



# P R E S S R E L E A S E

## **APEL presents a report on monitoring political actors' presence in the programs of TV stations during the post-electoral period in a project supported by the Delegation of the European Commission to Moldova**

**Chişinău, June 17, 2009** – The public television Moldova 1 and the private stations NIT, N4, Prime, and, on certain segments -- EuTV, went on, in the second month after the elections, to cover political actors by derogating from the legal norms. The conclusions are contained in the report on post-election monitoring of the political actors' presence in the programs of 9 TV stations carried out by the Association of Electronic Press (APEL) from May 01 through 31, 2009.

According to data on monitoring newscasts and programs presenting political actors, the most significant deviations committed by the afore-mentioned televisions refer to the partial and differentiated observance of the political and social balance and pluralism, principles claimed by the Broadcasting Code. During the reference period, in newscasts, the political actors mostly covered in a positive context were representatives of the political power, as V. Voronin and Z. Greceanăi were in the spotlight. The representatives of the political opposition were mostly covered in a negative context in newscasts.

The data of this monitoring session speak about the fact that the imbalance in presenting political actors in broadcasts is more evident in the post-election period than during the run-up. Four TV stations (N4, Moldova 1, NIT and EuTV) display an obvious support for the ruling party, the PCRM, and for the representatives of this political party. At the same time, these broadcasters put in a negative context and disfavor the opposition parties from the parliament, some parties out of the parliament and their leaders. Other TV stations (ProTV, TV7 and TVC21) in May continued, most frequently, to treat the political actors impartially and in the spirit of social-political pluralism.

In the experts' opinion, the monitoring results in May 2009 speak about deepening the process of polarizing broadcasters and about the inability or reluctance of some TV stations to insure, by equidistant informing and impartial debate, tackling issues of public interest, a favorable dialogue to overcome the political and economic crisis Moldova's society copes with, including by holding the early elections in democratic conditions.

*The project "Monitoring the political/electoral actors on the main TV channels during the pre-election, election and post-election periods of the 2009 parliamentary elections" is financed by the Delegation of the European Commission in Moldova within the European Instrument for Democracy and Human Rights and takes place within the Civic Coalition for Free and Fair Elections – Coalition 2009. The monitoring report will be posted on APEL's web site ([www.apel.md](http://www.apel.md)).*



**This project is financed by European Union**

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**This project is implemented by the Electronic Press Association from Moldova**

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coalitia 2009



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