Council of the EU

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STATEMENTS AND REMARKS
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Palestine*: Statement by the High Representative on behalf of the European Union on the postponement of elections

The EU deeply regrets the decision by the Palestinian Authority to postpone until September 2027 the legislative elections initially scheduled for 28 November 2026 as well as the presidential election that was due to take place early 2027.

Acknowledging the challenges and limitations facing the Palestinian Authority, we reiterate the importance of organising legislative and presidential elections as soon as possible, in line with President Abbas' previous commitments.

The holding of democratic and transparent elections throughout the occupied Palestinian territory is long overdue. Palestinians must be able to vote to elect their leadership and representatives to their institutions.

The EU reiterates its readiness to support the electoral process, including by the deployment of an EU Election Observation Mission.

The EU has a long-standing position of support to Palestinian state-building efforts and reforms. Credible, inclusive and transparent elections for all Palestinians are vital for the Palestinian people, democratic legitimacy, and accountability, as well as for the two-state solution. The EU's continued support to the Palestinian Authority goes hand in hand with progress towards these objectives, and advancing reforms.

** This designation shall not be construed as recognition of a State of Palestine and is without prejudice to the individual positions of the member states on this issue.*

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