



Programme of the Conference

Hosted by:

*Association of Central and Eastern European Election Officials (ACEEEO)
Central Election Commission, Republic of Albania
IFES
IFES Albania*

Arrival (Wednesday, 8 September 2004) (*Sheshi Italia, Hotel Sheraton, Tirana*)

- 16.00 - 18.00 **Registration of Participants and Guests**
- 19.30 – 22.00 **Reception hosted by the Central Election Commission,
Republic of Albania**
venue: Sheshi Italia, Hotel Sheraton, Tirana

1st day (Thursday, 9 September 2004) (*Sheshi Italia, Hotel Sheraton, Tirana*)

- 8.00 – 10.00 **Registration of Participants and Guests**
- 9.00 – 10.00 **Executive Board Meeting** (*Room Iliria 1*)
- Chair: **Mr Ilirjan Celibashi** (*President of the ACEEEO,
Chairman of the Central Election Commission, Republic of
Albania*)

- Approval of the conference agenda

- Honorary membership (former Chairman of the Central Election Commission of Ukraine, Mr Mihailo Ryabets)
- Acceptance of a new member
- ACEEEO publication

10.00 – 10.45

Press conference (*Room Iliria 2*)

Mr Ilirjan Celibashi (*President of the ACEEEO, Chairman of the Central Election Commission, Republic of Albania*)

Mr Zoltán Tóth (*Secretary General of the ACEEEO*)

Mr Dickson H. Bailey (*Director of IFES-Albania*)

11.00 – 12.00

Opening Ceremony (*Room Iliria 1*)

Chair: **Mr Ilirjan Celibashi** (*President of the ACEEEO, Chairman of the Central Election Commission, Republic of Albania*)

Welcome speech: **His Excellency Alfred Moisiu** (*President of the Republic of Albania*)

Opening Speeches: **Mr Zoltán Tóth** (*Secretary General of the ACEEEO*) and **Mr Dickson H. Bailey** (*Director of IFES-Albania*)

12.00 - 12.15

Opening of the Election History Exhibition (*Hall*)

Opening speech: **Ms Márta Dezső** (*Director of the ACEEEO Documentation centre*)

12.15 – 12.30

Opening of the Exhibition of the Suppliers of Election Equipment and Services (*Hall*)

Opening Speech: **Mr Dickson H. Bailey** (*Director of IFES-Albania*)

12.30 – 13.00

Official photos of the participants

13.00 – 14.30

Lunch (*Restaurant Metropolitan, Hotel Sheraton*)

14.30 – 15.45

Plenary Session: Voter Turnout (*Room Iliria 1*)

Chair: **Mr Arnis Cimdars** (*Chairman of the Central Election Commission, Latvia*)

Speakers:

1. Mr Erton Kashta (*Central Election Commission of the Republic of Albania*)

'Voter turnout – a crucial topic for the Albanian society'

2. Representative of the Albanian Youth Council

3. Ms Márta Dezső (*Director of the ACEEEO Documentation Centre*)

'ACEEEO Study on Voter turnout'

4. Ms Maria Gratschew (*International IDEA*)

'Youth's electoral participation'

5. Mr Mark de Boer (*Communication adviser, Ministry of the Interior and Kingdom Relations, The Netherlands*)

'Moving young voters to participate in elections. How young voters can be approached differently in message and media.'

Moderated question and answer period

15.45-16.0

Presentation by DRS Data Research Services Plc (United Kingdom)

16.00 – 16.30

Tea break sponsored by MATAV Plc (Hungary)

16.30 – 18.00

Plenary Session: Voter Turnout (continued) (*Room Iliria 1*)

Chair: **Mrs Lívia Skultétyová** (*Ministry of the Interior, Slovak Republic*)

Speakers:

1. Mr Dan Blessington (*Project Director, IFES Macedonia*)

'Perspectives on Legal Thresholds and Youth Turnout'

2. Mr Vadim Zhdanovich (*Election Adviser, OSCE-ODIHR*)

'Voter Turnout and OSCE/ODIHR Election Observation'

3. Mr Vladimir Lysenko (*Central Election Commission, Russian Federation*)

'Young people and elections – the experience of the Russian Federation'

4. Ms Ellie Greenwood and Ms Beccy Earnshaw (*The Electoral Commission, United Kingdom*)

'Participation and young people – the role of the UK Electoral Commission'

5. Ms Irena Hadziabdic (*Executive Director, Association of Electoral Officials, Bosnia and Herzegovina*)

'Youth education and Voter Turnout in Bosnia and Herzegovina'

Moderated question and answer period

20.00 – 22.00

Reception hosted by Central Election Commission, Republic of Albania
venue: Restaurant Sky Club
(transport provided by the CEC of Albania)

2nd day (Friday, 10 September 2004) (*Sheshi Italia, Hotel Sheraton, Tirana*)

9.00 – 10.00

Plenary Session: Voter Turnout (*Room Iliria 1*)

Chair: **Mr Dickson H. Bailey** (*Director of IFES-Albania*)

Speakers:

1. Ms Emília Rytkó (*Head – National Election Office, Hungary*)

'Preparation of the first time voters for the conscious participation at the elections'

2. Mr Pierre Garrone (*Head of the Division of Elections and Referendums – Venice Commission, Council of Europe*)

'The work of the Council of Europe on young people and democratic institutions'

3. Ms Ana Cristina López López (*Head of Scope of Electoral Cooperation – Ministry of the Interior, Spain*)

'Promoting the vote amongst first time voters: preventing future decreasing of turnout?'

