



Ministerie van Binnenlandse Zaken en
Koninkrijksrelaties



KIESRAAD

Strasbourg, 26 November 2009

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EUROPEAN COMMISSION FOR DEMOCRACY THROUGH LAW **(VENICE COMMISSION)**

in co-operation with
**THE MINISTRY OF THE INTERIOR AND KINGDOM RELATIONS
OF THE NETHERLANDS**
and **THE ELECTORAL COUNCIL OF THE NETHERLANDS**

6TH EUROPEAN CONFERENCE OF ELECTORAL MANAGEMENT BODIES

“ENHANCING PARTICIPATION IN ELECTIONS”

**Steigenberger Kurhaus Hotel
Scheveningen/The Hague, 30 November – 1 December 2009**

PROGRAMME

Monday 30 November 2009

- 10.00 – 10.30 Registration of participants (with coffee and tea)
- 10.30 – 11.00 Opening of the conference
- Opening remarks by:
- Ms A. Bijleveld, State Secretary of the Ministry of the Interior and Kingdom Relations of the Netherlands
 - Mr H. Kummeling, Chairman of the Electoral Council of the Netherlands
 - Ms M. Stavniychuk, Deputy Head of the Presidential Secretariat of Ukraine, Member of the Venice Commission
- 11.00 – 11.45 **Presentation by EMBs on 2008/2009 elections**
- Short presentations by representatives of countries that had general or presidential elections in 2009
 - Address by Ms M. del Carmen Alanis Figueroa, President of the Electoral Tribunal of Mexico
- 11.45 – 12.15 **1st Working session:
Attracting electors to participate (in elections)**
- Mr E. Tanchev, President of the Constitutional Court of Bulgaria, Member of the Venice Commission
- 12.15 – 12.45 Questions and discussion
- 12.45 – 13.45 **Workshop 1 (3 parallel sessions by 3 speakers)
Attracting electors to participate (in elections)**
- Mr S. de Mul, Head of Elections Unit, General Direction of Institutions and Population, Federal Public Service, Belgium
 - Ms M. Leyenaar, Professor of comparative politics at Radboud University Nijmegen, Member of the Electoral Council of the Netherlands
 - Mr P. Wardle, Chief Executive, Electoral Commission of the United Kingdom
- 13.45 – 15.00 Lunch at the Kurhaus, offered by the Ministry of the Interior and Kingdom Relations of the Netherlands and the Electoral Council of the Netherlands
- 15.00 – 15.30 **2nd Working session:
Information campaigns on specific elections**
- Ms M. van den Broeke, Deputy spokesperson and head of the Press Unit at European Parliament
- 15.30 – 16.00 Questions and discussion
- 16.00 – 16.30 Coffee break

- 16.30 – 17.30 **Workshop 2** (3 parallel sessions by 3 speakers)
Information campaigns on specific elections
- Mr D. Magalhaes, Director of Services, Interior Ministry, Directorate General of Internal Affairs, Portugal
 - Ms K. Lemon, Election Authority, Senior Advisor, Sweden
 - Ms C. Wennekers, the Netherlands Government Information, Service/Public and Communication Service
- 17.30 – 18.00 Conclusions of the first day
- 18.00 – 19.30 Evening drinks reception and networking (at the Kurhaus)

Tuesday 1 December 2009

- 09.15 – 9.30 Results of the first day and short introduction of the programme of this day
- Mr H. Kummeling
- 09.30 – 10.30 **3rd Working session:**
Criteria for disenfranchising electors
- Mr E. Abrahamson, Solicitor, London, United Kingdom
“Disenfranchisement of prisoners by particular in reference to the European Court of Human Rights case of *Hirst vs United Kingdom*”
 - Mr G. Golosov, Professor, University of St Petersburg, Russian Federation
- 10.30 – 11.00 Questions and discussion
- 11.00 – 11.30 Coffee break
- 11.30 – 13.00 **Workshop 3** (3 parallel sessions by 3 speakers)
Criteria for disenfranchising electors
- Mr G. Wenda, Deputy Head of the election administration Department, Electoral Affairs, Federal Ministry of the Interior, Austria
 - Mr Y. Kluchkovskyi, Member of the Ukrainian Parliament, Deputy Chairman of the Parliamentary Committee for Public Authorities and Local Self-Governance Development, President of the Election Law Institute
 - Mr A. Cimdars, Chairman of the Central Election Commission of Latvia
- 13.00 - 14.15 Lunch at the Kurhaus, offered by the Ministry of the Interior and Kingdom Relations and the Electoral Council of the Netherlands
- 14.15 –15.15 Conclusions of the workshops
- 15.15 – 16.15 Questions and discussion
- 16.15 – 16.45 Close of the conference
- Mr H. Kummeling