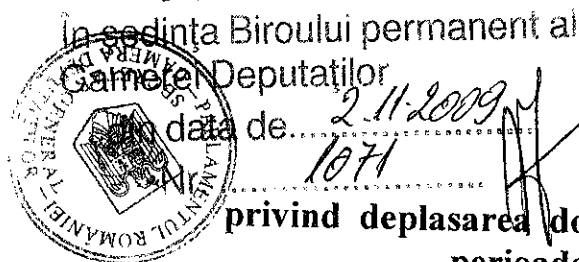
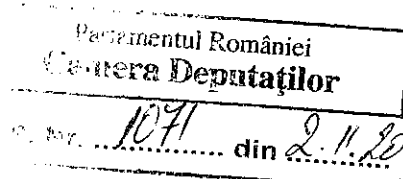


APROBAT



În ședința Biroului permanent al
Camerei Deputaților
data de 2.11.2009

Informare



**privind deplasarea domnului deputat Iordache Florin la Kiev în
perioada 21-22 octombrie 2009-10-29**

În perioada 21-22 octombrie 2009, a avut loc în Ucraina la Kiev, Forumul pentru viitorul Democrației în organizarea Consiliului Europei și Ministerului Afacerilor Externe ale Ucrainei.

Din partea Comisiei juridice, de disciplină și imunități din Camera Deputaților, a participat domnul vicepreședinte deputat Florin Iordache.

În cele două zile de dezbateri sau avut în vedere următoarele teme:

- Alegerile generale în democrațiile moderne;
- Media și societatea civilă actori principali în alegeri democratice;
- Modalități practice pentru creșterea participării la vot.

La lucrările în Plen cât și în Comisii au fost dezbaterii privind diferitele sisteme electorale cât și impactul alegerilor asupra populației. Au fost stabilite priorități și strategii privind creșterea interesului populației și participarea acestora la vot, interesului față de campaniile electorale cât și mesajele campaniilor electorale.

Au fost identificate cele mai bune practici pentru o participare activă a tuturor cetățenilor în ceea ce privesc campaniile electorale locale, parlamentare ori pentru Parlamentul European.

Au fost prezentate premisele pentru ca o presă independentă și echidistantă să creeze cadrul necesar în alegeri democratice și libere, de asemenea, o monitorizare pe întreaga campanie electorale cât și în ziua votului.

Societatea civilă are un rol important pentru monitorizarea în cele mai bune condiții a procesului electoral.

**Deputat
Florin Iordache**



FFD-AB (2009) 4 E

Strasbourg, 22 April 2009

**Council of Europe
Forum for the Future of Democracy**

**Kyiv, Ukraine
21-23 October 2009**

“Electoral systems”

**PRELIMINARY REFLECTIONS ABOUT THE
THEMATIC SCOPE AND PROGRAMME**

Memorandum prepared by the
Forum Secretariat

The present paper brings together the results of discussions between the preparatory working groups set up in Kyiv and the Secretariat during its preparatory visit to Kyiv on 11-12 March 2009 and further comments made after the meeting regarding the organisation of the three workshops at the Forum Session 2009 in Kyiv.

At the meeting in Kyiv a major issue discussed was the organisation of workshops during the Forum:

Workshops during the second day of the 2009 FFD Session (22 October)

Three workshops will be proposed to participants:

Workshop No.1 "Elections at the national level",

Workshop No.2 "Elections and local democracy",

Workshop No.3 "Media and NGOs in times of elections".

In order to ensure coherence between workshops, to foster a forward-looking and results-oriented approach and to be able to structure the conclusions by the General Rapporteurs, there should be a horizontal interlinkage between the workshop sessions by identifying and agreeing on a number of cross-cutting themes which would be addressed by each workshop from a different perspective.

The following cross-cutting themes have been identified:

1. Reducing the disenfranchisement of voters
(e.g. minorities, foreigners, disadvantaged groups);
2. Candidate and party identity
(positions, platforms, campaigns, role of the media, getting the message across);
3. New technologies
(at the time of voting, but also information and campaigning, mass media);
4. Gender
(e.g. party lists, media coverage);
5. The role of electoral commissions;
6. Domestic observers
(parties, NGOs and their rights and responsibilities).

Thought will also have to be given to the optimum setup of workshop sessions for interactive discussion, e.g. by different discussion formats (panels, keynote speeches, discussants, "coliseum"-style discussion with a moderator, videos or videoconferencing) and different dynamics.

Appendix I presents a draft programme outline which will be refined during the next stages of the preparatory process.

