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ENEMO urges the Moldovan Government to respect human rights and to address election related problems

European Network of Election Monitoring Organizations (ENEMO) member organizations have closely watched and are seriously concerned by the events following the April 5th, 2009 Parliamentary elections in the Republic of Moldova.

After a week of street protests, the Moldovan Government has failed to provide clarifications on the concerns raised by protesters and domestic observers, choosing instead to pursue a policy of reprimation, intimidation and silencing of the private media.

While both domestic and international election monitoring efforts have assessed the election day as being relatively free of major incidents, serious concerns regarding the overall management of the electoral process, such as incorrect voters' lists, abuse of administrative resources, intimidation of voters and electoral actors, unequal access to media still exist. The combination of these factors may have had a significant impact on the final outcome of the elections and allegations of observers' groups on these issues should be clarified in the most transparent manner.

Although election day is a very important part of the electoral process, many of the aspects that contribute to free and fair elections relate to the electoral campaign and even to the pre-electoral period. By concentrating on election day evaluation, while showing less concern with previous periods of the electoral process, observers' groups risk presenting a distorted image of the electoral process.

Free and fair elections are the foundation of any democracy. We urge the Central Electoral Commission of Moldova and the Government of Moldova to address all the concerns raised by observers' groups with impartiality and transparency and in a way that builds, not destroys, trust in Moldova's electoral processes.

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Secretary General
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ENEMO Member Organizations: *Centers for Civic Initiatives -Bosnia and Herzegovina, Center for Democratic Transition – Montenegro, Center for Free Elections and Democracy – Serbia, Coalition for Democracy and Civil Society – Kyrgyzstan, Committee of Ukrainian Voters -Ukraine; Election Monitoring Center – Azerbaijan, GONG – Croatia, ISFED – Georgia, It's your choice – Armenia, LADOM – Moldova, MOST – Macedonia, Pro Democracy Association – Romania, Republican Network of Independent Monitors – Kazakhstan, Voice – Russia, , Obcianske Oko – Slovakia, Partnership - Belarus, Society for Democratic Culture – Albania, The Monitoring Center – Montenegro, Viasna – Belarus.*