Statement by the Spokesperson of High Representative Catherine Ashton on the announcement of the date of elections in Nepal

The Spokesperson of Catherine Ashton, High Representative of the European Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy and Vice-President of the European Commission, issued the following statement today:

"The High Representative congratulates the people of Nepal on the decisive step towards holding elections on 19 November this year.

The consolidation of the transition in Nepal, including the establishment of stable democratically elected institutions, is a pre-requisite for its successful development. At this stage, it is essential to move forward in the electoral process. The High Representative therefore calls on all relevant actors to adopt a constructive attitude to ensure the widest possible political commitment for national elections in November and local elections as soon as possible, allowing the people of Nepal to achieve their democratic aspirations.

As a long-standing friend of Nepal, the EU remains ready to extend all its support during the election process and its aftermath, including through the deployment of an Election Observation Mission."

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