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Council of Europe Congress to observe local elections in Moldova

Strasbourg, 01.06.2011 - A delegation from the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe will observe the local elections in Moldova on 5 June 2011.

On 2, 3 and 4 June the delegation will hold meetings in Chisinau with representatives of government, the opposition, electoral bodies and political parties, notably with the Minister of Labour, Social Protection and Family, Valentina BULIGA, candidate for the Democratic Party, and Igor DODON, candidate for the Party of Communists, for the Mayor of Chisinau, as well as with electoral staff of other candidates.

The delegation is due to meet with Iurie CIOCAN, Chair of the Central Election Commission (CEC), and with representatives of associations of local and regional authorities in Moldova.

Views will be exchanged with representatives of the diplomatic community, international organisations, including OSCE-ODIHR, NGOs and domestic observers as well as the media.

On 5 June, nine Congress delegations will be deployed to several regions of the country to observe the elections.

A pre-election mission was carried out mid-May to assess the political situation, the campaign and the preparations for the organisation of this vote. The three-member delegation of the Congress met, amongst others, with the Minister of Regional Development and Construction Marcel RADUCAN, with Deputy Minister of Information Technologies and Communications Mihaela IACOB and with the Mayor of Chisinau Dorin CHIRTOACA from the Liberal Party.

The Congress delegation will present its preliminary findings at a **joint press conference** with the ODIHR delegation, scheduled for Monday 6 June 2011 (time to be confirmed), at the Hotel Leogrand, Chisinau.

The Congress delegation

Britt Marie LÖVGREN, Sweden (ILDG), Head of delegation
Hannes WENINGER, Austria (SOC), Rapporteur for the election observation mission to Moldova
Francis LEC, France (SOC), Congress country Rapporteur

Enzo BROGI, Italy (SOC)
Sarita BUSH, United Kingdom (ILDG)
Petros FILIPPOU, Greece (ILDG)
Irmeli HENTTONEN, Finland (ILDG)
Mihkel JUHKAMI, Estonia (EPP/CD)
Anthony MIFSUD, Malta (EPP/CD)
Mihalj NJILAS, Serbia (EPP/CD)
Valentina ROSSI, San Marino (SOC)
Sevdia UGREKHELIDZE, Georgia (EPP/CD)

Members of the EU Committee of the Regions

Väino HALLIKMÄGI, Estonia (ALDE), Speaker of the CoR members
Ursula MÄNNLE, Germany (EPP)
Uno SILBERG, Estonia, (EA)

Jerzy ZAJAKALA, Poland, (EA)

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Web : [File "Observation of elections"](#)

The Congress has two chambers, the Chamber of Local Authorities and the Chamber of Regions. It brings together 318 full and 318 substitute members representing more than 200 000 European territorial communities.

President of the Congress: Keith Whitmore (United Kingdom, ILDG), President of the Chamber of Regions: Herwig van Staa (Austria, EPP/CD), President of the Chamber of Local Authorities: Jean-Paul Frécon (France, SOC)

Political Groups: Socialist Group (SOC), Group of the European People's Party – Christian Democrats (EPP/CD), Independent and Liberal Democrat Group (ILDG).