



**Delegation of Ukraine  
to the OSCE**

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**Statement**  
**by the Delegation of Ukraine**

As for delivery by Ambassador Ihor Prokopchuk  
to the 928<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Permanent Council,  
1 November 2012

**Mr. Chairperson,**

**Ladies and gentlemen,**

Last Sunday parliamentary elections were held in Ukraine. The Ukrainian authorities have taken all necessary measures to provide a basis for the conduct of elections in compliance with national legislation and Ukraine's international obligations and commitments. On the whole, the elections were successful and legitimate.

One of the commitments, undertaken by all OSCE participating States under the Copenhagen Document, is invitation of international observers for monitoring elections. In line with this commitment Ukraine issued an exceptionally early invitation to the OSCE ODIHR and other competent international institutions to monitor the election process in Ukraine, and welcomed them without any restrictions or limitations. A total number of 3797 international observers, including over 700 OSCE observers, arrived in Ukraine and received all necessary assistance from the Ukrainian side. In our view, the work done by the ODIHR in proper organizing such a large-scale mission, deserve appreciation and support from OSCE participating States.

Ukraine highly values the work of those observers who have demonstrated an impartial, balanced and politically disengaged approach during election observation.

According to the preliminary results of the elections, five political parties, as well as independent candidates of wide variety of political views, will be represented in the new Ukrainian Parliament. This very fact and the conduct of the electoral campaign demonstrated that the Ukrainian society enjoys a very competitive political environment. In addition, the absence of censorship in the mass media in Ukraine contributed to voters' access to different political views, thus allowing them to make an informed unrestricted choice.

[The vote counting is still ongoing, and the deadline set by electoral legislation for announcement of results is 12 November.]

The Ukrainian side is thoroughly studying the preliminary statement of findings and conclusions of the International Election Observation Mission. We always listen very carefully and take seriously recommendations for potential improvements, made by international organizations and our partners. The President of Ukraine emphasized that the Ukrainian side will work with international community to address the shortcomings identified by observers with a view to further consolidating democratic conduct of future elections.

In this regard, we would invite interested OSCE participating States to also carefully study the findings and conclusions of the ODIHR in their entirety, and not to pull out its parts out of the general context. The complexity of the elections in Ukraine reflects the complexity and multi-party nature of the highly competitive political life in our country. Therefore the statements and assessments of the elections will never satisfy everyone both inside and outside Ukraine.

After the elections all political forces, represented in the new Parliament, are expected to consolidate their efforts to conduct constructive work to move forward the agenda of democratic and economic reforms with the aim of advancing on the road of Ukraine's European integration.

Let me take this opportunity to thank all our partners, who have expressed their commitment to continue supporting Ukraine in the progressive reform process, aimed at further strengthening democratic institutions, rule of law and advancing essential economic reforms.

We also hope that the parliamentarians of OSCE participating States will demonstrate their readiness for the development of constructive partnership relations with the new Parliament of Ukraine.

Thank you.