



Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights

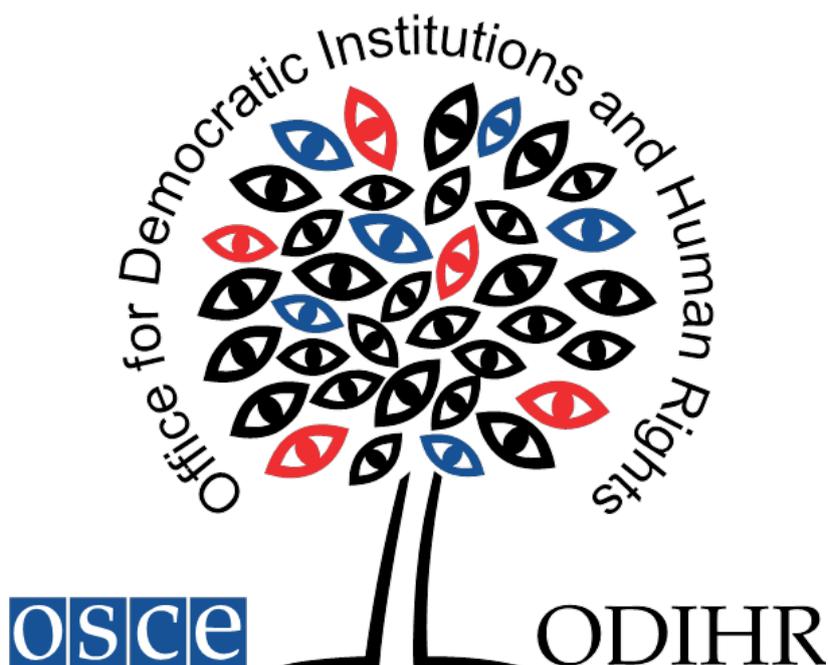
REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA

PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION

30 October 2016

OSCE/ODIHR NEEDS ASSESSMENT MISSION REPORT

11-14 July 2016



Warsaw
5 August 2016

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**REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA
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OSCE/ODIHR Needs Assessment Mission Report

I. INTRODUCTION

Following an official invitation to observe the 30 October 2016 presidential election and in accordance with its mandate, the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (OSCE/ODIHR) undertook a Needs Assessment Mission (NAM) from 11 to 14 July. The NAM included Steven Martin, OSCE/ODIHR Senior Adviser on New Voting Technologies, and Oleksii Lychkovakh, OSCE/ODIHR Election Adviser. The NAM was joined by Farimah Daftary, Programme Officer, OSCE Parliamentary Assembly.

The purpose of the mission was to assess the pre-election environment and preparations for the presidential election. Based on this assessment, the NAM should recommend whether to deploy an OSCE/ODIHR election-related activity for the forthcoming election, and if so, what type of activity best meets the identified needs. Meetings were held with officials from state institutions, as well as with representatives of political parties, media, civil society and the international community. A list of meetings is annexed to this report.

The OSCE/ODIHR would like to thank the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Integration and the OSCE Mission to Moldova for their assistance and co-operation in organizing the NAM. The OSCE/ODIHR would also like to thank all of its interlocutors for taking the time to meet with the mission and to share their views.

II. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The upcoming presidential election scheduled for 30 October will be the first direct presidential election since 1996. The election was called as a result of a decision by the Constitutional Court on 4 March that the constitutional revision in 2000 stipulating that the president be indirectly elected by the parliament was unconstitutional.

The Constitutional Court decision necessitated amendments to the Election Code. Amendments were drafted in April, adopted by National Assembly (parliament) in the second reading on 23 June and promulgated by the President on 27 July. They primarily focus on provisions specifically pertaining to presidential elections, with more general aspects of the election legislation largely unchanged. Several previous OSCE/ODIHR and Council of Europe's Commission for Democracy through Law (Venice Commission) recommendations were partially addressed; however, a number of issues remain unaddressed, in particular with regard to supporting signature collection and verification, financing and conduct of the electoral campaign, sanctions on election violations and campaign restrictions. OSCE/ODIHR NAM interlocutors expressed concern over an insufficient level of consultation in the drafting process and that the process of finalising the amendments and developing supporting regulations would only be completed shortly before the election.

