



Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights

REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA

PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS

30 November 2014

OSCE/ODIHR NEEDS ASSESSMENT MISSION REPORT

2-5 September 2014



Warsaw
19 September 2014

TABLE OF CONTENTS

I.	INTRODUCTION	1
II.	EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	1
III.	FINDINGS.....	2
A.	BACKGROUND AND POLITICAL CONTEXT	2
B.	LEGAL FRAMEWORK AND ELECTORAL SYSTEM.....	3
C.	ELECTION ADMINISTRATION.....	4
D.	VOTER REGISTRATION	5
E.	CANDIDATE REGISTRATION	6
F.	CAMPAIGN AND CAMPAIGN FINANCING.....	7
G.	MEDIA	7
H.	ELECTION OBSERVATION.....	8
IV.	CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS.....	8
	ANNEX: LIST OF MEETINGS.....	10

**REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA
PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS
30 November 2014**

OSCE/ODIHR Needs Assessment Mission Report

I. INTRODUCTION

Following an official invitation from the authorities of the Republic of Moldova to observe the 30 November 2014 parliamentary elections and in accordance with its mandate, the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (OSCE/ODIHR) undertook a Needs Assessment Mission (NAM) from 2 to 5 September. The NAM included Dr. Richard Lappin, OSCE/ODIHR Senior Election Adviser, Mr. Steven Martin, OSCE/ODIHR Senior Adviser on New Voting Technologies, and Mr. Radivoje Grujić, OSCE/ODIHR Election Adviser.

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

Moldova is a parliamentary republic with legislative power vested in the 101-member unicameral parliament. Members are elected through proportional representation in a single nationwide constituency for a four-year term. Despite a fragmented political situation, leading up to and following the collapse of the government in 2013, early parliamentary elections were avoided through political negotiations and the parliament will be able to complete its current term.

Overall, the legal framework provides an adequate basis for conducting democratic elections. The framework has been amended since the last elections. New amendments include raising the thresholds to enter parliament, bringing forward the introduction of a centralized voter registry, discontinuing the use of ex-Soviet passports, and repealing mandatory election-training for polling staff. While some amendments partly addressed previous OSCE/ODIHR recommendations, in particular related to the work of the election administration, a number of recommendations remain unaddressed.

The upcoming elections will be administered by three levels of election administration: the Central Election Commission (CEC), 35 District Electoral Councils and some 2,000 Precinct Electoral Bureaus. Additionally, some 100 polling stations are expected to be opened abroad. As in previous elections, voting is not expected to take place on the territory under the *de facto* control of the Transnistrian authorities. However, preparations are underway for Moldovan citizens residing in Transnistria to vote in specially designated polling stations. Overall, OSCE/ODIHR NAM interlocutors expressed satisfaction with the work of the CEC.

Citizens who reach 18 years of age on or before election day have the right to vote, although restrictions continue to apply for active military personnel in spite of previous OSCE/ODIHR recommendations. In July 2014, the Election Code was amended promulgating that a centralized State Register of Voters should be in place for the upcoming elections under the management of the CEC. Several OSCE/ODIHR NAM interlocutors noted concerns about the lack of information on its status and available technical capacities and resources for implementation.

Candidates can participate in the elections as individual candidates or through closed lists of political parties or in an electoral bloc. The official campaign period begins once a candidate is registered by the CEC and ends 24 hours before election day. Any form of campaigning prior to candidate registration is prohibited.

Parties and individual candidates are required to submit bi-monthly reports to the CEC detailing all campaign-related income and expenditures. While the CEC enhanced reporting requirements and intends to request tax authorities to verify contestants' financial reports, OSCE/ODIHR NAM interlocutors generally noted that the regulation of campaign finance remains insufficient.

