



PC.DEL/750/05
14 July 2005

ENGLISH only



**United Kingdom
Delegation**

To the Organisation for Security and
Cooperation in Europe (OSCE)
Vienna

Jaurèsgasse 12
1030 Vienna

Telephone: 71613-3304
Facsimile: 71613-3900

United Kingdom Presidency of the Council of the European Union

**Permanent Council No. 563
Date 14 July 2005**

EU Statement on Elections in Kyrgyzstan

The European Union welcomes the preliminary findings of the OSCE/ODIHR election observation mission concerning presidential elections in Kyrgyzstan on 10 July. We are pleased to note that the elections marked tangible progress by the Kyrgyz Republic towards meeting OSCE commitments, as well as other international standards for democratic elections. Following events in March, the European Union pledged full support to help Kyrgyzstan move towards democracy, unity and stability. We look forward to continuing our co-operation with a credibly elected President and his new government.

The European Union calls on the Kyrgyz authorities to continue to draw on the expertise of the institutions represented in the OSCE/ODIHR election observation mission to address shortcomings and problem areas identified during the election process. In his address to the Permanent Council on 30 May, President Bakiev outlined priorities to be implemented following the presidential elections, including constitutional reform, the judiciary, freedom of the media, fighting corruption and reforms designed to create a favourable environment for economic growth as well as promoting a new generation of young leaders and politicians. We look forward to progress in those areas, in particular the adoption of a new constitution.

Genuine progress in Kyrgyzstan in promoting democratisation, rule of law and human rights will contribute to long-term security and stability in the region as a whole. The European Union remains strongly committed to supporting Kyrgyzstan in its pursuit of these aims.

The Acceding Countries Bulgaria and Romania, the Candidate Countries Turkey and Croatia ¹, the Countries of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidates Albania, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Serbia and Montenegro, as well as Ukraine and Moldova align themselves with this declaration.

¹ Croatia continues to be part of the Stabilisation and Association Process