Appendices II to IV contain proposals on the organisation of the three workshops, prepared by the entities appointed to co-ordinate the preparation of the workshops at the level of the host country, i.e. the Ministry of Justice (workshop No.1), the Ministry of Regional Development and Construction (workshop No. 2) and the State Committee for Television and Radio Broadcasting (workshop No.3).

Appendix V sets out the Preliminary Timeline for the preparation of the 2009 Forum.

Appendix I

DRAFT PROGRAMME OUTLINE

Wednesday 21 October - DAY ONE

2 p.m. – 4 p.m. Registration of participants

4 p.m. **Opening of the Forum for the Future of Democracy 2009**

Welcome by:

High-level representatives of the Ukrainian authorities

Opening Speeches:

Secretary General of the Council of Europe

Chairman of the Committee of Ministers

President of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe

President of the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe

President of the Venice Commission

Presentation of the Code of Good Practice on Civil Participation in the decision-making process

Coffee Break

5.30 p.m. **First Plenary Session**

Chair:

Keynote speaker

Panel debate on “The Future of Elections”

Moderator:...

7 p.m. **Close of the First Plenary Session**

8 p.m. **Welcome reception (tbc)**

Thursday 22 October - DAY TWO

9.30 a.m. to 12.00 noon / 2 p.m. to 5.30 p.m.

Three parallel workshops¹

Workshop title	Elections at the national level	Elections and local democracy	Media and NGOs in times of elections
morning session theme			
afternoon session theme			
working languages			

¹ Cross-cutting themes which could be addressed by each workshop from a different perspective may include:

- I. Reducing the disenfranchisement of voters (e.g. minorities, foreigners, disadvantaged groups);
- II. Candidate and party identity (positions, platforms, campaigns, role of the media, getting the message across);
- III. New technologies (at the time of voting, but also information and campaigning, mass media);
- IV. Gender (e.g. party lists, media coverage);
- V. The role of electoral commissions;
- VI. Domestic observers (political parties, NGOs and their rights and responsibilities).

Friday 23 October - DAY THREE

10 a.m. – 1.30 p.m. Concluding Plenary Session

Chair: ...

Contribution by the President of the Council of Europe Conference of INGOs

Reports from workshops by the workshop rapporteurs:

Rapporteur of Workshop 1

Rapporteur of Workshop 2

Rapporteur of Workshop 3

Panel: Results and conclusions of the Forum for the Future of Democracy 2009

General Rapporteur appointed by the host country

General Rapporteur appointed by PACE

General Rapporteur appointed by the Congress

Coffee break

Presentation of the Forum conclusions

Chair: ...

Closing of the 2009 Session and invitation to the 2010 Session

..., Ukraine

..., Council of Europe

..., Armenia (host country of FFD 2010)

Appendix II

Contribution from the Ministry of Justice of Ukraine on the organisation of Workshop No.1 on “Elections at the national level”

Kyiv, 21 April 2009

Dear Mr. Schaapveld,

The Ministry of Justice of Ukraine presents its compliments to you and has the honour to inform that working group on preparation of the first section of the Forum on topic “Elections on the national level” made a profound examination of proposals given by the Secretariat General of the Council of Europe on results of its delegation official visit to Ukraine on 11-12 March 2009 to discuss the 2009 Forum “For the future of democracy”.

We have the honour to inform you of the results of the working group third meeting on preparation of the first section of the Forum on topic “Elections on the national level” that took place on 10 April 2009.

During the abovementioned meeting it was discussed the issue on candidature of the reporter from Ukraine and examined proposals given in your letter to the Ministry of Justice from 24 March 2009.

In particular, the following themes, from the proposed ones, were discussed:

1. Reducing the disenfranchisement of voters (e.g. minorities, foreigners, disadvantaged groups);
2. Enhancing candidate and party identity (positions, platforms, campaigns);
3. The use of new technologies (at the time of voting, but also information and campaigning);
4. Increasing women participation in public life (e.g. party lists);
5. Domestic observers (parties, NGOs and their rights and responsibilities).

On results of meeting was approved the candidature of the reporter from Ukraine – people's deputy of Ukraine, Deputy Head of the Verkhovna Rada Committee on state formation and local self-government Yuriy Kluchkovskyi and it was decided to support all themes that were proposed by the Secretariat of Council of Europe.

The Ministry of Justice of Ukraine avails itself of the opportunity to express to you assurances of its high respect and hope on further fruitful cooperation.

