



EUROPEAN UNION

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## Statement by HR Catherine Ashton on the Iraqi elections 7 March

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

*“Iraq went to the polls today to choose its leaders for the next four years. I would like to congratulate the Iraqi people, who went out in significant numbers to cast their votes. This turnout in defiance of the violent attacks during the electoral campaign and on election day reconfirms the commitment of the Iraqi people to a democratic Iraq. It deserves respect from all.*

*The EU continues to support Iraq in its efforts to reconstruct the country and rebuild its political system - including its transition to democracy. We remain committed to a long term partnership. We look forward to working with the new Council of Representatives and the new Government, as soon as they are in place.”*

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**P R E S S**

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