



Committee on International Control over the  
Situation with Human Rights in Belarus

**STATEMENT**  
**of the Steering Council of the Committee on International Control**  
**over the Situation with Human Rights in Belarus**

The Steering Council of the Committee on International Control over the Situation with Human Rights in Belarus expresses its deep concern with the refusal of the Belarusian authorities to extend the mandate of the OSCE office in Minsk.

In our opinion, as an office of a respected international organization the OSCE Office in Minsk international organization has not yet exhausted its mandate with regard to assistance to Belarus government and society on issues of compliance to human rights commitments of Belarus.

We regret about this situation, because this step can be perceived as a reaction of the Belarusian government to the OSCE assessment of the presidential elections on December 19th.

We believe that full-featured cooperation between the Republic of Belarus and the OSCE as well as other international institutions must not depend on assessments made by representatives of those institutions if Belarus indeed is committed to the implementation of international commitments to which it signed on and confirmed its support on multiple occasions. It is our hope that the authorities of Belarus will continue to act within the accepted international standards and OSCE commitments that the authorities are ready to an open dialogue with OSCE structures and international governmental and non-governmental organizations.

*December 30th, 2010*  
*23:20*