



PERMANENT DELEGATION  
OF THE REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA  
TO THE OSCE

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ENGLISH only

**STATEMENT**

by the Delegation of the Republic of Moldova  
at the OSCE Permanent Council meeting, 16 June 2005  
(*On the ODIHR Final Report on the Parliamentary elections*)

Mr. Chairman,

I would like to express our gratitude to the ODIHR for the Final Report on the Parliamentary elections in Moldova, as well as to thank those delegations that participated in today discussions.

The Moldovan authorities have learned with satisfaction that according with the Final Report the elections generally complied with most OSCE and Council of Europe commitments and other international election standards. In particular, the observers noted a competitive and pluralistic party system, a high number of contestants that presented voters with a genuine choice from across the political spectrum; respect of the Election Code by the central and lower-level electoral bodies; the diversity of political views reflected in a variety of print media; an increased number of women candidates often in eligible positions. The IEOM assessed the conduct of polling as good or very good in 80,4 % of polling stations visited, and another 16 % were found to be conducted in an adequate manner.

As was stated in the Report, observers have noted a number of shortcomings. These referred in particular to campaign conditions and media access, failure of the local government officials to provide sufficient campaign opportunities and inconsistencies in the Election Code. The OSCE and the Council of Europe have already suggested changes to the election code to address these shortcomings. The Moldovan authorities are prepared to deal with them in an open and responsible manner. The improvement of the election legislation is viewed by us as an integral part of the adjustment of the legislative framework to the international democratic standards. As foreseen in the EU-Moldova Action Plan conducting the democratic election is one of the priorities in the cooperation of my country with the European Union. The Republic of Moldova is committed to remain a reliable partner for such type of cooperation.

Mr. Chairman,

Let me reiterate the words of appreciation expressed to the observers by the Moldovan side for the professionalism and fairness displayed while monitoring the campaign and on the election day.

Once again I would like to thank the Heads and the diplomatic personnel of the Permanent Delegations of the OSCE participating states in Vienna, who were visiting Moldova in the run up to the elections and those who acted as short-term observers.

It is encouraging, that the Head of the European Parliament Delegation concluded that the Moldovan people have shown that they want to be a part of a democratic Europe, while the European Parliament is ready to build on this desire and assist Moldovans in the future development of their democracy.

Thank you.