





STATEMENT: THE EU-LAT NETWORK, THE PLATFORM EUROPE-PERU AND COEECI CALL UPON THE EUROPEAN UNION TO SUPPORT THE RULE OF LAW IN PERU

Brussels, Lima, 16 June, 2021

On Tuesday, 15 June, 2021, the Office of Electoral Processes (ONPE) issued the final (100%) result of the second round of elections for the presidency of Peru. Pedro Castillo, of the Peru Libre political party, won with 50.125% of the votes.

The EU-LAT Network, a network of 40 European human rights and development organisations, the Platform Europe-Peru (PEP), a network of 15 European organisations that work to favour human rights in Peru, and the Coordinating Committee of Foreign Entities for International Cooperation- COEECI, guild with 48 partner organizations, observe with concern the current post-electoral situation in Peru, given the messages that indicate the existence of an alleged fraud, despite the fact that the different electoral missions indicate that the second round was carried out in accordance with national and international standards. In fact, the electoral observation mission of the Organization of American States (OAS) congratulated Peru for a peaceful and democratic election day¹.

At this moment, it is necessary to respect the rule of law, finalize the electoral process and take measures to put an end to hostile media campaigns that cause tension in the internal social sphere and pose a threat to public figures and social activists.

However, in the face of questions about the legality of the electoral process, we urge the European Union to:

- Publicly display its support for the electoral results ratified by the Peruvian electoral authorities, thus contributing to stabilise the situation in the country, strengthen the democratic institutions and generate a peaceful transition of the executive power in Peru.
- Maintain the electoral observation mission in the country and remain vigilant to the legal processes undertaken before the electoral authorities until their effective resolution.
- Report any malicious attempt to use the challenging acts mechanism without there being sufficiently solid grounds to justify it, which generates a climate of generalised uncertainty

¹ https://www.oas.org/en/media center/press release.asp?sCodigo=E-060/21

that increases the political instability of the country and weakens the democratic institutional framework.

• Make a public call to close the electoral process so that the elected government can focus on the urgent present challenges, particularly on the pandemic that has caused an unprecedented health, socioeconomic and food crisis.