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EUROPEAN COMMISSION FOR DEMOCRACY THROUGH LAW
(VENICE COMMISSION)

in co-operation with
Moscow State Institute of International Relations - MGIMO
Moscow - Russia

CONFERENCE ON ELECTORAL LAW AND PRACTICE

IN COUNCIL OF EUROPE MEMBER STATES

MGIMO, Moscow, 28-29 April 2008

PROGRAMME

28 April 2008

9.30 – 10.00 Registration.

10.00 – 10.45 **Opening of the Conference**

Moderator: Mark ENTIN – Director, European Studies Institute at MGIMO University of the MFA of Russia

1. Gianni BUQUICCHIO (Secretary General, Venice Commission) «The role of the Venice Commission in the development of electoral standards in Europe ».
2. Valery ZORKIN (President, Constitutional Court of the Russian Federation; Member, Venice Commission) «The role of the Constitutional Court of the Russian Federation in protection of electoral rights of citizens»
3. Vladislav GRIB (Member, Public Chamber of the Russian Federation)
4. Representative, Central Election Commission of the Russian Federation

10.45 – 13.30 **Session 1. Evolution of electoral law and practice in comparative perspective**

Moderator: Gianni BUQUICCHIO – Secretary General, Venice Commission

1. Yuri LEIBO «Development of electoral law in the countries of the Council of Europe»
2. David FARRELL «Comparison of electoral systems in the countries of the Council of Europe»
3. Nikolay VASILIEV «Record of human political rights protection of Ombudsman in the Russian Federation: problems and prospects»

13.30 – 14.30 *Lunch*

14.30-17.30 **Session 2. The Right to vote and to be elected: international standards.**

Moderator: Oleg BARABANOV – Head, Chair of politics and functioning of the EU and the Council of Europe, European Studies Institute at MGIMO University of the MFA of Russia

1. Ugo E. MIFSUD BONNICI «Electoral standards of the Council of Europe»
2. Mikhail BIRUKOV «Implementation of the electoral law in the European Union»
3. Alexander KYNEV «Russian political practice in the context of international electoral standards»
4. Yuri CHERNYSHOV «Regional practice in the Altai Territory»

17.30 *Reception*

29 April 2008

10.00 – 13.00 **Session 3. Judicial and civic protection of electoral rights**

Moderator: Mikhail BIRUKOV – Head, Chair of European law, MGIMO.

1. Vladislav GRIB «Practice of the Public Chamber of the Russian Federation» (invited)
2. Andre KVAKKESTAD «Judicial protection of the right to vote and to be elected – national experience and international standards»
3. Artem MALGIN «Electoral standards in the CIS»
4. Ksenia BORISHPOLETS «Electoral legislation and record of political competition in Central Asia states »
5. Leonid GUSEV «Electoral Legislation in Kazakhstan»

12.15 – 12.30 **Closing of the Conference.**

12.30 *Coffee-break*