For each election, the CEC develops media regulations, based on the instructions of the Audiovisual Co-ordination Council. The Broadcasting Code obliges all broadcasters to provide equitable conditions for electoral contestants and to ensure fair and impartial media coverage. Although media pluralism exists, concerns were expressed by several OSCE/ODIHR NAM interlocutors with regard to the transparency of media ownership and the influence of foreign media during the campaign.

The majority of OSCE/ODIHR NAM interlocutors expressed a certain level of confidence in the electoral administration. However, they raised particular concerns with changes to the legal framework and its possible gaps and shortcomings, the planned introduction of the State Register of Voters, and conduct of the campaign, as well as possible manipulations on election day. A number of OSCE/ODIHR recommendations remain unaddressed. Most OSCE/ODIHR NAM interlocutors stated that they would welcome an OSCE/ODIHR observation activity for the upcoming elections, including short-term observers on election day.

On this basis, the OSCE/ODIHR NAM recommends the deployment of an Election Observation Mission (EOM) to observe the 30 November parliamentary elections. In addition to a core team of analysts, 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 procedures, including voting, counting of votes and tabulation of results. In line with OSCE/ODIHR's standard methodology, the EOM would include a media monitoring element.

III. FINDINGS

A. BACKGROUND AND POLITICAL CONTEXT

Moldova is a parliamentary republic with executive power exercised by the government, headed by the prime minister, and legislative power vested in the National Assembly (parliament). In recent years, parliament has been fragmented and the country's political situation somewhat unstable. The government collapsed in 2009 and 2010 necessitating early elections; it again collapsed in 2013,

though in this last instance, early parliamentary elections were avoided through political negotiations and the parliament will be able to complete its current term.

In early 2013, the government coalition, the Alliance for European Integration, composed of the Liberal Democratic Party (PLDM), Democratic Party (PDM) and Liberal Party (PL), dissolved due to an internal conflict over issues of corruption. On 5 March 2013, the opposition Communist Party (PCRM) called for a no-confidence vote against the government of Prime Minister Vlad Filat of the PLDM. With support of other parties, including from the Alliance, the government was forced to resign.

Following a Constitutional Court decision that prevented Mr. Filat from being reappointed as prime minister, on 25 April 2013, Iurie Leanca was nominated by the PLDM as the new acting prime minister. This resulted in the formation of a pro-European Union three-party coalition, which comprised the PLDM, Liberal Reformist Party (PLR) and PDM, which has since held together and permitted the parliament to complete its full term.¹

The OSCE/ODIHR has previously observed ten elections in Moldova.² In its latest report on the June 2011 local elections, the OSCE/ODIHR concluded that the “elections largely met OSCE commitments. The election campaign was competitive and offered voters a genuine choice. However, remaining legal, administrative, and regulatory issues need to be addressed in order to ensure continued progress. In particular, this electoral process underscored the need to address longstanding concerns over voter registration. In addition, at times selective reporting on campaign spending and allegations of distribution of illegal gifts to voters highlighted the need for improved campaign finance regulation and enforcement.”³

B. LEGAL FRAMEWORK AND ELECTORAL SYSTEM

Parliamentary elections are regulated by the Constitution, the Election Code, the Law on Political Parties, as well as CEC regulations and decisions and relevant sections of the Criminal and Administrative Codes.

Overall, the legal framework provides an adequate basis for conducting democratic elections. The framework for elections has been amended since the last elections. New amendments include provisions on raising the thresholds to enter parliament, bringing forward the introduction of a centralized voter registry, discontinuing the use of ex-Soviet passports, and repealing mandatory election-training for polling staff. While some amendments partly addressed previous OSCE/ODIHR recommendations, in particular related to the work of the election administration, a number of recommendations remain unaddressed.

The electoral system in Moldova has been an issue of discussion. On 17 April 2013, a draft law was adopted, which altered the electoral system from a proportional to a mixed system. Following reaction from stakeholders, the law was repealed on 3 May 2013 and the previous proportional system was restored. Subsequently, in early 2014, ODIHR and the Council of Europe’s Commission for Democracy through Law (Venice Commission) prepared a joint opinion on

¹ The current breakdown of the 101-member parliament includes: 34 members from the PCRM; 31 from the PLDM; 15 from the PDM; 5 from the PL; 7 from the PLR; and 9 independent deputies (7 of whom left the PCRM). Representation of women in the current parliament is 19 per cent.