The election will be managed by three levels of election administration, headed by the Central Election Commission (CEC). At all levels, the election administration includes political party representatives proportional to their representation in parliament. OSCE/ODIHR NAM interlocutors generally noted the CEC's professionalism and capacity to administer elections; however, they also

raised concern over the ability of CEC members to independently undertake their work referencing several potentially politically motivated decisions in the past.

Citizens of at least 18 years of age by election day have the right to vote, with notable exceptions for certain categories of voters. Polling stations will be established in diplomatic representations abroad based on newly established criteria that aim to address previous OSCE/ODIHR recommendations. Despite these amendments, many OSCE/ODIHR NAM interlocutors deemed the new criteria insufficiently comprehensive and representative to capture the situation of eligible voters abroad.

Eligible voters of at least 40 years of age that have resided in Moldova for a minimum of ten years and possess proficiency in the state language are eligible to run for office. A number of interlocutors opined that the age restriction was meant to exclude specific potential contestants and noted uncertainty over the procedures to verify the language proficiency of candidates. Each candidate is required to submit from 15,000 to 25,000 voter signatures from across the country. OSCE/ODIHR NAM interlocutors expressed concern that voters can only sign in support of one candidate, as well as with regard to the short period and lack of clarity of regulations concerning verification of the lists.

According to the amendments, the campaign will last from 30 days until 24 hours before election day. Amendments stipulate the same campaign start date for all contestants, which aims to address a previous OSCE/ODIHR recommendation to ensure equal campaign opportunities. OSCE/ODIHR NAM interlocutors raised numerous concerns about the ability to campaign freely, alleging ongoing intimidation of candidates and their supporters and noting expected restrictions on campaign activities, potential vote-buying and the misuse of administrative resources. Some OSCE/ODIHR NAM interlocutors specifically mentioned the ability of local authorities to exert pressure on voters and also cited instances of indirect campaigning already underway.

Substantial amendments regulating party and campaign finance were adopted in 2015. The CEC is responsible for party and campaign finance oversight and should verify contestants' financial reports for accuracy and compliance. Overall, OSCE/ODIHR NAM interlocutors stated that, while campaign finance regulations have improved, concern remain that the CEC does not sufficiently enforce the regulations and that significant financial resources could still be used for election purposes without disclosure.

The country has a variety of media outlets, including some 70 television channels, both national and local. Television serves as the primary source of election-related information with online media playing an increasing role, particularly in urban areas. Most OSCE/ODIHR NAM interlocutors noted the dominant role of one media holding group affiliated to one of the political parties, which results in a high degree of ownership concentration and could limit media pluralism.

All OSCE/ODIHR NAM interlocutors welcomed an OSCE/ODIHR observation activity for the upcoming election and many noted that a strong OSCE/ODIHR presence was needed given the limited level of confidence in various aspects of the electoral process. While some previous OSCE/ODIHR recommendations have been considered, a number remain unaddressed. OSCE/ODIHR NAM interlocutors emphasized the necessity of a robust and long-term OSCE/ODIHR presence to comprehensively observe the election campaign as well as election day proceedings, with specific reference made to counting and the tabulation of results. In considering an observation activity, the OSCE/ODIHR NAM has taken into account the various findings outlined in this report and the concerns expressed by stakeholders. Specific aspects that could merit review include the amended legal framework and its implementation, candidate registration,

including signature collection and verification, the conduct of the electoral campaign, in particular a potential misuse of administrative resources, the role of the media, and the conduct of election day.

