



Strasbourg, 9 October 2000

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EUROPEAN COMMISSION FOR DEMOCRACY THROUGH LAW
(VENICE COMMISSION)

**Information about the Implementation of Recommendations
of the Venice Commission
on the Law on Elections to the Milli Majlis
of the Republic of Azerbaijan**

Addendum



No. A-457

Representation of the Republic of Azerbaijan to the Council of Europe presents its compliments to the Permanent Representations to the Council of Europe and the Secretariat General of the Council of Europe and has the honour to forward an unofficial translation of the letter of President of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Mr. Heydar Aliyev addressed to the Central Electoral Commission of the Republic of Azerbaijan. Please find enclosed.

Representation of the Republic of Azerbaijan to the Council of Europe avails itself of this opportunity to renew its assurances in the highest consideration to the Permanent Representations to the Council of Europe and the Secretariat General of the Council of Europe.

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Strasbourg, 6 October 2000

Permanent Representations
to the Council of Europe,
Secretariat General of the
Council of Europe,
STRASBOURG

**To Central Electoral Commission
of the Republic of Azerbaijan**

In connection with the forthcoming parliamentary elections to be held on 5-th November of this year the Central Electoral Commission of the Republic of Azerbaijan has implemented all necessary actions deriving from the "Law on Elections to Milli Majlis (Parliament) of the Republic of Azerbaijan" and the "Law on Central Electoral Commission of the Republic of Azerbaijan" and has been continuing its activity in this field.

Instructions and all other decisions adopted by the Central Electoral Commission within its competence in view of the recommendations of authoritative international organisations create the necessary basis to hold democratic parliamentary elections meeting the requirements of the universally recognized international standards.

As it is known only the list of 5 political parties has been registered out of the the list of the candidates presented by 14 political parties and blocs applying to the Central Electoral Commission to take part in parliamentary elections on the basis of proportional electoral system of the unified multimandate electoral precinct. It does not raise any doubt that the decisions of the Central Electoral Commission to refuse the registration of the list of the candidates of other political parties are based on objective arguments and sometimes such kind of the decisions have been approved by the relevant court. However, I assume that the removal of the political parties from competition over the 25 deputy mandates on the basis of proportional electoral system limits a little the possibility of all the strata of the population to express their political views independently. The main political decision should be made by the electorate and only the electorate should define which political party is worthy of being represented in the parliament of the independent Azerbaijan. The representation of every independent party in the parliament should depend on the social base of party and the rate of support by population, not state organ.

In my opinion, in the future political elections the political palette of the Republic of Azerbaijan should be represented as wider as possible. This step will give an additional impetus to the democratic reforms carried out in our country, increase the political activity of the society and strengthen the citizen consolidation in society.

Only the results of elections is the objective criteria of parties expression of the citizens will.

Taking into account all these, not putting under the doubt the decisions of the Central Electoral Commission and respecting them I request you to consider the possibility to focus on the decisions restricting the participation of political parties of Azerbaijan in forthcoming parliamentary elections on the basis of proportional electoral system.

Heydar Aliyev
President of the Republic of Azerbaijan

Baku city, 6-th October 2000



No. A-458

Representation of the Republic of Azerbaijan to the Council of Europe presents its compliments to the Permanent Representations to the Council of Europe and the Secretariat General of the Council of Europe and has the honour to forward the Decision by the Central Election Commission of the Republic of Azerbaijan on Registration of the Common Lists of Candidates of the Musavat Party, the Azerbaijan Democrat Party, the Azerbaijan Popular Democratic Party, the National Congress Party, the Party of Alliance for the Sake of Azerbaijan, the Party of Democratic World of Azerbaijan, the Azerbaijan Liberal Party and "Democratic Azerbaijan" Bloc of Political Parties, Which Have Been Registered by the Central Election Commission of the Republic of Azerbaijan to Take Part in the Elections to the Milli Majlis of the Republic of Azerbaijan on November 5, 2000.

Representation of the Republic of Azerbaijan to the Council of Europe avails itself of this opportunity to renew its assurances in the highest consideration to the Permanent Representations to the Council of Europe and the Secretariat General of the Council of Europe.

Strasbourg, 9 October 2000

Permanent Representations
to the Council of Europe,
Secretariat General of the
Council of Europe,
STRASBOURG



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DECISION

by the Central Election Commission of the Republic of Azerbaijan
on

registration of the common lists of candidates of the Musavat Party, the Azerbaijan Democrat Party, the Azerbaijan Popular Democratic Party, the National Congress Party, the Party of Alliance for the sake of Azerbaijan, the Party of Democratic World of Azerbaijan, the Azerbaijan Liberal Party and "Democratic Azerbaijan" Bloc of Political Parties, which have been registered by the Central Election Commission of the Republic of Azerbaijan to take part in the elections to the Milli Majlis of the Republic of Azerbaijan on November 5, 2000

On October 6, 2000, Mr. Heydar Aliyev, President of the Republic of Azerbaijan appealed to the Central Election Commission of the Republic of Azerbaijan requesting to discuss the possibilities of re-consideration of decisions barring several parties, whose common lists of candidates have not been registered by the Central Election Commission for the nation-wide constituency, to participate in upcoming parliamentary elections.

Representation of the political palette of the Republic of Azerbaijan in the Parliament as broad as possible is appreciated in the appeal as a factor that offers additional impulse to the democratic reforms for the purpose of consolidating civic solidarity in the society.

The President of the country considers that voters should adopt main decisions in vote and namely they should determine which political parties are worthy to be represented in the Parliament of Azerbaijan.

The Central Election Commission observes the correspondence of Mr. President's appeal with the spirit and separate provisions of the Constitution of the Republic of Azerbaijan those regulates this issue. The Central Election Commission considers that such a democratic step will enable equally all political parties, which intend to participate in the elections, and provides the conduct of fairer elections.

Taking above-mentioned into account and upholding Item 10 of the Article 2.2 of the Law of the Republic of Azerbaijan "on the Central Election Commission of the Republic of Azerbaijan", the Central Election Commission d e c i d e s:

To give consent for the Musavat Party, the Azerbaijan Democrat Party, the Azerbaijan Popular Democratic Party, the National Congress Party, the Party of Alliance for the sake of Azerbaijan, the Party of Democratic World of Azerbaijan, the Azerbaijan Liberal Party and "Democratic Azerbaijan" Bloc of Political Parties to participate in the elections and to register common lists of candidates forwarded by them in the Central Election Commission of the Republic of Azerbaijan.



Mazahir Panahov

Chairman of
the Central Election Commission of
the Republic of Azerbaijan