² All previous OSCE/ODIHR reports on Moldova are available at: <http://www.osce.org/odihr/elections/moldova>.

³ See the OSCE/ODIHR Final Report on the June 2011 local elections at: <http://www.osce.org/odihr/elections/85409>.

additional draft amendments to modify the electoral system from a proportional to a mixed system.⁴ These amendments were never introduced into parliament.

The 101-member unicameral parliament is elected through proportional representation in a single nationwide constituency for a four-year term. The law requires the participation of at least one third of registered voters for an election to be valid. If not, repeat elections are held within two weeks without a minimum required turnout.

In May 2013, the minimum thresholds for obtaining seats in parliament were raised: for political parties to 6 per cent (from 4 per cent), for an electoral bloc of two political parties to 9 per cent (from 7 per cent); and for an electoral bloc of 3 or more political parties to 11 per cent (from 9 per cent). The threshold for an independent candidate remained at 2 per cent. Previously, these thresholds had been altered a number of times. OSCE/ODIHR and the Venice Commission have repeatedly recommended lowering these thresholds.⁵

A number of additional draft amendments to the electoral framework are pending in parliament, including initiatives on introducing a gender quota for party lists, extending the period for voting abroad, and revising party and campaign finance regulations.⁶ Several OSCE/ODIHR NAM interlocutors expressed a desire for at least some of these amendments to be adopted prior to the elections. The OSCE/ODIHR NAM noted that any significant changes introduced to the framework and in force less than a year before an election is contrary to good electoral practice.

C. ELECTION ADMINISTRATION

The upcoming elections will be administered by three levels of election administration: the Central Election Commission (CEC), 35 District Electoral Councils (DECs) and some 2,000 Precinct Electoral Bureaus (PEBs). At all levels, the election administration includes representatives of political parties proportional to their representation in parliament.

The current CEC was appointed in 2011 for a five-year term, and consists of nine members, of which one is a woman. One member is appointed by the President and the other eight members by parliament, based on the composition of the 2010 parliament. DECs and PEBs are established for each election. DECs consist of between 7 and 11 members who are nominated by the courts/local councils and parliamentary parties. PEBs consist of between 5 and 11 members who are nominated by local councils and parliamentary parties.

The CEC is already preparing for the elections, including following previous OSCE/ODIHR recommendations through procuring transparent ballot boxes and uniform voting booths. To further transparency and also follow another OSCE/ODIHR recommendation, the CEC is planning to upload preliminary election results broken down by polling station on its website in real time upon receipt from the PEBs, as well as provide a gender breakdown of voter turnout.

In April 2013, a Center for Continuous Electoral Training was established under the auspices of the CEC and focuses on training electoral officials, as well as other interested stakeholders, including candidate and political party representatives. The Center has also developed an online training

⁴ See Joint Opinion on the Draft Law Amending the Electoral Legislation, 24 March 2014 at: <http://www.osce.org/odihr/elections/116887>.

⁵ See, among others, Joint Opinion on the Draft Law Amending the Electoral Legislation, 24 March 2014.

⁶ See Joint Opinion on Draft Legislation of the Republic of Moldova Pertaining to Financing Political Parties and Election Campaigns, 11 March 2013 at: <http://www.osce.org/odihr/elections/100077>.

course for electoral officials based in diplomatic representations abroad and initiated trainings for judges on electoral dispute resolution.

The CEC will produce some 15 television and 10 radio spots as well as leaflets and use the Internet, including social media, to inform voters on new election procedures. These focus on identity documents needed for voting and procedures for pre-registration and voting abroad. Overall, OSCE/ODIHR NAM interlocutors expressed satisfaction with the work of the CEC.