Moderated question and answer period

- 10.00 – 10.30 **Overview of IDEA's Global Research Project on Political Parties** (*Iliria 1*)
Speaker: **Ms Francesca Binda** (*Senior advisor – International IDEA*)
- 10.30 – 10.45 **Presentation by OPT2VOTE Plc (United Kingdom)**
- 10.45 – 11.00 **Tea break sponsored by the OPT2VOTE Plc (United Kingdom)**
- 11.00 – 12.30 **Parallel events** (*Room Iliria 3*)

Professional workshop I - E-voting

Chair: **Mr Kazimierz W. Czaplicki** (*Secretary of the National Electoral Commission*)

Moderator: **Mr Jeno Szep** (*E-voting expert of the ACEEEO*)

Professional workshop II - First time voters

Chair: **Ms Emília Rytókó** (*Head – National Election Office, Hungary*)

Moderator: **Mr Attila Vincze** (*researcher, ACEEEO*)

- 12.30 – 13.00 **Plenary Session: Summary of the workshops** (*Room Iliria 1*)
Chair: **Mr Zenonas Vaigauskas** (*Chairman of the Central Election Commission, Lithuania*)
Speakers: **Mr Jeno Szep** and **Mr Attila Vincze**

****Moderated question and answer period****

- 13.00 – 14.30 **Lunch** (*Restaurant Metropolitan, Hotel Sheraton*)
- 14.30 – 22.00 **Folklore programme organized by the CEC of Albania**
(*transport provided by the CEC*)
Sight-seeing (visit on the historic centre and castle of Kruja town)
Folkloric Dinner (restaurant House of Kings)

3rd day (Saturday, 11 September 2004) (*Sheshi Italia, Hotel Sheraton, Tirana*)

- 9.00 – 10.00 **European Parliamentary Elections in the Central and Eastern European region – reports on elections held in the region**
(*Iliria 1*)

Chair: **Mr Ivica Crnic** (*Chairman of the State Election Commission, Croatia*)

Opening presentation: **Ms Salla Saastamoinen** (*European Commission*)

Speakers:

1. **Ms Emília Rytók** - Hungary
2. **Mr Arnis Cimdars** - Latvia
3. **Mr Zenonas Vaigauskas** - Lithuania
4. **Mr Kazimierz W. Czaplicki** - Poland
5. **Mrs Lívia Skultétyová** - Slovakia

- 10.00 – 11.00 **Elections in the Central and Eastern European region – reports on elections held in the region** (*Room Iliria 1*)

Chair: **Mr Erton Kashta** (*Central Election Commission of the Republic of Albania*)

Opening presentation: **Mr Michael Svetlik** (*Deputy Director of Europe & Eurasia Programs IFES*)

Speakers:

1. Mr Ivica Crnic - Croatia

Parliamentary elections, Presidential elections

2. Mr Zenonas Vaigauskas - Lithuania

Presidential elections

3. Mr Vladimir Lysenko - Russian Federation

Parliamentary elections, Presidential elections

11.00 – 11.30

Forthcoming elections (*Room Iliria 1*)

Speaker: **Mr Paul DeGregorio** (*Commissioner - US Election Assistance Commission*)

11.30 – 11.45

Tea break

11.45 – 12.45

Executive Board Meeting (*Room Iliria 1*)

Chair: **Mr Ilirjan Celibashi** (*President of the ACEEEO, Chairman of the Central Election Commission, Republic of Albania*)

- Reconciliation of the agenda of the General Assembly meeting
- Scene of the next annual conference in 2005
- Recommendation of the Study on Voter Turnout
- US elections in November 2004

12.45 – 14.15

Lunch (*Restaurant Metropolitan, Hotel Sheraton*)

14.30 – 17.30

General Assembly Meeting (*Room Iliria 1*)

Chair: **Mr Ilirjan Celibashi** (*President of the ACEEEO, Chairman of the Central Election Commission, Republic of Albania*)

Draft agenda:

- Acceptance of the recommendation (Study on Voter Turnout)
- Report of the Secretary-General
- Report on the standards
- Report on e-voting project
- Report on the current projects
- Associated membership with the Department of Public Information of the United Nations
- Work schedule for 2005
- The scene of the ACEEEO annual conference in 2005
- Acceptance of a new member
- Grant of Honorary Member Title

in the meantime:
16.00 – 16.15

Tea break

20.00 – 22.00

Closing Reception hosted by the Secretariat of the ACEEEO
Venue: Hotel Adriatik (transport organized by the CEC of Albania)