



EUROPEAN UNION

Brussels, 8 October 2012
A 444/12

Statement by EU High Representative Catherine Ashton on the elections in Venezuela

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

"I have taken note of the victory of Hugo Chavez in the Venezuelan presidential elections and would like to congratulate him on his re-election. I welcome the high voter turnout and the calm atmosphere on election day and following the issuing of the results. This demonstrates the commitment to democracy of the Venezuelan people. I also praise all parties for the rapid acceptance of the results.

With victory comes responsibility. In his new mandate, President Chavez must reach out to all segments of Venezuelan society to strengthen the country's institutions, and promote fundamental freedoms, inclusion and sustainable economic development. I look forward to working towards these goals with the Venezuelan Government."

P R E S S

FOR FURTHER DETAILS:

Michael Mann +32 498 999 780 - +32 2 299 97 80 - Michael.Mann@eeas.europa.eu

Maja Kocijancic +32 498 984 425 - +32 2 298 65 70 - Maja.Kocijancic@ec.europa.eu

Sebastien Brabant +32 460 75 09 98 - Sebastien.Brabant@ec.europa.eu

COMM-SPP-HRVP-ASHTON@ec.europa.eu

www.eeas.europa.eu

EN