



**COUNCIL OF  
THE EUROPEAN UNION**



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**Declaration by the Presidency on behalf of the European Union  
on the political situation in Togo**

The European Union repeats the concern it expressed in its declaration of 9 February 2005, and it is still greatly alarmed at developments in Togo. While the European Union welcomes the positive signals given by the announcement of presidential elections within sixty days and restoration of the freedom to demonstrate, it condemns the violation of constitutional and legal provisions in the form of the maintenance of Mr Faure Gnassingbé as interim President of the Republic.

The European Union demands an immediate return to constitutional and legal order, to open the way for free and transparent presidential elections, to which the EU is ready to offer its support in due course. The EU calls for full respect for civil liberties and the holding of free and transparent elections, to which the establishment of a genuine national dialogue, or even of a national transitional government, can contribute.

In this context the European Union fully supports the actions of the African Union and of ECOWAS and the efforts being made by their Presidents, Mr Obasanjo and Mr Tandja, to restore constitutional order and the democratic process.

In the absence of progress, the EU reserves the right to take measures to support the actions of ECOWAS and in particular to review its actions regarding Togo in the light of the 22 undertakings given by the government in the context of the consultations held in 2004.

The Acceding Countries Bulgaria and Romania, the Candidate Countries Turkey and Croatia\*, the Countries of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidates Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Serbia and Montenegro, and the EFTA countries Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway, members of the European Economic Area, align themselves with this declaration.

\* Croatia continues to be part of the Stabilisation and Association Process.

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