Based on the findings of this report, the OSCE/ODIHR NAM recommends the deployment of an Election Observation Mission (EOM) to assess the 2016 presidential election for its compliance with OSCE commitments, other international obligations and standards for democratic elections and domestic legislation. In addition to a core team of experts, the OSCE/ODIHR NAM recommends the secondment of 20 long-term observers from OSCE participating States to follow the election process countrywide, as well as 200 short-term observers to follow election day proceedings. In line with OSCE/ODIHR's standard methodology, the EOM would include a media monitoring element. Given the number of concurrent election-related activities taking place across the OSCE region in 2016, the deployment of an EOM to the 2016 presidential election in Moldova will be contingent upon availability of resources.

III. FINDINGS

A. BACKGROUND AND POLITICAL CONTEXT

Moldova is a parliamentary republic with executive power exercised by the government and legislative power vested in the National Assembly (parliament). The president serves as the head of state and holds certain limited functions and authority, including on foreign policy and national defence.

The upcoming presidential election will be the first direct presidential election since 1996. On 4 March, the Constitutional Court declared that the constitutional revision from 2000 stipulating that the president is indirectly elected by parliament was unconstitutional.¹ As a result of this decision, on 1 April, the parliament called the presidential election for 30 October.

The current political context is characterised by a general lack of confidence in state institutions resulting from multiple corruption scandals, notably in the banking sector, as well as economic stagnation and a continuing division within the society over the geopolitical direction of the country.² Throughout 2015 and beginning of 2016, a series of demonstrations took place across the country opposing corruption and the government, facilitated by a newly created movement, the Dignity and Truth Platform (DA), along with several opposition parties. In October 2015, following the protests, the parliament dismissed the government by a vote of non-confidence.

In January 2016, after repeated failures to form a new government, parliamentary factions of the Democratic Party (PDM) and Liberal Party (PL), supported by a number of non-aligned members of parliament (MPs), agreed on a new government.³ In reaction to the government's appointment,

¹ From 2000 to 2016, the president was elected by a 3/5 parliamentary majority. The Constitutional Court decision resulted from a challenge submitted by the Liberal Democratic Party (PLDM) in 2015.

² The largest corruption case relates to the embezzlement of approximately MDL 13.5 billion (some EUR 700 million (1 EUR equals approximately 22 Moldovan Leu, MDL), equivalent to 16 per cent of the gross domestic product) from the *Banca de Economii* (with 56 per cent of shares owned by the state) and two private banks in 2014. Former prime-minister and ex-leader of the PLDM Vlad Filat was arrested in October 2015 and imprisoned for nine years in June 2016 on corruption-related charges. Several other high profile figures are also under investigation.

³ The current 101-seat parliament comprises 33 members representing the governing parties (Democratic Party (PDM) – 20, Liberal Party (PL) – 13), 43 members in opposition (Party of Socialists (PSRM) – 24, PLDM – 12, Party of Communists (PRCM) – 7), and 25 non-aligned members (elected mostly through PLDM and PRCM party lists).

protests restarted and culminated with the storming of the parliament as well as the opposition calling for another vote of non-confidence.

The OSCE/ODIHR has previously observed twelve elections in Moldova.⁴ The most recent OSCE/ODIHR Limited Election Observation Mission deployed for the June 2015 local elections concluded that the “elections were efficiently administered and offered the electorate a diverse choice. They were held in a context of political turmoil due to a massive financial scandal and the Prime Minister’s resignation two days before the elections. The campaign environment was strongly impacted by the division of political forces and society over the country’s future orientation.” The final report included recommendations for the authorities on how to improve the electoral processes and bring them more closely in line with OSCE commitments.⁵

B. LEGAL FRAMEWORK AND ELECTORAL SYSTEM

The legal framework for the presidential election primarily includes the 1994 Constitution, the 1997 Election Code (amended in 2016) and the 2007 Law on Political Parties. It is supplemented by other laws, including relevant sections of the Criminal and Administrative Codes, and Central Election Commission (CEC) regulations and decisions.

