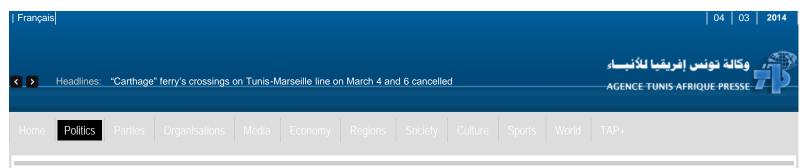
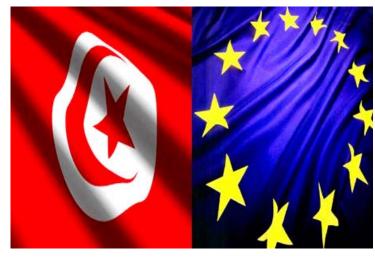
EU ready to assist Tunisia in organising next elections through training



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BARDO (TAP) - Director for Neighbourhood Policy at the European Commission Michael Kohler stressed during his meeting, Wednesday, with President of the National Constituent Assembly (NCA) Mustapha Ben Jaafar, the European Union's readiness to continue supporting Tunisia in what remains of its transition process.

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He emphasised the need to build on the European experience in organising elections, through mentoring, training and observation.

In turn, Ben Jaafar said "meeting the economic and social challenges faced by Tunisia in this delicate stage requires a national effort and international mobilisation through direct and immediate assistance," a statement of the NCA reads.

He also reviewed the steps taken on the path of democratic transition, thanks to the mobilisation of all national forces and the spirit of consensus that prevailed within the NCA, as well as the efforts made by organisations sponsoring the dialogue led by the labour organisation.

In this connection, Mustapha Ben Jaafar underlined the need to establish relations between the two shores of the Mediterranean based on fair and joint development, a common future based on good neighbourliness and the consecration of universal values guarantor of

democracy.

Ambassador head of the EU delegation to Tunisia Laura Baeza also took part in the meeting.

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