



Slovensko predsedstvo EU 2008
Slovenian Presidency of the EU 2008
La Présidence slovène de l'UE 2008

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Slovenian Presidency of the Council of the European Union

**Permanent Council No. 717
19 June 2008**

EU statement on the parliamentary elections in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia

The European Union would like to draw the attention of the Permanent Council to Conclusions issued by the General Affairs and External Relations Council of the European Union on 16 June on the parliamentary elections in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.

The Council took note of the parliamentary elections in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia on 1 June 2008. It condemned the violent incidents and regretted other serious shortcomings, as identified by the OSCE/ODIHR. The Council noted the measures taken by the authorities following 1 June including the organisation of re-runs on 15 June in all places where serious irregularities occurred. It called upon the authorities to investigate all reported incidents and take appropriate action in line with the recommendations from the OSCE/ODIHR. In this context it welcomed the commitment of the authorities to address these issues without delay.

The Council expects the new Parliament and Government to be established soon and to achieve sustainable progress in reforms. It called on all political parties to promote and participate in a constructive and inclusive dialogue and to implement the priorities identified in the Accession Partnership.

The candidate countries Turkey and Croatia*, the countries of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidate countries Albania, Bosnia and

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Herzegovina, Montenegro and Serbia, as well as Ukraine, the Republic of Moldova and Armenia align themselves with this statement.

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

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