



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

MEMO

Brussels, 7 July 2012

Joint statement by the spokespersons of High Representative Catherine Ashton and Štefan Füle, Commissioner for Enlargement and European Neighbourhood Policy, on the Libyan elections

"Today's truly historic elections for the Libyan National Congress should mark the beginning of a new era of democracy in Libya.

In a climate of freedom, in spite of reports of isolated incidents of violence, Libyan citizens cast their votes today and have decided their future in a dignified and orderly manner.

The EU Electoral Assessment Team, headed by the Member of the European Parliament, Mr Alexander Graf Lambsdorff, will make its assessment soon but now is the moment to congratulate and pay tribute to the Libyan people and their peaceful struggle for their rights and democratic aspirations.

The EU is determined to strengthen its engagement with Libya, a key neighbour for Europe with whom we wish to establish long-term and mutually beneficial relations. We will continue to provide strong support for Libya in the interests of securing a peaceful, democratic and prosperous future for its people."