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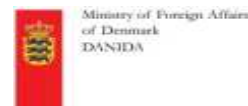
PROMO-LEX ASSOCIATION

PRESS RELEASE nr.3

Monitoring of the general local elections, June 5th 2011

Monitoring Period: from 17:00 up to the close of voting
on Election Day (June 5th 2011)

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Closing of the voting stations

At the majority of voting stations voting continued smoothly, without interruptions to the voting process. The majority of voting stations closed at the correct time of 21:00. Voting, however, continued for 30 minutes after this time in at least 4 voting stations (at three voting stations in Chisinau, and at a voting station in the village of Bulboci, Soroca rayon)

Incompatible functions and offices

Observers continued to report new cases involving conflicts of interest.

In the village of Izvoare, Sîngerei rayon, Ludmila Botnarenco was the PEB president, while Mihaiela Botnarenco was a candidate for the office of councillor. A similar situation – involving a conflict of interests owing to a familial relationship between the individuals involved – was noted at voting station nr.15/3 in Corjova, Dubasari rayon.

At voting station nr.50 in Valea Norocului, Bălți rayon, it was noted that the PEB president Ruslan Nichicin was a close relative of the PLDM candidate for the office of councillor, Claudia Nichicin.

Continued political campaigning

As voting began earlier in the today, Promo-LEX observers reported a large number of instances of continued electoral campaigning. The monitoring mission continued to register more instances of continued political campaigning, a further 10 cases being reported for the period covered by this latest report (from 17:00 up to the close of voting). Instances of continued political campaigning were recorded at the following voting stations: at a voting station in Unchitești, Florești rayon; at voting station nr.21 in Floreni, Anenii Noi (involving 2 electoral candidates); in the village of Gura Bîcului; at voting station nr.33 in Roșcani, Anenii Noi rayon; at a voting station in Hlinaia, Edineț rayon; at voting station nr.14/18 in Gribove, Drochia rayon, at voting stations nr.6 in Fîrlădeni and nr.42 in Tănătari, Căușeni rayon; at a voting station in the village of Camenca, Glodeni rayon; at voting station nr.92 in Chisinau; and at a voting station in Borgeac, Cahul rayon.

Attempts to take ballot papers outside the voting stations

Promo-LEX observers noted another attempt to take ballot papers outside a voting station.

At voting station nr.255 in Durlăuți, Chisinau, one voter tried to take their ballot paper outside the voting station. After the intervention of the PEB president – Victor Celan – the voter returned inside the voting station and put his ballot paper into the ballot box.

At voting station nr.16/41 in Fîntîna Albă, Edineț rayon, an attempt at multiple voting by one voter was prevented. The incident is being investigated by police.

The sale of alcoholic drinks in the vicinity of voting stations

Promo-LEX observers noted another instance in which alcoholic drinks were being sold in the vicinity of a voting station – namely at voting station nr.30 in Lingura, Cantemir rayon.

Inadequate knowledge of the electoral procedures

Promo-LEX observers noted new cases in which members of the electoral bodies demonstrated inadequate knowledge of electoral procedures. This led to certain deviations from electoral norms, and cases in which different PEB members dealt in different ways with the same situation.

In the village of Cărpineni, in the Hîncești rayon, one voter was allowed to vote solely on the basis of the attachment to his identity card (the card itself was not presented). The PEB members present decided unanimously to allow the voter in question to vote.

In the village of Cobusca Veche, Anenii Noi rayon, a voter left one of his three ballot papers in the voting booth. This was noted by the PEB members present, but the latter had to ask for instructions as to how to proceed further.

In the village of Moscovei, Cahul rayon, 67 requests were made to vote at home. Whilst the mobile ballot box was being taken to the various addresses, the mobile observation team noted one case in which the signature on the request did not correspond with the voter's signature. In another case, a voter insisted that, seeing that his religion did not permit him to vote, he had not submitted a request to vote at home. When the ballot box arrived, however, the daughter of the man in question voted for herself, *and* for her mother and father.

In the village of Bulboaca, Briceni rayon, 100 ballot papers were lacking in the election for the office of rayonal councillor.