As in previous elections, voting is not expected to take place on the territory under the *de facto* control of the Transnistrian authorities. However, the CEC is undertaking preparations for Moldovan citizens residing in Transnistria to vote in specially designated polling stations. Some OSCE/ODIHR interlocutors expressed concerns as to the ability of these voters to freely travel to these special polling stations on election day.

Citizens living abroad will be able to vote, as in previous elections. Some 100 polling stations will be opened in embassies and consulates as well as in other locations as required. To assist with estimating the number of voters abroad, the government has established a website for voters abroad to voluntarily pre-register. Concerns were raised about arrangements for voting abroad by a number of OSCE/ODIHR NAM interlocutors, mostly related to the lack of defined criteria for deciding on the number and distribution of polling stations, as well as possibilities for multiple voting.

D. VOTER REGISTRATION

Citizens reaching 18 years of age on or before election day have the right to vote, apart from those who have been declared incapacitated or were deprived of the right by a court. Despite previous OSCE/ODIHR recommendations, restrictions on voting rights of active military personnel remain.

Moldova operates a passive voter registration system that is highly decentralized. Voter lists are prepared by the local public administration based on population registration data held locally. The CEC provides extracts of the register of voters to *rayon* (district) administrations that perform factual checking and update the lists. Extracts of voter lists will be displayed at polling stations for public scrutiny from 20 days to the day before the elections, during which voters can verify their data and request corrections. Voters will also be able to check their data online.

The CEC is currently working to implement a centralized electronic voter register, referred to as the State Register of Voters (SRV). The amendments to the Election Code in July 2014 brought forward the deadline when the system should be fully operational, from 2015 to 2014. While the SRV is to be maintained by the CEC, the basis for the SRV is the state register of population, which the Ministry of Information Technology and Communications submits to the CEC. The CEC expects the SRV to be operational for the upcoming elections, which should lead to improved quality of the registration process, including prevention of multiple entries. The CEC informed the OSCE/ODIHR NAM that procurement of equipment and all necessary preparations for the system should be completed in October and that testing of the system is planned during the week prior to the elections. Some OSCE/ODIHR NAM interlocutors expressed concerns about the readiness to use the new system, while others noted a lack of information on its status and on details about the system's functioning as well as documentation on procedural and technical aspects of its implementation.⁷

⁷ In 2012, the OSCE/ODIHR conducted an expert visit to Moldova to assess the State Automated Information System "Elections" (SAISE) and the Voter Registration System. See the assessment report at: <http://www.osce.org/odihr/92207>.

As per recent changes to the law, the use of ex-Soviet passports as identity documents for these elections will not be permitted. Authorities informed the OSCE/ODIHR NAM that the procedure for changing documents is simple and could be undertaken free-of-charge. According to the authorities, approximately 30,000 citizens still have not changed documents; however, OSCE/ODIHR NAM interlocutors noted various estimations on this number. Reportedly, elderly citizens residing in rural areas and citizens from the Roma communities are among those most needing to change their documents.

Supplementary voter lists will be used on election day, including for voters not included on a voter list who reside in a precinct and can prove their domicile, voters using absentee voter certificates, students, and voters in hospitals, prisons, special institutions and those using a mobile ballot box. Supplementary voter lists will also be used in polling stations abroad. Several OSCE/ODIHR NAM interlocutors raised concerns about the extensive use of supplementary voter lists leading to possible misconduct and multiple voting.

E. CANDIDATE REGISTRATION

All citizens eligible to vote have the right to run for office, with the exception of active military personnel, as well as prisoners and persons whose criminal records include crimes committed intentionally. Candidates can participate in the elections as individual candidates or through closed lists of political parties or in an electoral bloc. Independent candidates need to collect at least 2,000 signatures of support from eligible voters.