The Constitutional Court decision from 4 March necessitated changes to the Election Code to legislate presidential election.⁶ The required amendments passed the first reading in parliament in April, which was followed by a request to the OSCE/ODIHR and Council of Europe’s Commission for Democracy through Law (Venice Commission) to provide an opinion on the draft changes. The joint opinion concluded that the draft amendments were “generally in accordance with international obligations and standards, and, if properly implemented, should enable presidential elections to take place in conformity with them, however, several draft provisions would benefit from further revision or clarification”.⁷

The amendments primarily focus on provisions specifically pertaining to presidential election, with more general aspects of the election legislation largely unchanged. Several previous OSCE/ODIHR and Venice Commission recommendations were partially addressed, including with regard to out-of-country voting and candidate registration. However, a number of other issues remain unaddressed, in particular, on signature collection and verification, the financing and conduct of the electoral campaign, sanctions on election violations and campaign restrictions. On 23 June, the amendments passed the second reading and were promulgated by the president on 27 July.

While OSCE/ODIHR NAM stakeholders acknowledged the need to amend the legislation, party representatives expressed concern that the process of finalizing the amendments and developing supporting regulations would only be completed shortly before the election. In addition, civil society representatives raised issue over the abridged period of drafting the amendments and an overall insufficient level of consultation.⁸

⁴ See [previous OSCE/ODIHR election reports on Moldova](#).

⁵ In paragraph 25 of the 1999 OSCE Istanbul Document, OSCE participating States committed themselves to “follow up promptly the ODIHR’s election assessment and recommendation”.

⁶ One provision was retained in relation to the age requirement of candidates – see *candidate registration section*.

⁷ See the OSCE/ODIHR and Venice Commission [Joint Opinion on Amendments to the Election Code of the Republic of Moldova, 9 June 2016](#).

⁸ On 9 June, 23 civil society organizations issued an appeal stating the lack of inclusiveness in the process of drafting the amendments and indicated various shortcomings. The appeal included a request for public debates on the draft. Debate was held once before the second reading and according to civil society organizations, the level of debate was insufficient and few of their proposals were considered.

According to the amendments, the president is elected for a four-year term through a single nationwide constituency. For the election to be valid, participation is required from at least one third of registered voters. A candidate is considered to be elected if s/he is supported by at least half of the valid votes cast. If no candidate obtains the required number of votes, a second round is held two weeks later between the two candidates who obtained the most votes. In the second round, the candidate who obtains the higher number of votes is considered elected regardless of voter turnout.

C. ELECTION ADMINISTRATION

The election will be managed by three levels of election administration: the CEC, 35 District Electoral Councils (DECs) and some 2,000 Precinct Electoral Bureaus (PEBs). The CEC consists of nine members, two of whom, the Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson, are women. The CEC is appointed for a five-year term, with current members appointed in June 2016; eight members are appointed by parliament and one by the president.

DECs and PEBs are established for each election. DECs consist of 7 to 11 members nominated by local courts and councils, as well as parliamentary parties. PEBs consist of 5 to 11 members nominated by local councils and parliamentary parties. At all levels, political party representation in election commissions is proportional to their representation in parliament.

The CEC has already commenced election preparations; however, many of its regulations have yet to be finalized following the adoption of the Election Code amendments. Through its training centre, the CEC continually undertakes a series of training programmes for election stakeholders, and is already developing activities targeting lower-level election staff. Voter education campaigns, as well as general electoral awareness activities are also envisioned. The CEC also informed the OSCE/ODIHR NAM that they undertake activities to facilitate voting of people with disabilities. This includes agreements with mayors to improve accessibility of the polling station locations as well as conduct of special awareness and mobilisation campaigns.

OSCE/ODIHR NAM interlocutors generally noted the CEC's professionalism and capacity to administer elections; however, they also raised concern over the ability of CEC members to independently undertake their work and referenced several potentially politically motivated decisions in the past. Some of them also expressed concern that the CEC membership had been almost completely renewed and that the new members might therefore lack experience.

As in previous elections, voting is not expected to take place on the territory under the *de facto* control of the Transdnistrian authorities. However, to facilitate their participation, the CEC is undertaking preparations for Moldovan citizens residing in Transdnistria to vote in designated polling stations.

D. VOTER REGISTRATION

Citizens of at least 18 years of age by election day have the right to vote. Individuals declared incapable by a final court decision, serving a prison sentence, or with an active criminal record, as well as conscripted military personnel, are deprived of voting rights, despite previous OSCE/ODIHR recommendations.

Voter registration is passive. Voter lists are compiled based on information in the State Register of Voters (SRV), which is extracted from the State Population Register maintained by the Centre for State Information Resources "*Registru*". Voter lists are managed by the CEC and extracts of the

lists should be displayed at polling stations for public scrutiny 20 days before the election allowing voters to verify their data and request corrections. Voter data will also be available online on the CEC website.

Certain categories of voters omitted from voter lists can be added to supplementary voter lists on election day. This includes voters able to prove their residence within the boundaries of the precinct, as well as students, voters from Transdniestria, those with absentee voting certificates, with no current residence/domicile at their previous polling station, and those who require mobile voting. To prevent multiple voting voter eligibility is verified in the electronic voter register at polling stations on election day. OSCE/ODIHR NAM interlocutors noted general confidence in the integrity of the voter registry, although some noted concerns that it may not be sufficiently accurate citing delays in updating the information on deceased voters or those who have changed addresses.⁹

Voters abroad are eligible to vote in polling stations established in diplomatic representations abroad as well as additional locations proposed by the authorities. In response to OSCE/ODIHR recommendations on the need to establish clear criteria on determining the number and location of polling stations abroad, amendments stipulate two criteria to consider: the number of voters who participated in previous elections and the results of voluntary online pre-registration for out-of-country voters. Despite these amendments, many OSCE/ODIHR NAM interlocutors deemed the new criteria insufficiently comprehensive or representative to capture the situation of eligible voters abroad.¹⁰

E. CANDIDATE REGISTRATION

Eligible voters of at least 40 years of age that have resided in Moldova for a minimum of ten years and possess a proficiency in the state language are eligible to run for office.¹¹ The OSCE/ODIHR and Venice Commission have noted that such an age requirement could be considered high and that the residency requirement is overly restrictive. A number of interlocutors opined that the age restriction was meant to exclude specific potential contestants and noted uncertainty over the procedures to verify the language proficiency of candidates.

Candidates can participate in the election individually or as a nominee of a political party or a bloc; each candidate must first establish an initiative group consisting of 25 to 100 voters, registered with the CEC. Candidate nomination takes place from 60 to 30 days before election day. Each candidate is required to submit from 15,000 to 25,000 voter signatures from at least 18 of 35 administrative units; a minimum of 600 signatures is required from any given unit.¹²

OSCE/ODIHR NAM interlocutors noted that despite previous OSCE/ODIHR recommendations, voters can only support one candidate, which could limit political pluralism and lead to potential cases of signature invalidation if individuals support multiple candidates. Moreover, the requirement of mayors to certify signature lists was noted as potentially problematic given their perceived political affiliation to potential candidates. Some also noted the potential confusion which

⁹ OSCE/ODIHR NAM interlocutors raised concern over delays in publishing the results from the 2014 national census based on which the number of voters could be compared to the total number of citizens.

¹⁰ The CEC is responsible for managing the online pre-registration and noted that less than 200 voters abroad had indicated their intention to vote in the upcoming election.

¹¹ The Constitutional Court retained the 2000 constitutional amendment stipulating a minimum age of 40 years for presidential candidates. Prior to the 2000 constitutional changes, the minimum age for a presidential candidate was 35 years.

¹² Moldova is divided into 37 electoral districts. Signature collection in Bender and Tiraspol, located on the territory controlled by the Transdniestrian *de facto* authorities, will not be undertaken.

could be caused amongst voters during the signature collection period by ‘clone’ parties with similar names collecting signatures in the same territorial units.

Signature lists have to be verified by the CEC within five days of submission, but not later than 1 October – the official start of the campaign. Several OSCE/ODIHR NAM interlocutors, including the CEC, expressed concern with the short period to sufficiently verify the lists and some raised concern on the lack of comprehensive regulation over the verification process.

F. ELECTION CAMPAIGN

According to the amendments, the campaign will last from 30 days until 24 hours before election day. Campaigning prior to this period, including during candidate registration, is prohibited. Amendments now stipulate the same campaign start date for all contestants, which aims to address previous OSCE/ODIHR recommendation to ensure equal campaign opportunities. A number of OSCE/ODIHR NAM interlocutors opined that the campaign period is not long enough and benefits established candidates and their supporting parties with significant financial and media resources.

Local authorities are required to establish locations for posting campaign materials and holding rallies. The OSCE/ODIHR previously recommended considering providing contestants with places sufficient in number and size to post campaign materials. Parties and movements met with by the OSCE/ODIHR NAM stated their intention to campaign through door-to-door visits, rallies and meetings with voters and to use advertisements in traditional media as well as intensively through social media.

OSCE/ODIHR NAM interlocutors raised numerous concerns about the ability to campaign freely, alleging ongoing intimidation of candidates and their supporters, expected restrictions on campaign activities, potential vote-buying and the misuse of administrative resources. Some OSCE/ODIHR NAM interlocutors specifically mentioned the influence of local authorities to exert pressure on voters and also cited instances of indirect campaigning already underway.

G. CAMPAIGN FINANCING

Party and campaign finance is regulated by the Election Code, the Laws on Political Parties, on Administrative Offences, and on the Court of Accounts, and the Criminal Code and supplemented by CEC regulations. Following public consultations, substantial legal amendments regulating party and campaign finance were adopted in 2015. Some previous recommendations by the OSCE/ODIHR, Venice Commission and the Council of Europe’s Group of States against Corruption (GRECO) were addressed, including enhancing oversight, introducing more comprehensive reporting requirements and stipulating criteria for spending limits.

Political parties can be financed through donations, membership fees and state subventions. For the first time, public funding totalling some MDL 40 million has been allocated for the parties, although most party representatives met with by the OSCE/ODIHR NAM were unsure of how to access such funds, and if they can be used for this election.¹³

Contestant campaigns are financed from their own funds and donations. Funding from foreign, state, public and anonymous sources and from non-profit and charitable organizations and trade unions is prohibited. Despite previous OSCE/ODIHR recommendation, donations from out-of-country income remains prohibited. Donation caps for individuals and legal entities are set at 200

¹³ Funds are allocated proportionally based on a party’s previous results in parliamentary and local elections.

and 400 average monthly salaries, respectively.¹⁴ The spending limit of contestants is determined by the CEC, but has yet to be set for this election. All expenses during the campaign have to be made via dedicated bank accounts.

The CEC is responsible for party and campaign finance oversight. It receives and publishes bi-weekly financial reports from contestants on its website, and is required to verify their accuracy and compliance. The CEC noted that it intends to introduce new electronic reporting templates, which have yet to be finalized. The CEC may impose sanctions or request other competent bodies to act in response to irregularities or non-compliance. The law, however, does not specify these bodies nor regulates co-operation between the CEC and other state authorities, such as the National Anticorruption Centre or State Tax Inspectorate.

Overall, OSCE/ODIHR NAM interlocutors stated that while campaign finance regulations have improved, there is concern that the CEC does not sufficiently enforce them and that significant financial resources could still be used for election purposes without disclosure.

H. MEDIA

Moldova has a variety of media outlets with some 70 television channels, both national and local, operating throughout the country. Television serves as the primary source of election-related information with online media playing an increasing role particularly in urban areas. Most OSCE/ODIHR NAM interlocutors noted the dominant role of one media holding group affiliated to one of the political parties, which results in a high degree of ownership concentration and could limit media pluralism.

The legal framework for media covering elections comprises the 2011 Audiovisual Code, the Election Code and other supporting legislation. The Audiovisual Code obliges all broadcasters to provide equitable conditions for all electoral contestants and to ensure fair and impartial coverage. The Election Code provides for free airtime and print space for each contestant during the campaign. The public broadcaster, *Teleradio Moldova*, intends to comply with its obligations, and has developed internal policies to cover the pre-election campaign as well as voter information, including in minority languages. All nationwide broadcasters are obliged to organize debates among the contestants or their representatives. Opportunities to purchase paid advertisement should be provided on the basis of equal conditions for all contestants. Some OSCE/ODIHR NAM interlocutors noted that due to the shortened campaign period, prices for paid advertisement have significantly increased.

Compliance with media regulations, including during elections, is overseen by the Audiovisual Co-ordination Council (CCA). Regulations outlining the details of campaign coverage are under the responsibility of the CEC and have yet to be developed for this election. The CCA is responsible to examine media-related electoral complaints. All broadcasters are obliged to submit a statement of election coverage and the CCA intends to monitor a selection of national and local broadcasters for compliance with their respective obligations. Overall, OSCE/ODIHR NAM interlocutors expressed limited confidence in the CCA to effectively apply sanctions against broadcasters for non-compliance. Moreover, they opined that the uneven media access for contestants and the use of media to discredit potential contestants would play an adverse role in the type and extent of information made available to voters.

¹⁴ MDL 1,010,000 and MDL 2,020,000, respectively. The average salary for 2016 is MDL 5,050.

A number of amendments to the Audiovisual Code are under consideration in parliament. These would aim to increase the transparency and reduce concentration of media ownership as well as limit broadcasts from abroad and promote domestic content. In reaction to these draft amendments, the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media (RFoM) stated that “it is counterproductive to try to limit speech through excessively restrictive legislation”.¹⁵

I. CITIZEN AND INTERNATIONAL ELECTION OBSERVATION

The Election Code provides for international observers, representatives of contestants and citizen observers from “competent” civil society organisations. The law defines a “competent” civil society organisation as “one which is committed under its statute to promote human rights and democratic values”. Citizen observer groups met with by the OSCE/ODIHR NAM highlighted the need to undertake a range of election-related activities, including short- and long-term observation as well as voter education initiatives and media and campaign finance monitoring.

IV. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

All OSCE/ODIHR NAM interlocutors welcomed an OSCE/ODIHR observation activity for the upcoming election and many noted that a strong OSCE/ODIHR presence was needed given the limited level of confidence in various aspects of the electoral process. While some previous OSCE/ODIHR recommendations have been considered, a number remain unaddressed. OSCE/ODIHR NAM interlocutors emphasized the necessity of a robust and long-term OSCE/ODIHR presence to comprehensively observe the election campaign as well as election day proceedings, with specific reference made to counting and the tabulation of results. In considering an observation activity, the OSCE/ODIHR NAM has taken into account the various findings outlined in this report and the concerns expressed by stakeholders. Specific aspects that could merit review include the amended legal framework and its implementation, candidate registration, including signature collection and verification, the conduct of the electoral campaign, in particular a potential misuse of administrative resources, the role of the media, and the conduct of election day.

Based on the findings of this report, the OSCE/ODIHR NAM recommends the deployment of an Election Observation Mission (EOM) to assess the 2016 presidential election for its compliance with OSCE commitments, other international obligations and standards for democratic elections and domestic legislation. In addition to a core team of experts, the OSCE/ODIHR NAM recommends the secondment of 20 long-term observers from OSCE participating States to follow the election process countrywide, as well as 200 short-term observers to follow election day proceedings. In line with OSCE/ODIHR’s standard methodology, the EOM would include a media monitoring element. Given the number of concurrent election-related activities taking place across the OSCE region in 2016, the deployment of an EOM to the 2016 presidential election in Moldova will be contingent upon availability of resources.

¹⁵ [See RFoM’s statement from 13 July 2016.](#)

ANNEX: LIST OF MEETINGS

Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Integration

Lilian Darii, Deputy Minister

Oleg Railean, Counselor, General Directorate for Consular Affairs

Ludmila Nofit, Attaché, General Directorate for Multilateral Cooperation

Ministry of Information Technology and Communication

Pavel Sincariuc, Head of Directorate for policies in the field of information technology

Iurie Golus, Head of IT Department, “*Registru*”

Svetlana Rotaru, Deputy Director of the IDs Department, “*Registru*”

Legal Committee of the Parliament

Raisa Apolschii, Member of Parliament, Chairperson

Serghei Sirbu, Member of Parliament, Deputy Chairperson

Corneliu Padnevici, Member of Parliament

Roman Botan, Member of Parliament

Tudor Deliu, Member of Parliament

Igor Vrenea, Member of Parliament

Anatolie Zagorodnii, Member of Parliament

Nae-Simion Plesca -Member of Parliament

Central Election Commission

Alina Rusu, Chairperson

Rodica Ciubotary, Deputy Chairperson

Veasceslav Agrigoroae, Secretary

Corneliu Pasat, Head of Information and Public Relations Department

Ludmila Lupasco, Head of the Elections Management Division

Olesea Jumiga, Deputy Head of the Legal Division

Audiovisual Co-ordination Council

Dinu Ciocan, Member

Mariana Onceanu–Hadirca, Head of Foreign Relations Division

Public Broadcaster – Teleradio Moldova

Olga Bordeianu, President

Tatiana Vlas, Acting director of TV

Veaceslav Gheorghesenco, Director of Radio Moldova

Svetlana Cojocar, Interim Director of Multimedia Department

Constantin Vulpe, Head of the Strategic Development Service

Political Parties and Movements

Andrei Nastase, Chairperson, DA

Vasile Nastase, Member of the Civic Platform, DA

Stanislav Pavlovschi, Deputy Chairperson, DA

Nicolae Girbu, Head of municipal organization, DA

Vladimir Voronin, President, PCRM

Irina Supac, Member of Parliament, PCRM

Elena Bondarenco, Member of Parliament, PRCM

Oleg Reidman, Member of Parliament, PCRM

Maria Postoico, Member of Parliament, PCRM
Maria Boico, Head of Office, PCRM
Dumitru Diacov, PDM
Mihai Ghimpu, President, PL
Alina Zotea, Member of Parliament, PL
Ion Casian, Member of Parliament, PL
Roman Botan, Member of Parliament, PL
Tudor Deliu, Member of Parliament, PLDM
Maria Ciobanu, Member of Parliament, PLDM
Victor Rosca, Member of Parliament, PLDM
Andrei Spinu, Vice-President, PLDM
Victoria Olari, Member of the Central Permanent Bureau, PLDM
Iulian Rusu, Member of the Permanent Bureau, People`s European Party of Moldova (PPEM_
Valeriu Chiveri, International Secretary
Ilian Casu, Deputy Chair, Our Party
Maia Sandu, Chairperson, Action and Solidarity Party (PAS)
Valerii Klimenko, Vice-President Ravnopravie
Denis Ulanov, Lawyer, Ravnopravie
Maria Albot, Adviser on economic issues, Ravnopravie
Iulian Balan, Lawyer, Ravnopravie
Vladimir Turcan, Member of Parliament, PSRM

Civil Society

Igor Botan, Association for Participatory Democracy
Pavel Postica, Promo-Lex
Sorina Stefarta, Independent Journalism Center
Ion Mazur, Association for Independent Press
Nicolae Panfil, Civil Coalition for Free and Fair Elections
Arcadie Barbarosie, Institute for Public Policy

International Community

Nadia Sacovici, International Republican Institute
Teodora Graur, International Republican Institute
Tanja Hollstein, Electoral Specialist, United Nations Development Programme
Ghenadie Barba, Deputy Head of Office, Council of Europe
Viorica Olaru, Project Officer, International Organization for Migration
Roman Purici, Project Management Specialist, USAID-Moldova
Simion Terzioglo, National Program Coordinator, International Organisation for Migration