

EUROPEAN UNION

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Statement by EU High Representative Catherine Ashton on the elections in Uganda

Following the presidential and legislative elections in Uganda on 18 February, Catherine Ashton, the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy and Vice-President of the Commission, made the following statement:

"I welcome the peaceful conduct of the elections in Uganda on Friday 18 February. This second election since the restoration of multi-party democracy in Uganda, marks a further consolidation of the democratic process, not just in Uganda itself but in the whole region. The Electoral Commission has declared results, but the electoral process itself continues until any appeals have been duly considered by the competent authorities in Uganda. I encourage any challenges to the results to be pursued through these channels, and encourage all those elected to the new parliament to engage constructively to promote sustainable development, good governance and respect for human rights."

The High Representative thanked the Chief Observer of the EU Election Observation Mission in Uganda, Mr Edward Scicluna MEP, as well as his entire team of over 100 observers from all 27 Member States, for the important work they have undertaken. The presence of a special delegation of four European MEPs was particularly welcome. The Mission will issue its own conclusions on the elections shortly.

The EU will continue to play its role, as an important partner for Uganda, in supporting the country's efforts to improve governance at national and regional level as well as promote the country's social and economic development.

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