



**COUNCIL OF  
THE EUROPEAN UNION**



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**Declaration by the Presidency on behalf of the European Union  
on "presidential elections" in Abkhazia, Georgia, 12 December  
2009**

The European Union has taken note of the "presidential elections" held in the Georgian territory of Abkhazia on 12 December. The European Union does not recognise the constitutional and legal framework within which these elections have taken place.

The European Union continues to support Georgia's territorial integrity and sovereignty, as recognised by international law.

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 and Montenegro, and the EFTA countries Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway, members of the European Economic Area, as well as Ukraine, the Republic of Moldova and Azerbaijan align themselves with this declaration.

**P R E S S**

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

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