



**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**



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Declaration by the Presidency on behalf of the EU on the recent development in Zimbabwe

The EU welcomes that under the guidance of SADC an agreement has been reached in Zimbabwe between the parties.

It hopes that the political solution reached will lead to the immediate end to political violence and intimidation and the immediate release of all political prisoners. It further hopes that the new government will demonstrate its commitment to reform, including by repealing repressive legislation, appointing a credible finance team and creating the conditions for economic stabilization.

The overriding priority is to alleviate the suffering of the Zimbabwean people. The EU reiterates its commitment to the people of Zimbabwe through its substantial and long-standing humanitarian aid programme. It also stands ready to support the economic and social recovery of Zimbabwe once the Government shows tangible signs of a return to respect for human rights, the rule of law and macroeconomic stabilisation.

P R E S S

The Candidate Countries Turkey, Croatia* and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia*, the Countries of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidates Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, Serbia, and the EFTA countries Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway, members of the European Economic Area, as well as Ukraine, the Republic of Moldova, Armenia and Georgia align themselves with this declaration.

* Croatia and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia continue to be part of the Stabilisation and Association Process.