Candidate nomination runs from 60 to 30 days before election day. The CEC informed the OSCE/ODIHR NAM that all political parties registered by the Ministry of Justice by 15 September, will have the right to participate in the elections. One political party met with by the OSCE/ODIHR NAM noted that its registration was still pending with the Ministry of Justice and expressed concern that it may not be registered before the deadline.⁸

Political parties and independent candidates appear on the same ballot, in the order of their registration with the CEC. If more than one contestant registers on the same day, the CEC draws lots to determine the order of those contestants.

Political parties are permitted to make changes in their respective candidate lists until one week before election day. Such late changes in lists may limit the voters' opportunity to familiarize themselves with the names on party candidate lists, as noted in a previous OSCE/ODIHR recommendation. In accordance with the law, certain categories of government officials running for parliament are required to temporarily suspend their duties for the period of the election campaign, to prevent them from making use of state administrative resources to further their campaigns.⁹

⁸ The pending registration is for the Party of Renato Usatii (PARUS). Renato Usatii formed this party under his name after the Ministry of Justice denied a previous application to amend the statute of another political party.

⁹ This applies to deputy prime ministers, ministers and deputy ministers, *ex officio* members of the government, heads of central public authority organs, chairpersons and deputy chairpersons of district administrations, mayors and vice-mayors, as well as administrators and vice-administrators of municipal districts appointed by mayors. The Law on the Status of High Public Servants prohibits public officials from manifesting support and campaigning for any political party or organization while executing official functions.

F. CAMPAIGN AND CAMPAIGN FINANCING

The official campaign period begins once a candidate is registered and ends 24 hours before election day. Any form of campaigning prior to candidate registration is prohibited. The CEC plans to issue an instruction regulating the posting of campaign materials. Local authorities are required to establish locations for posting campaign materials and holding campaign rallies.

Political parties met with by the OSCE/ODIHR NAM stated their intention to convey their campaign messages to voters via campaign rallies, advertisements, and political discussion and debates in traditional and social media. OSCE/ODIHR NAM interlocutors expressed concerns about a possible polarization of the campaign due to political parties campaigning exclusively in either the State language or in Russian and thus focusing only on certain parts of the electorate.

Few OSCE/ODIHR NAM interlocutors raised concerns about the ability to campaign freely; however, some noted restrictions on freedom of movement in Transdnistria that may impact the abilities of political parties and contestants to campaign freely as well as the ability of voters to make informed choices. A number of interlocutors also expressed concerns about potential vote-buying as well as abuse of state administrative resources in support of election contestants.

Campaign financing is regulated by the Election Code and a CEC regulation on the financing of electoral campaigns and political parties. Contestants are obliged to open dedicated bank accounts for all campaign expenses, to which their own funds and all donations are to be transferred. Electoral contestants are required to submit bi-monthly reports to the CEC detailing all campaign-related income and expenditures; these are to be posted on the CEC website.

The CEC intends to request that the tax authorities verify these financial reports. Although the law provides for private and public financing, measures to introduce direct public financing have not been implemented. Donations from foreign, state and anonymous sources are prohibited. The CEC plans to enhance reporting requirements and issue a regulation detailing campaign expenditure limits. It also intends to provide guidance to electoral contestants on how to comply with campaign finance regulations. OSCE/ODIHR NAM interlocutors generally noted that the regulation of campaign finance remains insufficient, in particular noting concerns about transparency, the level of required reporting, as well as a lack of oversight and enforcement.¹⁰

G. MEDIA

A range of media outlets operate throughout the country, with television serving as the primary source of political information. A range of newspapers is also available as well as information from the Internet, in particular via social media, especially in urban areas. Although OSCE/ODIHR NAM interlocutors noted a high degree of media pluralism and improved coverage by the public broadcaster, *Teleradio Moldova* (TRM), concerns were expressed with regard to the transparency of media ownership and the possible influence of foreign media during the campaign. In addition, the OSCE/ODIHR NAM was informed of a lack of balanced media coverage of women candidates.

