



European Union

Joint Local Statement on the rule of law in the Maldives

The European Union (EU) Delegation issues the following statement in agreement with the EU Heads of Mission and Ambassadors of Norway and Switzerland in Colombo:

The EU Delegation is very concerned over the arrest of former President Nasheed under anti-terrorism laws and is seeking clarification as to the nature of the charges. Equally, reports of former President Nasheed having effectively been denied appropriate legal representation at the court hearing on 23 February 2015, are of great concern.

The EU Delegation reiterates the importance of respect for democratic principles, including respect for the rule of law, for the Constitution, for due legal process and for the independence of the judiciary.

All Maldivian citizens, including former President Nasheed, are to be treated according to these principles, which are themselves important for a pluralistic society.

The EU Delegation appeals for calm in the Maldives and urges all sides to act with moderation and restraint.

The EU Delegation continues to monitor the situation.

Colombo, 24 February 2015

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