

Venezuela: Council adopts conclusions on the outcome of the legislative elections



The Council today adopted conclusions regarding the outcome of the legislative elections held on 6 December 2020 and EU policy towards Venezuela going forward.

The conclusions stress that the elections were a **missed opportunity** for democracy, **held without a national agreement on electoral conditions**, and failed to comply with the international standards for a democratic process. The Council reiterates the EU's call for the **guarantee of all political and civil rights**, for the **immediate and unconditional release of all political prisoners** and for the freedom and safety of all political opponents.

The Council states that the only way out of the crisis in Venezuela is to **resume political negotiations** promptly and to urgently establish a Venezuelan-led dialogue and transition process leading to **credible, inclusive and transparent** legislative and presidential elections.

The conclusions underline the EU's support for the work of the **UN High Commissioner for Human Rights** and the UN Independent Fact-finding Mission with a view to holding accountable those responsible for extrajudicial executions, enforced disappearances, arbitrary detentions and torture.

The EU will continue to engage and work with all stakeholders in Venezuela to **foster peaceful dialogue and a democratic and sustainable solution** to the crises in Venezuela.

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