Yours sincerely,

Deputy Minister

Valeria LUTKOVSKA

Mr. Childerik Schaapveld

Director of Directorate of democratic institutions

Council of Europe

Cc: Ministry of foreign affairs of Ukraine

Permanent Representation of Ukraine to the Council of Europe

Appendix III

Draft

Contribution from the Ministry of Regional Development and Construction on the organisation of Workshop N° 2 on «Elections and local democracy»

Date: 22.10.2009

Proposed venue: Ministry of Regional Development and Construction of Ukraine,
9, Velyka Zhytomyrska Str., Kyiv, Ukraine

Contacts in the Ministry:

- Vyacheslav TOLKOVANOV – Deputy Head of the Workgroup, member of the Bureau of the European Committee of Local and Regional Democracy of the Council of Europe (CDLR), Director of the Directorate of International Cooperation, Investment Development and European Integration, Ministry of Regional Development and Construction of Ukraine
Tel: +38(044)590-47-77
E-mail: tolkovanov@minregionbud.gov.ua
- Olesya KUTS – Executive Secretary of the Workgroup, Consultant of the Directorate of International Cooperation, Investment Development and European Integration, Ministry of Regional Development and Construction of Ukraine
Tel: +38(044)590-47-76
E-mail: kuts@minregionbud.gov.ua

Number of the participants: 120-150

Main topics for the discussion during the workshop:

1. «Forms of citizen's involvement to public life at local level».
2. «Ways of the improvement of the electoral systems at local level».
3. «Electoral systems which are used on local and regional levels».
4. «Ways of further development of local democracy on the basis of the European Strategy on Innovations and Good Governance at Local Level ».
5. «Ukrainian and European experiences of the implementation of the European Week of Local Democracy».
- 6 «Faces» of the political parties, their participation in election campaign»
7. «Attraction of all categories of citizens to the electoral process»
8. «Role of the news technologies in the electoral campaign»
9. «Role of MASS-MEDIA in the electoral campaign »
10. «Gender equality and elections»
11. «Work with ethnic minorities, attraction of various social groups to public life at local level»
12. «Role of local observers in the electoral process»
13. «Improvement of the election committees functioning»

Moderator of section:

Anatoliy TKACHUK, Deputy Minister of Regional Development and Construction of Ukraine

Speakers and co-speakers:

Giovanni DI STASI, Former President of the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe, Head of the Council of Europe Center for Expertise of Local Self-Government Reform;

Vyacheslav TOLKOVANOV, member of the Bureau of the European Committee of Local and Regional Democracy of the Council of Europe (CDLR), Director of the Directorate of International Cooperation, Investment Development and European Integration, Ministry of Regional Development and Construction of Ukraine;

Nataliya ROMANOVA, Vice-President of the Association of Local and Regional Authorities of Ukraine, Vice-President of the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe, President of Chernigiv Regional Council;

Klaus KLIPP, Secretary General of Assembly of the European regions;

Paul-Henri PHILIPS, Member of the Belgium delegation to the CDLR, chair of the LR-GG Committee;

Ian MICALLEFF, President of the Chamber of Local Authorities of the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe

Anatoliy FEDORCHUK, Boryspil city Mayor (pilot-city for the European Week of Local Democracy)

Volodymyr UDOVYCHENKO, Slavytych city mayor, President of Ukrainian Mayors Club

Myroslav PITSYK, Vice-President of the Ukrainian Association of Cities and Communities

Target audience:

From Ukrainian side:

- Ministry of Regional Development and Construction of Ukraine and other Central Bodies of Executive Power;
- Local self-government bodies and their associations;
- Secretariat of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine;
- Ukrainian Parliament (Committee on State Building and Local Self-Government);
- Foundation for Local Self-Government of Ukraine under the President of Ukraine;
- Central Election Commission of Ukraine;
- NGOS (Committee of voters, «Ukrainian Club of Mayors» etc.);

- International donor organizations which work in Ukraine in local and regional development sphere;
- Educational and scientific institutions (National Academy of Public Administration of Ukraine, Academy of Municipal Administration etc.);

Foreign participants:

- Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe;
- European Committee on Local and Regional Democracy (CDLR);
- Assembly of the European Regions;
- European and National Associations of Local and Regional Authorities;
- Other international organizations which work in the field of elections and the development of local and regional democracy (OSCE etc.);
- Pilot communities and regions which take part in the implementation of the European Week of Local Democracy;
- Central and local bodies of executive power of the European countries which take part in implementation of the European Strategy on Innovations and Good Governance at Local Level;
- Experts.

Final documents:

It is suggested to adopt a resolution based on the work of the thematic section, which must be based on the documents of the Council of Europe, in particular Action Plan on implementation of Good Governance at Local Level, accepted at Budapest Conference, European Charter of Local Self-Government, European Strategy on Innovations and Good Governance at Local Level and other recommendations of the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe and the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe.