The legal framework for media coverage of the election campaign is regulated by the Election Code and the Broadcasting Code. The Election Code stipulates the amounts of free airtime and print

¹⁰ See also Group of States against Corruption (GRECO), Third Evaluation Round, Compliance Report, 22 March 2013, at: [http://www.coe.int/t/dghl/monitoring/greco/evaluations/round3/GrecoRC3\(2013\)2_Moldova_EN.pdf](http://www.coe.int/t/dghl/monitoring/greco/evaluations/round3/GrecoRC3(2013)2_Moldova_EN.pdf).

space for each contestant during the campaign as well as regulates paid advertising. All broadcasters with national coverage are obliged to organize candidate debates free-of-charge. The Broadcasting Code obliges all broadcasters to provide equitable conditions for electoral contestants and to ensure fair and impartial media coverage. This framework is supplemented by an instruction on media coverage developed by the Audiovisual Co-ordination Council (CCA), which is the regulatory body for broadcasting media. This instruction forms the basis of the CEC's media regulations on the coverage of the campaign.

The public broadcaster, TRM, shared concerns with the OSCE/ODIHR NAM that the legal requirement for equal allocation of airtime to all electoral contestants restricts the broadcaster's creativity and may lead to lacklustre programming. Besides covering the election campaign in line with legal requirements, TRM representatives noted to the OSCE/ODIHR NAM that it has prepared its own regulation on providing balanced coverage during the pre-election campaign, including coverage of non-parliamentary parties.

All broadcasters are obliged to submit a statement to the CCA on how they intend to cover the electoral campaign, which should comply with the instruction developed by the CCA. The CCA is responsible to ensure proper and balanced campaign coverage, by monitoring the media. To enhance its ability to fulfil this task, the CCA has increased its monitoring capacity, and plans to expand the number of monitored media outlets. CCA reports on media compliance with legal requirements are submitted bi-monthly to the CEC.

The CCA is responsible to examine media-related electoral complaints; its decisions may be appealed to court. Recent amendments to the Broadcasting Code are designed to ensure a timelier implementation of CCA decisions, in line with previous OSCE/ODIHR recommendations. However, several OSCE/ODIHR NAM interlocutors noted that effective remedy may still be delayed by lengthy courts appeals, while available sanctions lack a deterring effect and proportionality.

H. ELECTION OBSERVATION

The Election Code provides for the observation of the electoral process by international and domestic civic organizations and representatives of electoral contestants. A number of civil society organizations informed the OSCE/ODIHR NAM of their plans to implement a range of election-related activities. Ahead of the elections, several organizations have provided input on various amendments to the Election Code, including on a gender quota for candidate lists, and regulations for party and campaign finance.

At least one organization is planning a large election observation effort, including deploying both long-term and short-term observers, and to conduct parallel vote tabulation. Some organizations also noted their intention to observe voting abroad. Other activities will include voter education, media monitoring, and raising awareness on the importance of elections among young voters. There are also activities planned on ensuring access for and inclusion of people with disabilities. Most political parties met with by the OSCE/ODIHR NAM expressed their intention to deploy their party observers throughout the country on election day.

IV. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The majority of OSCE/ODIHR NAM interlocutors expressed a certain level of confidence in the electoral administration. However, they raised particular concerns with changes to the legal

framework and its possible gaps and shortcomings, the planned introduction of the State Register of Voters, and conduct of the campaign, as well as possible manipulations on election day. A number of OSCE/ODIHR recommendations remain unaddressed. Most OSCE/ODIHR NAM interlocutors stated that they would welcome an OSCE/ODIHR observation activity for the upcoming elections, including short-term observers on election day.

On this basis, the OSCE/ODIHR NAM recommends the deployment of an Election Observation Mission (EOM) to observe the 30 November parliamentary elections. In addition to a core team of analysts, 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 procedures, including voting, counting of votes and tabulation of results. In line with OSCE/ODIHR's standard methodology, the EOM would include a media monitoring element.

