



Organization for Security and  
Co-operation in Europe  
**Presence in Albania**

**HEAD OF PRESENCE'S REMARKS FOLLOWING A MEETING  
AT THE CENTRAL ELECTION COMMISSION**

*13 February 2013*

**Q:** What did you discuss in this meeting?

**Ambassador Wollfarth:** “The CEC and the OSCE Presence in Albania are in close co-operation seeing to prepare the elections in June this year. Today’s visit here was first to highlight the importance to have rules of procedure, which the CEC has to give to itself in due time. The preparations for this are underway – this is one of the findings of today’s meeting. Trustful and good operations are facilitated by rules of procedure, so I extended an invitation combined with the offer of support for rules of procedure. They are important and they will facilitate even more the important work of the Central Election Commission.

We also passed through the status of current important issues and we look forward also to continued good preparations to the information technology components with regard to Fier and Tirana, vote counting and respectively voter identification. The OSCE Presence will also co-operate with the Central Election Commission in the upcoming further training of the electoral commissioners.”

**Q:** Do you have a comment on the court verdict on the 21 January, given that the U.S. Embassy and the European Union have also commented on it?

**Ambassador Wollfarth:** “The courts have to rule based on the law, but my first feelings go with the families of the victims. And based on the rule of law, I would also highlight that impunity, when there are dead people in the streets, is certainly something questionable. We have to see what the reasoning will be for the court’s decision and there is also the legal possibility of appealing that decision, I understand. So, we will have a close eye on the developments.”

**Ends**