

**PRESS RELEASE**

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**Declaration by the European Union  
on the Presidential Elections in Algeria**

The European Union takes note of the result of the Presidential Elections in Algeria and welcomes the fact that the elections were held in an atmosphere of calm. The observed level of participation reflects the firm will of the Algerian people to find solutions to their problems by peaceful means.

The European Union hopes that these elections will be followed by rapid and effective progress towards the organisation of legislative and local elections, with the aim of political normalisation of the country by means of peaceful dialogue and free and incontestable elections.

The European Union will pursue and, in line with developments in Algeria, intensify its cooperation in order to develop the potential for economic partnership, as well as sustain activities and programmes for economic adjustment and reform in Algeria, taking account of the relationship which exists between resolving political problems and the viability of such reforms.

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