

Alliance

The Alliance Party of Northern Ireland

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“ P R E S S R E L E A S E ”

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ALDERIDCE UPBEAT OVER TALKS

Alliance Leader Lord Alderdice has told the European Liberal Democratic and Reform Party Council (ELDR) meeting this week in Brussels that the prospect for progress in Northern Ireland has significantly improved after the dangers of the summer were largely averted and the new IRA cease-fire has made it possible for Sinn Fein to join inter party talks. He told delegates who are from across Central Eastern and Western Europe that he was still reasonably hopeful that the Ulster Unionist Party and the two Loyalist Parties would decide to continue in the Talks process and that a nine month timetable of talks could be adopted leading to significant positive political developments next year.

Lord Alderdice who has been Treasurer of the European Liberals since 1995 is expected to be re-elected to that position later in the week.

Lord Alderdice can be contacted on: 0385 267496 (mobile)