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**Permanent Mission of Ireland
to the OSCE**

Rotenturmstrasse 16-18,
A-1010 Vienna
Tel: +43 1 71576 9826
Fax: +43 1 715 5755

ireland-osce@chello.at

Irish Presidency of the European Union

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EU statement on Serbian Presidential elections

The European Union notes the preliminary conclusion of the ODIHR election observation mission that the second round of the Presidential Elections in the Republic of Serbia held on 27 June was conducted essentially in line with OSCE commitments and Council of Europe standards for democratic elections.

The European Union warmly welcomes the election of Boris Tadic as President of Serbia and looks forward to close co-operation with him in his new function. The people of Serbia have clearly expressed their desire for a European future for Serbia. The EU stands ready to help them to achieve this objective.

The Serbian authorities now have to seize the opportunity to revitalise the process of political and economic reforms, to promote friendship and reconciliation with their neighbours and to fulfill international obligations. All democratic forces need to work together to ensure rapid progress. In this context, it is essential that Serbia and Montenegro continue its good cooperation with the OSCE Mission, so that the outstanding issues can be rapidly resolved.

The EU also expects the new President of Serbia and the Serbian government to continue being fully engaged in the process of solving the pending issues at the State Union level.

The Candidate Countries Bulgaria, Croatia, Romania and Turkey align themselves with this statement.

