



ISFED

30 May 2010

International Society for Fair Elections and Democracy

Election Statement Release # 3, 18:00 AM

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 6 p.m.

Pressure on Observers

• In Electoral Precinct # **58** of **Saburtalo** Electoral District #**3**, there was turmoil and chaos. When the ISFED observer decided to file a complaint, the precinct electoral commission chairman verbally assaulted the observer and refused to register the complaint. The commission chairman hid the commission stamp and hence the complaint had remained unregistered. The organization intends to file the same complaint with the Saburtalo District Electoral Commission #3.

Using Organization's Name

• In electoral precincts # **47** and # **60** of **Kutaisi** Electoral District # **59**, persons unknown to the organization presented themselves to the precinct electoral commissions as ISFED observers. In Electoral Precinct # **47**, one of the aforementioned observers left the polling station, while in the Electoral Precinct # **60**, another of these observers later registered as an observer from the Center for Democracy and Freedom. ISFED is concerned about these incidents.

Various Violations

- In Electoral Precinct # **16** of **Batumi** Electoral District # **79**, two voters discovered that someone had already put signatures across their names on the voter list.
- In Electoral Precinct # **64** of **Batumi** Electoral District # **79**, the number of signatures on the voter list is smaller than the number of ballot papers issued.
- In Electoral Precinct # **22** of **Batumi** Electoral District # **79**, people were seen voting instead of others.
- In Electoral Precinct # **1** of **Aspindza** Electoral District # **39**, Giorgi Shermazanashvili, who presented a temporary identification document, received ballot papers from the commission member responsible for registration. It is noteworthy that a citizen cannot participate in the 30 May 2010 elections if he or she has temporary identification papers. After this was made clear, Giorgi Shermazanashvili fled the polling station, taking ballot papers with him.

**International Society for Fair Elections
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**Address: 7 Vazha-Pshavela Ave.
0160 Tbilisi, Georgia**

**Tel: (995 32) 98 39 98
Fax: (995 32) 37 22 13**

**E-mail: info@isfed.ge
Website: www.isfed.ge**



- In Electoral Precinct # **14** of **Senaki** Electoral District # **64**, five internally displaced persons (IDPs) voted without presenting their IDP cards. One person voted after presenting a pension card. ISFED filed a complaint, demanding that the issue of administrative responsibility of commission members was raised and the results in the polling station were annulled.
- In Electoral Precinct # **32** of **Khobi** Electoral District # **66**, a person from the special list of a different precinct cast a vote. No remark regarding the inclusion of this person on the special list was made at the version of the list that the commission had on the desk.
- In Electoral Precinct # **2** of **Kharagauli** Electoral District # **48**, there were 49 people registered in the supplementary list. However, the mobile ballot box was brought back to the polling station with 50 people having cast their votes. The organization filed a complaint and demanded that the mobile ballot box results were annulled and the issue of administrative responsibility of two commission members was raised.
- In Electoral Precinct # **84** of **Kutaisi** Electoral District # **59**, the mobile ballot box was taken to voters late, at 12 p.m. At the same polling station, the commission members granted the permission to vote to a person who returned to the country four days ago but failed to present a document (passport) stating that he had crossed the border.

Suspension of Voting

- In Electoral Precinct # **14** of **Kaspi** Electoral District # **30**, the inking verification device broke down and, as a result, voting was suspended for 40 minutes.
- In electoral precincts # **4**, # **6** and # **44** of **Telavi** Electoral District # **17**, voting was suspended for 20 minutes due to the malfunction of the inking verification device.

Voting through Mobile Ballot Box

- In Electoral Precinct # **33** of **Chokhatauri** Electoral District # **62**, there were 100 people on the supplementary voter list while the precinct electoral commission had only received 34 formal voter requests. It has to be noted that most of the requests were written in the same handwriting (for example, 6, 7, 8 were written in the same manner).
- In Electoral Precinct # **18** of **Chokhatauri** Electoral District # **62**, there were 87 requests for inclusion on the supplementary list, all of which had been written in the same handwriting.

Procedural Violations

- In electoral precincts # **49**, # **25** and # **19** of **Telavi** Electoral District # **17**, the rules for filling out ballot papers were not displayed in the polling station. The problem was addressed after observers drew the commission's attention to it.

As of 6 p.m., the organization's observers have filed a total of **22** complaints. At this stage, ISFED observers are examining other violations and will file complaints to corresponding electoral commissions.

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International Society for Fair Elections and Democracy continues monitoring throughout Election Day and will present monitoring findings in the next statement.



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