

Comisia Electorală Centrală
a Republicii Moldova



Strasbourg, 27 June 2013

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EUROPEAN COMMISSION FOR DEMOCRACY THROUGH LAW
(VENICE COMMISSION)

in co-operation with

THE CENTRAL ELECTION COMMISSION OF MOLDOVA

**10th EUROPEAN CONFERENCE
OF ELECTORAL MANAGEMENT BODIES**

**“THE CODE OF GOOD PRACTICE IN ELECTORAL MATTERS:
STRENGTHS AND POTENTIAL DEVELOPMENTS”**

Wednesday and Thursday, 26-27 June 2013

**Leograd Hotel, Convention Centre
Chişinău, Republic of Moldova**

PROGRAMME

Wednesday, 26 June 2013

9 am-10 am Registration of participants

10 am-10.30 am **Opening session**

- Address by Mr Nicolae Timofti, President of the Republic of Moldova
- Address by Mr Oleg Efrim, Minister of Justice, Republic of Moldova
- Address by Mr Alexandru Tănase, President of the Constitutional Court of the Republic of Moldova
- Address by Mr Iurie Ciocan, Chairman of the Central Election Commission of Moldova
- Address by Ms Urszula Gacek, Ambassador, Permanent Representative of the Republic of Poland to the Council of Europe
- Address by Mr Péter Paczolay, President of the Constitutional Court of Hungary, Member of the Venice Commission

10.30 am-11.30 am **First plenary session: The Code of Good Practice and the domestic courts in the case-law of the ECHR**

Moderated by Mr Péter Paczolay, President of the Constitutional Court of Hungary, Member of the Venice Commission

- *The case-law of the European Court of Human Rights with respect to Article 3 Protocol 1*, Ms Inna Shyrokova, Lawyer, Registry of the European Court of Human Rights
- *The impact of the ECHR on Austrian legal amendments, especially regarding the disenfranchisement of prisoners – the “Frod” case*, Mr Gregor Wenda, Electoral Authority, Austria

11.30 am-12 pm Coffee break

12 pm-13.30 pm **Working groups**

1) *The Code of Good Practice in Electoral Matters and the case-law of the European Court of Human Rights with respect to Article 3, Protocol 1*, Ms Inna Shyrokova (*moderator*), Lawyer, Registry of the European Court of Human Rights

2) *Judicial review of EMB decisions, including for compliance with Article 3, Protocol 1 of the Convention*, Mr Péter Paczolay (*moderator*), President of the Constitutional Court of Hungary, Member of the Venice Commission

3) *The Code of Good Practice and the domestic case-law*, Mr Gregor Wenda (*moderator*), Electoral Authority, Austria

13.30 pm-14.30 pm Lunch break (*hosted by the organisers at Leograd Hotel*)

14.30 pm-15.30 pm **Second plenary session: The Code of Good Practice and funding of electoral campaigns and political parties**

Moderated by Mr Iurie Ciocan, Chairman, Central Election Commission, Moldova

- *The rules on the funding of political parties and electoral campaigns in France in light of the Code of Good Practice*, Ms Barbara Jouan, France's National Commission for Campaign Accounts and Political Financing
- *The GRECO evaluation reports*, Mr Christophe Speckbacher, Head of Section, Secretariat of the Group of States against Corruption (GRECO)
- *Election Observation of Campaign Finance in the OSCE Region*, Mr Richard Lappin, Senior Election Adviser, Election Department, Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights of the OSCE (OSCE/ODIHR)
- *Income and expenditure control procedures for electoral funds in the Russian Federation with regard to the control over spending of electoral funds in election campaigning*, Ms Maya Grishina, Member, Central Election Commission, Russian Federation

15.30 pm-16 pm Coffee break

16 pm-17.30 pm **Working groups**

1) *The Venice Commission opinions on funding of political parties and electoral campaigns*, Ms Barbara Jouan (moderator), Senior Campaign Finance Expert, France's National Commission for Campaign Accounts and Political Financing, France

2) *Sources and transparency in funding of political parties and electoral campaigns*, Mr Christophe Speckbacher (moderator), Head of Section, Secretariat of the Group of States against Corruption (GRECO)

- *Transparency and accountability of political parties' funding: challenges. The spanish case study*, Ms Ana Cristina López López, Head of Electoral Co-operation Unit, Spain

3) *The monitoring, including sanctions, of funding of political parties and electoral campaigns by the EMBs*, Mr Peter Wardle (moderator), Chief Executive, The Electoral Commission, United Kingdom

- 17.30 pm-18 pm Closing remarks
- 18 pm-20 pm Evening reception hosted by the chairman of the Central Election Commission of Moldova (Leogrand Hotel)

Thursday, 27 June 2012

- 9 am-10.30 am **Third plenary session: The Code of Good Practice and further improvements of the functioning of EMBs to increase public confidence**

Moderated by Mr Peter Wardle, Chief Executive, The Electoral Commission, United Kingdom

- *The Code of Good Practice and further improvements of the functioning of EMBs to increase public confidence, comparative approach*, Mr André Kvakkestad, Lawyer, former Member of Parliament, former head of election observation missions for the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe, Norway
- *What kind of impact has the use of social media on the work of EMBs?*, Ms Annette M. Fath-Lihic, Senior Programme Manager Electoral Processes, International IDEA, Sweden

- 10.30 am-11 am Coffee break

- 11 am-12.30 pm **Working groups**

1) *Impartiality of the EMBs*, Mr Arnis Cimdars (moderator), Chairman, Central Election Commission, Latvia

- *Impartiality of the EMBs*, Mr Charles Lasham, Director of Electoral Affairs, International Centre for Parliamentary Studies

2) *For an increased transparency of management of complaints by the EMBs*, Mr Sebastian Seedorf (moderator), Federal Ministry of the Interior, Germany

3) *Financial and human means devoted to the EMBs*, Ms Kristina Lemon (moderator), Election Authority, Sweden

- 12.30 pm-13.30 pm Lunch break (*hosted by the organisers at Leogrand Hotel*)

13.30 pm-14.45 pm **Final plenary session: presentation of regional and international associations**

Moderated by Mr Gaël Martin-Micallef, Legal Officer, Elections and Referendums Division, Secretariat of the Venice Commission

Presentation about the *Inter-American Union of Electoral Bodies* (UNIORE), Mr Leonardo Valdés, President Councillor, Federal Electoral Institute, Mexico

Presentation about the *Association of World Electoral Bodies (A-WEB)*, Mr Kim Yong-Hi, Secretary General, National Election of Commission, Republic of Korea

14.45 pm-15.15 pm Coffee break

15.15 pm-16 pm **Final plenary Session: Challenges facing EMBs in the implementation of the Code of Good Practice in Electoral Matters in the next ten years**

Moderated by Mr Iurie Ciocan, Chairman, Central Election Commission, Moldova

– *Current and future changes in elections and democracy – implications for EMBs*, Mr Peter Wardle, Chief Executive, The Electoral Commission, United Kingdom

16 pm-17 pm **Closing plenary session** and conclusions of the Conference

Co-moderated by Mr Iurie Ciocan, Chairman, Central Election Commission, Moldova, and Mr Gaël Martin-Micallef, Legal Officer, Elections and Referendums Division, Secretariat of the Venice Commission

17 pm-18 pm **Coordination Meeting** of the *Eastern Partnership Facility Programme* (only for the EMBs of Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine)