

*Постоянно Представителство  
на Република България  
при ООН, ОССЕ и други  
международни организации  
Виена*



*Permanent Mission  
of the Republic of Bulgaria  
to the UN, the OSCE and other  
International Organizations  
Vienna*

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**Final**

**Permanent Mission of the Republic of Bulgaria  
Statement under item 3 “Current Issues” of the Agenda of the 768th Meeting  
of the Permanent Council of the OSCE  
9th July 2009**

Madam Chairperson,

The Bulgarian Delegation would like to thank the distinguished US representative for his statement concerning the parliamentary elections in Bulgaria that took place on 5<sup>th</sup> July 2009.

Indeed, the International Election Observation Mission (OSCE/ ODIHR and PACE), evaluated these elections as *“competitive and well-run, and generally in accordance with the international standards”*. The observers also concluded that *“the elections provided voters a broad choice in a visible and active election campaign demonstrating respect for fundamental freedoms”* and – as noted by the US Delegation – the results of the vote reflect the will of the people. The voter turn-out was 60.2 percent.

Regarding particularly changes in the Election Law it may be recalled that the public debate on this issue has started more than a year ago and is still ongoing. It can therefore be expected that any concerns raised, including any shortcomings, will be duly addressed.

Thank you, Madam Chairperson.