At voting station nr.184 in Chisinau it was found that one voter – U.V. – voted on the basis of his military service record, which was stamped “Local Elections June 5”.

Refusals to grant ballot papers and limitations of the right to vote

At voting station nr.15/2 in Cocieri, 40 voters who were in hospital and who had requested to be allowed to vote there were not able to exercise their right to vote, since the access road between the village of Cocieri and Corjova was blocked by separatist forces and it was thus not possible to ensure the security of the mobile ballot box and ballot papers. At voting station nr.53 in the village of Moscovei, Cahul rayon, one case was reported in which 4 voters were not granted their ballot papers on the grounds that their identity documents did not bear the stamp confirming their place of residence.

In the village of Micăuți in the Strășeni rayon, a candidate for the office of mayor, Constantin Tudor (a member of the PD party) is now being investigated because, apparently, having somehow found two Identity Cards, he refused to return them to their owners (a Mr and Mrs Stavilă). The latter subsequently had to request special forms so as to be able to vote. Mr Tudor allegedly requested that the Identity Cards be exchanged for a plot of land that Mr and Mrs Stavilă own. The case is now with the Public Prosecutor's Office.

Transportation organised to take voters to the voting stations

Promo-LEX observers continued to note instances of transport being organised (by interested parties) to take voters to the voting stations. Cases of this were recorded in the village of Zgordești in the Telenești rayon; in the village of Zubrești, Strășeni rayon; in the village of Chirca, Anenii Noi rayon; in the village of Fîrlădeni, Căușeni rayon; in the town of Criuleni; in the town of Taraclia; in the village of Izbiște, Criuleni rayon; and in the village of Borogani, Leova rayon. More seriously, at voting station nr.11 in the town of Comrat, PEB members were

observed copying the details of voters who had not presented themselves at the voting station. These details were subsequently passed on to unknown persons outside the premises of the voting station.

Errors in the electoral rolls

Promo-LEX observers continued to note cases in which the electoral rolls had been drawn up with errors.

At voting station nr.1 in Dondușeni, citizen H.T.V. – born 1951, place 15 in the electoral roll– appeared as having been dead for two years.

At voting station nr.4 in Basarabasca, a case was noted in which the names, surnames and identity numbers of certain voters did not correspond. PEB members made corrections to the electoral rolls.

At a voting station in the village of Sărata Nouă, Leova rayon, at least 5 voters could not find themselves on the electoral lists.

A resident of the town of Dondușeni, V.R. – born 1974, Identity card number A 11007491 – was included in the electoral rolls at two voting stations: voting station nr.1 and voting station nr.2. On one list his address appeared as str. Independenței, on the other as str. Cantemir.

In Chisinau, at voting station nr.76, voter M.N., with the address str. Drumul Crucii 97/1, ap.27, found that another two people were registered as living in his apartment. One of them had already voted.

In many localities in the rayon of Cimișila, significant growth was noted in the number of voters voting on the supplementary rolls. In the village of Topala, for example, 813 people were included in the basic electoral rolls, and 90 in the supplementary rolls. In the village of Selemet 1200 were included in the basic electoral rolls, and 44 in the supplementary rolls. In the village of Ialpujeni, 750 were included in the basic electoral rolls, and 25 in the supplementary rolls.

At voting station nr.248 in Chisinau, 43 voters were included on the supplementary electoral roll who had received their residence certificate on the day of the vote.

Photographing of ballot papers in the voting booths

In the town on Bălți, at voting station nr.39, a voter was observed taking a photograph within the voting booth. The head of the voting station addressed the voter in question, after which the latter erased the photograph and apologised.

Conflict situations

Promo-LEX observers noted at least two instances of conflict: at voting station nr.26/37 in Soloncei, Rezina rayon, and voting station nr.9 in Bașcalia, Basarabasca rayon.

Lack of clarity on the ballot papers

At a voting station in the town of Anenii Noi the name of the political party appearing next to the name of one candidate was misleading: Instead of 'Partidul Socialiștilor' the ballot paper read 'Partidul Socialist'.