

H.E Mr. Josep Borrell Fontelles
High Representative of the European Union
for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy



Brussels, 16 October 2024

Your Excellency,
Dear Mr. Borrell,

We congratulate you on your recent statements on the electoral situation in Venezuela, namely that, given the abundant evidence gathered by the opposition and the electoral tallies publicly presented by the Carter Center, 'Maduro did not win the elections and it was the opposition leader who won them'.

We also welcome its positive evolution and the diplomatic steps taken with regard to the Venezuelan situation, which should give constant support to those who daily fight for democracy and freedom in the country.

Having been so unequivocal about who won and who lost the elections, we urge you to take the logical and necessary step of expressly recognising Edmundo González Urrutia as the legitimate President-elect of Venezuela, in line with the European Parliament's Resolution of 19 September 2024 on the situation in Venezuela.

We also urge you to make every effort to ensure that the Venezuelan democracy and the will of the voters, as proven by the electoral tallies presented and independently verified, are respected.

If we know who lost and if we recognize who won a presidential election, we ought to name the winner what it's rightly due to him: President-elect.

To end the enduring humanitarian and socio-economic crisis perpetrated by the Maduro regime, the European Union and the international community must do their utmost to ensure a peaceful transition so that the legitimate and democratically elected president can take office on 10 January 2025, in accordance with the Venezuelan Constitution.

In light of the disturbing reports of increased oppression since Maduro's defeat was internationally recognised, the European Union must stand by those who – in such a difficult circumstance – do not give up on their rights and civic liberties.

We must condemn in the strongest possible terms the systematic pattern of human rights' violations perpetrated against the Venezuelan people. We owe the Venezuelans our support, solidarity and respect.

Recognizing who they voted for should be a part of that.

We look forward to your prompt and decisive response to this urgent matter.

Yours sincerely,

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