

RELEASE IN PART B5

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To: H
Subject: FW: Update on Ukraine election situation

From EUR:

Update on Ukraine Election Situation

With over 99.9 percent of the vote in Ukraine counted, Yanukovich leads by 3.5 percent (almost 900,000 votes) and is the clear winner and next president. The Central Election Commission should complete its vote tabulation today and must certify the results within ten days; certification is expected as early as Friday. Tymoshenko, who has been silent publicly, plans to bring cases of alleged electoral fraud to the courts, but they will not change the result. Tymoshenko claims that she intends to work within the law and not to incite street protests.

Our recommendation is

[REDACTED] EU Ambassadors in Kiev have recommended the same approach to Brussels, but want to revisit it if there is no progress by Friday. Medvedev called Yanukovich today with praise for the conduct of elections, but stopped short of congratulating him on his victory.

Following certification of the election, Tymoshenko is likely to appeal within the legal five-day period. This will likely push back an inauguration date until early March.

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