



Caracas, November 15th, 2021.

PRESS RELEASE

The European Union Electoral Observation Mission's (EUEOM) Chief Observer, Isabel Santos, is arriving in Caracas on November 16th, to attend the Elections Day on November 21st and to present a preliminary observation report.

In response to the National Electoral Council (CNE) of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela's invitation, the European Union deployed on October 14th an Electoral Observation Mission (EU EOM) in order to observe the Regional and Municipal Elections on November 21st, 2021.

As part of this mission, Isabel Santos, member of the European Parliament and EU EOM Chief Observer (CO), will be in the country from November 16th to attend the Elections Day on November 21st and present a report on November 23rd in the morning, with the preliminary findings and conclusions of the observation.

CO's arrival happens simultaneously with the arrival of 34 Short Term Observers that come from Europe and that are joining the Core Team of the mission, which is formed by 11 electoral analysts that are in Venezuela since October 14th, and 44 Long Term Observers who are already deployed in 22 states and Capital District since October 28th.

The 34 Short Term Observers depart from Caracas on November 18th, after receiving a specialized and intense 2-day training in Caracas, so then continuing to their Areas of Responsibility, where they are observing the election process on November 21st. Additionally, nine European Parliament members and other additional 30 European Observers, recruited from Diplomatic staff accredited in Venezuela, join the 34 Short Term Observers with the purpose of reinforcing observation operations on the Election Day. By that date the EU EOM expects having more than 130 observers.

Before 21N, Isabel Santos has several meetings with National Electoral entity authorities, political parties' representatives, and civil society in Caracas and in the State of Bolivar, where she is travelling on November 17th.

Following EU electoral observation methodology, the mission CO will observe the voting process in several voting centers in Caracas and will share with the media the preliminary observation summary of the EU EOM at noon (12:00 sharp) and also at 18:30 in polling centers where media will be previously summoned.

On November 23rd, Chief Observer Isabel Santos will give a preliminary statement during a press conference that will be held at the Eurobuilding Hotel in Caracas, where she will be answering all media questions.

Subsequently, one to two months after the end of the election day, Chief Observer will return to the country, accompanied by several EU EOM members to present the final report, including recommendations for future electoral processes.

Media that would like to participate in the deployment on November 18th at 10 a.m. at the Eurobuilding Hotel parking facilities in Caracas, and who would like to arrange an interview with the Chief Observer, are invited to do so by contacting the EU EOM Venezuela 2021 Media Center.

Press Officer: Renaud Dewit: prensa@moevenezuela2021.eu +584129270228