

**INFORMATION**  
**regarding the celebration of Global Elections Day in the Republic of Moldova**  
**7 of February 2008**

On the 7 of February 2008 Central Electoral Commission of the Republic of Moldova has celebrated for the first time the Global Elections Day. In order to mark this important day there were organized a series of measures:

**1. District seminar “Study and respect electoral legislation”**

On the 6 of February 2008, in the meeting hall of the District Council Strășeni, Central Electoral Commission in collaboration with Women Association “Initiative”(NGO) have organized a conference dedicated to the most important section of the electoral process – electoral law. The manifestation was focused on the young generation, pupils from the IX-XII form from schools of Strășeni District. The seminar was presented by two specialists in electoral law and civic education from the CEC Apparatus and the president of the Women Association “Initiative”.

The seminar was started with a lesson about civic activity and responsibility, presented by the president of WA”Initiative”. The representatives from the Central Electoral Commission have continued with a presentation of the electoral system, electoral infrastructure and legislative aspects of the elections and referenda. They have distributed to the participants electoral materials for the libraries from their schools. One of guests of this conference was a judge from the district, ex –chairman of the Strășeni District Electoral Council. He has given an evaluation of the activity of his District Council during the last General Local Elections. He has mentioned that one of the biggest problems that he has noticed during the electoral campaign was the low rate of participation and has encouraged first voters to vote. He has noticed that an important thing for the Republic of Moldova will be the consolidation of Local Youth Council for the education of an active and responsible citizen.

At the meeting have also participated the youngest representatives of the local administration which have made a review of their practice from the last general local elections. They have spoken about the problems that a young candidate can experience during the electoral campaign and how to manage them. They have encouraged young people to participate at elections not only as voters but also as candidates, in order to build a prosper and democratic society. The youngest district councilor, that is also the head of a NGO, has presented his project that he has organized in Strășeni District. They have made a simulation of the local elections among young people, a kind of “general repetition” that has gained a wide interest among the population.

During this seminar the participants were very active. They have demanded about the last legislative modifications, about referenda initiative. A special interest was manifested for the Parliamentary elections that will be held in the Republic of Moldova in 2009. In the end, pupils were proposed to prepare essays on “The youth activism in elections”. The best essays will be published in the local mass-media, that was also present at the conference.

## **2. Press Conference**

On the 7 of February 2008, in the Conference hall "MOLDPRES" from Chilinău, Central Electoral Commission has prepared a press conference. At this event have participated 11 media representatives and the president of the NGO "ADEPT". The information was presented by the deputy chairman and the secretary of the Central Electoral Commission. CEC has prepared for the participants: a press communication and an informative bulletin, dedicated to the 10 year jubilee of the CEC. There were launched a drawing contest, for the pupils and an essay contest for the students.

The administration of the Central Electoral Commission has congratulated the citizens from the Republic of Moldova with the Global Election Day and have presented a communication about the preparations of the Commission for the Parliamentary elections from 2009.

The participants have addressed questions regarding: problems with which CEC is confronting, the implementation of the State Voter Register, preparation of the Voter Lists and modifications to the Electoral Code.

## **3. Seminar "The importance of the elections in a democratic society"**

On the same day, in Dondușeni District, Central Electoral Commission and the administration of the local lyceum have organized a seminar for the pupils from the last grade of this lyceum. They have discussed about: forms and methods of state power management; the right to vote and to be elected; youth – the engine of the society; your personal responsibility for the situation from your country.

The first voters had a special interest for the right to vote and to be elected. They were informed that no one can impose them to vote or not to vote and they have analyzed situations when this principle is prohibited.

**4.** From 6 to 7 of February, Central Electoral Commission has broadcasted on the national television a video material that has informed the population about the Global Election Day. Information about all this events were also posted on the web page of the CEC.