ANNEX: LIST OF MEETINGS

Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Integration

Valeriu Chiveri, Deputy Minister

Ministry of Information Technology and Communications

Dmitrii Parfentiev, Deputy Minister

Dumitru Agachi, Consultant

Eugeniu Ursu, Director of State Information Registers Department

Grigore Iovu, Chief of Division for Interaction with Territorial Field Offices and Diplomatic Representations

Mircea Andronic, Head of the Information Systems and Resources Department

Legal Committee of the Parliament

Raisa Apolschii, Member of Parliament, Chairperson

Serghei Sirbu, Member of Parliament, Deputy Chairperson

Tudor Deliu, Member of Parliament, Member

Igor Vrenea, Member of Parliament, Member

Vadim Vacarciuc, Member of Parliament, Member

Central Election Commission

Iurie Ciocan, Chairperson

Stefan Uritu, Vice Chairperson

Natalia Iuras, Director, Center for Continuous Electoral Training

Audiovisual Co-ordination Council

Dinu Ciocan, Member

Mariana Onceanu-Hadirca, Head of Foreign Relations Division

Public Broadcaster – Teleradio Moldova

Alexandru Dorogan, Director, Public Radio

Constantin Vulpe, Head of Strategic Development Department, Public Radio

Adrian Petcu, Head of News Department, Public Radio

Mircea Surdu, Director, Public Television

Leonid Melnic, Director for Production, Public Television

Ecaterina Stratan, Head of News Department, Public Television

Political Parties and Groups

Vladimir Voronin, Chairperson, Communists Party of the Republic of Moldova

Artur Resetnicov, Head of Election Team, Communists Party of the Republic of Moldova

Galina Balmus, Deputy Head of Election Team, Communists Party of the Republic of Moldova

Igor Vrenea, Legal Advisor, Communists Party of the Republic of Moldova

Mihail Bulat, Member of the Election Team, Communists Party of the Republic of Moldova

Mihai Ghimpu, Chairperson, Liberal Party of Moldova

Vlad Filat, Chairperson, Liberal Democratic Party of Moldova

Valeriu Strelet, Deputy Chairperson, Liberal Democratic Party of Moldova

Liliana Palihovici, Deputy Chairperson, Liberal Democratic Party of Moldova

Ana Gutu, Co-Chairperson, Liberal Reformist Party

Dorin Dusceac, Deputy Chairperson, Liberal Reformist Party

Renato Usatii, Chairperson, Party of Renato Usatii

Igor Dodon, Chairperson, Socialist Party
Ion Ciobanu, Deputy Chairperson, Socialist Party

Civil Society

Andrei Brighidin, East-European Foundation
Igor Botan, ADEPT
Ion Manole, Promo-Lex
Mihail Sirkeli, Pilgrim-Demo
Nadine Gogu, Independent Journalism Center
Nicolae Panfil, Civil Coalition for Free and Fair Elections
Oazu Nantoi, Institute of Public Policies

International Community

Aleksandar Soloviov, Charge d'Affaire, Embassy of Belarus
Jan Husák, Deputy Head, Embassy of the Czech Republic
Jérémie Petit, First Councillor, Embassy of France
Thomas Weithöner, Charge d'Affaire, Embassy of Germany
Peter Tomášek, Embassy of Slovakia
Paola Albornoz, First Secretary, Embassy of Sweden
Iulia Cozacenco, Political/Economic Officer, Embassy of the United Kingdom
Irina Sahakyan, Programme Manager, Council of Europe
Ghenadie Barba, Council of Europe
Viorica Olaru, Project Officer, International Organization for Migration
Andrei Rusanovschi, National Democratic Institute
Milan Zbořil, National Democratic Institute
Narine Sahakyan, UNDP Deputy Resident Representative
Claude Cahn, Human Rights Adviser, United Nations
Kent Larson, Country Director, USAID-Moldova