for Palestinian Elections**

The European Union condemns the murderous attacks in Gaza and addresses its condolences to the government of Israel and to the families of the victims. The European Union reiterates its support for all those who have chosen the way of peace.

With the adoption of the joint action in support of the Middle East Peace Process on 19 April 1994, the European Union announced its willingness to help in preparing and observing the Palestinian elections provided for in Article III of the Declaration of Principles of 13 September 1993. It hereby confirms that undertaking. It encourages the continuation of Israeli/Palestinian negotiations on the subject of the elections. The Council is ready to decide on the details of the European Union's contribution as soon as it receives a request on the basis of an Israeli/Palestinian agreement covering all the electoral arrangements. It is having a technical study of the various participation formulas suggested by the parties carried out.