Appendix IV

Contribution from the State Committee for Television and Radio Broadcasting of Ukraine on the organisation of Workshop No.3 on “Media and NGOs in times of elections”

*Director of the Directorate of Democratic Institutions
Council of Europe
Mr. Childerik Schaapveld*

Dear Mr. Schaapveld,

Let me thank you for your kind words addressed to me. I give my full support to your proposal stating that with our mutual efforts we will be able to prepare and to hold at the proper level this resonance international event.

Let me also inform you that the position you've set out in your letter regarding the format of the forum was discussed with the members of the working group I lead.

In this context I'd like to inform you that dynamical format of holding session of the Forum in Kyiv and a comprehensive thematic matrix of activities in the framework of the sections, to my mind, could be the basis for making draft program of the Forum.

We also consider that there should take place a discussion of issues regarding media activity. I would suggest to formulate the theme in the following way: “Role of mass media in forming a conscious choice”. This theme is of particular importance taking into consideration social function of mass media. And in particular the question of reporting of all events related to the elections, but not just agitation, may become one of the consolidating themes. PACE recommendations “Mass media and culture of democracy” and CMCE recommendations “About reporting of election campaigns in mass media” were approved in 1999. Indeed, from that time basic principles of democracy and reporting elections in mass media never changed. But we all understand that the role of both modern and traditional media has only increased – new problems and features emerged.

I propose, in case of approval by CE of the mentioned “6 themes” format, to add up a 7-th theme – a special theme concerning media and journalists. In the framework of quadrilogue format this theme would provide, in particular, for attracting media owners, NGO's journalists, and from the State, first of all, government authorities on broadcasting issues.

On our mind discussion could result, not just in “updating” Recommendations of 1999, but also in consideration of the new realities for media. Furthermore this theme should be separated taking into consideration special status of the press and the fundamental right of freedom of speech. Media can't be named neither “internal observer” nor “use of new technologies”.

At the same time members of the working group expressed remarks regarding theme that were proposed to be consolidating, in particular:

- first theme “Reducing the disenfranchisement of voters (e.g. minorities, foreigners, disadvantaged groups)” is actual only in two cases – when there is a problem in the country with ensuring representation of different groups in the parliament (normally those are national minorities) and in case of holding of elections to international institutions (for example foreigners

voting at the elections to European Parliament). All other cases (disabled persons etc.) – are issues of national country legislation. Subject of political representation of national minorities is dangerous and sensitive for Ukraine. That is why we reckon it would be reasonable to propose the first topic exceptionally in the context of elective franchise;

- second theme “Enhancing candidate and party identity (positions, platforms, campaigns)” directly correlates with one or the other electoral system. At the same time Code of good practice in electoral matters elaborated by the Venice Commission refers the question of choosing electoral system to political ones. The same Code affirms that countries are free to choose electoral systems. It is well-known that the level of candidate or party identity can be defined only by one or an other type of electoral system. Thereby the second theme is a separate problem of each country and can’t have universal solutions.

· Please consider propositions offered by working group and let me suggest you to reflect them in the previous draft program of the Forum.

My contact details: tel: (044) 278-56-22; e-mail: marochkin@comin.gov.ua.

Thank you in advance for understanding. With confidence in further fruitful cooperation.

Yours sincerely,

Deputy Head of the Committee

Andriy Marochkin

Appendix V

Preliminary TIMELINE for the preparation of the 2009 Session of the Forum for the Future of Democracy (FFD) Kyiv, 21- 23 October 2009

21 April 2009

(approximate dates, subject to modification)

30 January	13th meeting of the Advisory Board
11-12 March	FFD Secretariat preparatory visit to Kyiv
30 March	Call for expression of interest by NGOs is online
24 April	14th meeting of the Advisory Board
20 May	Preliminary draft programme and draft invitation letters ready
26 May (tbc)	Preparatory workshop, Strasbourg
29 May	Invitation letters with preliminary draft programme sent out; registration website online
5 June	Working documents commissioned and invitations to speakers sent out
26 June (tbc)	15th meeting of the Advisory Board
4 September	Deadline for commissioned working documents
7 September	List of invited NGOs available
10 September (tbc)	Preparatory seminar in Kyiv with FFD domestic preparatory group, stakeholders and rapporteurs
28 September	Dissemination of working documents and detailed draft programme
30 September	Registration deadline for participants (participation and hotel)
2 October (tbc)	16th Meeting of the Advisory Board
21-23 October	FFD Session in Kyiv