

**P R E S S   R E L E A S E**

Brussels, 23 April 2001

8078/01 (Presse 160)

P 84/01

**Declaration by the Presidency on behalf of the European Union  
on the Montenegrin parliamentary elections of 22 April 2001**

The European Union welcomes the orderly conduct of the parliamentary elections in Montenegro. The electoral process has lived up to European standards. The European Union now looks forward to the formation of a government that will continue the path of democratic reform and lead a policy that respects the will of the citizens of Montenegro.

The European Union urges the new Montenegrin government to resume the dialogue with Belgrade without delay, aiming at an agreed redefinition of Federal relations, according to democratic principles and in a way that will ensure the stability of the region. The successful outcome of this dialogue, which excludes any unilateral action, would enable the European Union to continue its political, economic and financial support to Montenegro.

A senior officials Troika from the European Union will visit Podgorica and Belgrade 24-25 April to reinforce this message.

Internet: <http://ue.eu.int/Newsroom>  
E-mail: [press.office@consilium.eu.int](mailto:press.office@consilium.eu.int)

8078/01 (Presse 160 - G)

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

---