



30 May 2010

**International Society for Fair Elections and Democracy  
Election Statement Release # 2, 15:00 AM**

**Tbilisi, Georgia** – The International Society for Fair Elections and Democracy (ISFED) continues to monitor the 30 May 2010 local elections and parliamentary by-elections. The organization is monitoring the vote through **1,100** observers in electoral precincts, **73** observers at the district electoral commissions, **73** mobile groups and **15** groups of lawyers. At the same time, the organization is conducting qualitative and quantitative election-day monitoring. Through this press release, ISFED is presenting the data available by 3p.m.

**Pressure on Observers**

- In Electoral Precinct **#41** of **Rustavi Electoral District #20**, an ISFED observer was subjected to pressure. Gocha Kurdadze, an individual whom the observer had not previously known, phoned the observer and categorically demanded that the observer left the polling station and travelled to vote in his own electoral precinct in a car sent by Kurdadze. The organization conducted an inquiry and determined that the person who had called the observer was a United National Movement activist. The observer received a second phone call from the driver, who said that he was waiting outside. Naturally, the organization's observer did not leave the polling station.
- In Electoral Precinct **#36** of **Chokhatauri Electoral District #62**, an ISFED observer was subjected to pressure by the Precinct Electoral Commission chairman. It is worth noting that the commission chairman voted twice in the polling station, prompting a remark from the observer.
- An ISFED observer was not allowed to work freely in Electoral Precinct **#21** of **Sagarejo Electoral District #11**.

**Pressure on Media**

- In Electoral Precinct **#7** of **Adigeni Electoral District #38**, pressure on journalists occurred. Specifically, Nino Narimanashvili and Manana Sarashvili, journalists from the Samkhretis Karibche newspaper, were told by a police officer to leave the police station and to remain quiet. The organization's representative verified the information with the aforementioned individuals, who had left the polling station.

**Rigging/Attempted Rigging**

- In Electoral Precinct **#38** of **Kaspi Electoral District #30**, the secrecy of vote was frequently violated as the voters marked the election contestants of their choice on ballot papers publicly. Despite a remark having been made, the Precinct Electoral Commission

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- chairman did not address the issue. ISFED would like elections results in this precinct to be annulled.
- In Electoral Precinct **#29** of **Kutaisi Electoral District #59**, a person was allowed to vote even though the personal number on his ID did not match the one on the voter list.
- In electoral precincts **#101** and **#11** of **Kutaisi Electoral District #59**, there was an attempt to vote with a copy of an ID. In Precinct **#11**, there was also an attempt to vote with a driver's license. An ISFED observer drew the commission's attention to the irregularity. In Precinct **#128** of the same district, 40 persons were planning to vote with copies of IDs though, in this case, the commission itself did not allow them to do this.
- In Electoral Precinct **#41** of **Batumi Electoral District #79**, there was an attempt to vote instead of a different person with a fake ID.

### Turmoil in Polling Station

- Electoral Precinct **#25** of **Gardabani Electoral District #21** opened late (at 9:15 a.m.). The control sheet was inserted into the ballot box before the draw. A commission member from the United National Movement has deputized as commission secretary because the actual secretary does not know the official language. There is chaos in the polling station as the commission member responsible for regulating the flow of voters has failed to do so. The information about the control sheet had not been added to the protocol by 10 a.m. though voters were still casting ballots. The Precinct Electoral Commission refused to register an ISFED complaint though it did take a copy. The organization submitted the same complaint to **Gardabani District Electoral Commission #21**.

### Inaccuracies in Voter Lists

- Inaccuracies were found in the unified voter list: in Electoral Precinct **#54** of **Samgori Electoral District #6**; Electoral Precinct **#3** of **Gurjaani Electoral District #12**; electoral precincts **##23, 34** and **57** of **Ozurgeti Electoral District #60**; electoral precincts **## 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 23, 25, 26, 27, 28** and **36** of **Borjomi Electoral District #36**; Electoral Precinct **#10** of **Adigeni Electoral District #38**.
- In Electoral Precinct **#54** of **Samgori Electoral District #6**, voters whose last names started with **“D”**, **“E”** and **“V”** were not on the voter list of the polling station. Because of this, they were not allowed to vote and were asked to return later. Subsequently, it became clear that the list containing these voters was, in fact, at the polling station.
- [Inaccuracies were found] in the supplementary voter list in election precincts **# 23** and **#34** of **Ozurgeti Electoral District #60**.

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### Suspension of Voting Process

- Majoritarian ballots were delivered by mistake to electoral precincts #12 and #32 of **Kharagauli Electoral District #48**. Namely, the ballots allocated for Electoral Precinct
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- #12 were delivered to Electoral Precinct #32 and vice versa. For this reason, voting was delayed for 40 minutes.
- In Electoral Precinct #21 of **Chkhorotsku Electoral District #69**, the precinct electoral commission chairman suspended voting for 15-20 minutes because the commission members would not cut the ballot papers. A similar incident was recorded in electoral precincts # 3, #19 and #29 of **Baghdati Electoral District #52**.
- At Electoral Precinct #15 of **Oni Electoral District #43**, it turned out that majoritarian ballot papers delivered to the polling station were identical of those intended for and sent to a different polling station. As a result, majoritarian vote was suspended and only the proportional vote continued.

### Shortage of/Inaccuracies in Electoral Materials

- In the following electoral precincts, the number of delivered ballot papers was smaller than the number of voters on the list: the majority of electoral precincts of **Baghdati Electoral District # 52 and Chiatura Electoral District #56**; electoral precincts of **Gori Electoral District #32**; electoral precincts of **Akhmeta Electoral District #18, Dedoplistskaro Electoral District #14, Qvareli Electoral District #16, Signaghi Electoral District #13**.
- Ballot papers delivered to electoral precincts ## 1, 9, 11, 19 and 43 of **Gurjaani Electoral District #12** had no place for a stamp and signatures overleaf.
- In Electoral Precinct #129 of **Kutaisi Electoral District #59**, two commission members responsible for voter registration worked with a single stamp. A complaint was filed and, as a result, the problem was resolved and one of the members was removed. A complaint was also filed to the District Electoral Commission, requesting that the ballot papers with a single stamp and different signatures be deemed invalid.

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### **Voting through Mobile Ballot Box**

- At Electoral Precinct **#89** of **Kutaisi Electoral District #59**, ballot papers for a portable ballot box carried no stamps and were not signed. After this was discovered, the ballot box was brought back to the polling station. One person had voted by then. ISFED demanded invalidation of this vote and raised the issue of responsibility of the Precinct Electoral Commission chairperson, the secretary and the two commission members who accompanied the box.
- In Electoral Precinct **#25** of **Kutaisi Electoral District #59**, the mobile ballot box was taken from the polling station late on the grounds that there were only 35 voters on the supplementary voter list and there was no need to rush.
- In Electoral Precinct **#13** of **Kutaisi Electoral District #59**, ballot papers for the mobile ballot box were taken from the polling station without a stamp.

### **Procedural violations**

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- Due to the inking verification device going out of order, voting was suspended at electoral precincts **#101** and **#78** of **Kutaisi Electoral District #59**; electoral precincts **##33, 34b** and **35** of **Samtredia Electoral District #54**; electoral precincts **#6** and **#15** of **Tsalenjikha Electoral District #68**. In Electoral Precinct **#14** of **Kaspi Electoral District #30**, an inking verification device went out of order and voting was suspended for an hour.
- In Electoral Precinct **#34** of **Sagarejo Electoral District #11**, voters were not inked at the polling station.

As of 1500 hours, the organization's observers have filed a total of 11 **complaints**.



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