



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

APEL presents the first report on monitoring political/electoral actors' presence in the programs of TV stations during the electoral race for the 2009 early parliamentary elections in a project supported by the Delegation of the European Commission to Moldova

Chişinău, July 10, 2009 – The results of processing the data from the first 2 weeks of electoral race speak about ignoring the legal provisions and the ethical professional norms by most of the observed TV stations. The practice is continued, although during the previous campaign, for similar conducts, the TV operators were publicly warned by the Broadcasting Coordinating Council and were obliged to insure political balance and pluralism. The conclusions are stated in the first electoral monitoring report compiled by the Electronic Press Association from June 17 to 30, 2009.

The quantity data and the quality indices of the monitoring speak of the fact that the televisions go on differently treating the political actors. Moldova 1, N4, NIT and EuTV further remain promoters of distinct political forces (in the case of the first three – the PCRM, in the case of the latter – the PPCD). TV7 and ProTV incline to secure a balanced quantity approach of the actors involved in the race and to treat them in a balanced and impartial manner, as a rule.

EuTV, Moldova 1, N4 and NIT largely covered, in their news in a positive context, personalized political actors representing the government, and most frequently, – Vladimir Voronin and Iurie Roşca (for the first time). The PCRM and the PPCD are the political parties put in a positive context in news most frequently by the same televisions. In a negative context most often were put the leaders of the Liberal, Liberal Democratic, Our Moldova Alliance Parties. Moldova 1, after not displaying favoring attitude towards any politician or political party, for the first time during the period June 1-16, returned to the partisanship practice used in the April 5 elections.

The imbalance of presenting political actors is also heavy in other programs than newscasts. N4, NIT, EuTV and Moldova 1 continue to favor the PCRM, and much more frequently than before – the PPCD. The representatives of these two parties appear on the afore-mentioned TV channels in a favorable light, while the representatives of the opposition parties are covered unilaterally, and in a negative context. ProTV and TV7 largely keep being equidistant with the political actors.

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).



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