



Council of Europe
European Commission



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Strasbourg, 18 May 2006

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EUROPEAN COMMISSION FOR DEMOCRACY THROUGH LAW

(VENICE COMMISSION)

**in co-operation with
THE CENTRAL ELECTORAL COMMISSION
OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION**

**3RD EUROPEAN CONFERENCE
OF ELECTORAL MANAGEMENT BODIES**

**“DEVELOPMENT AND CODIFICATION OF INTERNATIONAL
STANDARDS IN THE FIELD OF ELECTIONS”**

Moscow, 22 - 23 May 2006

(CEC headquarters, B. Tcherkassky per. 9)

DRAFT PROGRAMME

Monday 22 May 2006

- 9:00 – 10:00 Registration of participants
- 10:00- 10:30 Official opening of the Conference:
Address by Mr Alexander Albertovich Veshnyakov, Chairman of the Central Electoral Commission of the Russian Federation
- Address by Mr Gianni Buquicchio, Secretary of the Venice Commission.
- First working session:** *Codification of the electoral standards by regional and international organisations*
- 10:30 – 10:45 Mr Alexander Albertovich Veshnjakov, Chairman of the Central Electoral Commission of the Russian Federation
“Towards a unified understanding of electoral rights and freedoms, towards unified electoral standards”
- 10:45 – 11:00 Mr Ugo Mifsud Bonnici, President Emeritus, Malta, Vice President of the Venice Commission
“The Code of Good Practice in Electoral Matters adopted by the Venice Commission (18-19 October 2002)”
- 11:00 - 11:15 Questions and discussion
- 11:15 – 11:30 Mr A. Groushko, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation
- 11:30 – 11:45 Mr Manuel Carrillo, Chief of Staff for International Affairs, IFE (Instituto Federal Electoral), Mexico
“Some considerations on electoral standards in Latin America”
- 11:45– 12:15 *Coffee break*
- 12:15– 13:30 *Questions to speakers and discussion*
- 13:30 – 14:15 *Lunch* (Central Electoral Commission Restaurant, ground floor)

Second working session *Implementation of international standards and recommendations in national legislation and practice*

- 14:15 – 14:30 Presentation of the exhibition
- 14:30 – 14:45 Mrs Josette Durrieu, Member of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe, France, Member of the Council for Democratic Elections
“Election Observations of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe”
- 14:45 – 15:00 Mr Ian Micallef, Local Councils Association, President, Malta, Member of the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe, Member of the Council for Democratic Elections
“Codification of electoral standards by regional and international organisations”
- 15:00 – 15:15 Mr I. Krotov, General Secretary of the Inter-parliamentary Assembly of CIS or of the CIS Executive Committee
“Implementation of the CIS standards during the elections in the CIS states”
- 15:15 – 15:30 Mr Vadim Zhdanovich, OSCE/ODIHR Senior Election Adviser, Ambassador Geert-Hinrich Ahrens, OSCE/ODIHR External Expert, Germany
“OSCE Commitments for Democratic Elections”
- 15:30 – 16:00 *Questions and discussion*
- 16:00 – 16:15 *Coffee break*
- 16:15 – 16:30 Mr E. Sloboda, Head of the department of the election observation missions of the CIS Executive Committee
“Implementation of the CIS standards during the elections in the CIS states”
- 16:30 - 17:00 *Questions and Discussions*
- 17:00 – 17:45 Conclusions of second working session; photo shoot (atrium ground floor)
- 18:00 *Participants leave for hotels*
- 19:00 Cocktail organised by the Central Electoral Commission of the Russian Federation (*location to be confirmed*)

Tuesday 23 May 2006

9:00 – 9:30 Registration of participants

Third working session “New technologies and elections – keeping the diversity or setting common standards?”

9:30 – 9:45 “E-voting: recent developments and security of the vote”
Mr Robert Krimmer, E-Voting CC, Research in Electronic Voting
“The latest developments and standard settings in the field of e-voting in Europe” (*title to be confirmed*).

9:45 – 10:30 *Questions and Discussions*

10:30 – 11:00 *Coffe break*

11:00 – 11:15 Mr Yashenko, President of the Federal Centre for Informatisation attached to the Central Electoral Commission of the Russian Federation
“State Automatic System of Russian Federation GAS ‘Vibory’”
“Electronic systems for transmitting results and their security”

11:15 – 12:00 *Questions and Discussions*

12:15 – 13:00 Presentation of the Federal Centre for Informatisation attached to the Central Electoral Commission of the Russian Federation (three groups – same path different starting points)

13:00 – 14:00 *Lunch* (Central Electoral Commission Restaurant, ground floor)

Fourth working session “Problems of encouraging voters’ participation”

14:00 – 14:15 Mrs Kristina Lemon, Election Authority, Senior Administrative Officer, Sweden
“Effectiveness of voters’ information and its impact on participation”

14:15 – 14:30 Ms Maria Gratschew, International Institute for Democracy and Electoral, IDEA, Programme Officer, Sweden
“National and international measures to enhance and secure participation including special groups of voters”

14:30 – 16:00 *Questions and Discussion*

- 16:00 – 16:30 Proposals for the subject of the 4th European Management Bodies Conference in Strasbourg in May 2007 (which could be organised in co-operation with ACEEEO)¹
Mr Toth, Secretary General of ACEEEO, Hungary
Mr Cimdars, President of the Executive Board Committee of the ACEEEO, President of the Central Electoral Commission of Latvia (*to be confirmed*)
- 16:30 - 16:45 Conclusions of the Conference
- Possible Press conference:
Mr Alexander Albertovich Veshnyakov, Chairman of the Central Electoral Commission of the Russian Federation
Representative of the Venice Commission
- 17:00 *Coffee break*

¹ Association of Electoral Management Bodies of Central and Eastern Europe.