



14 June 2007

### Press Release

on the results of the monitoring of mass media coverage  
during the second round of local elections in Moldova (4 – 11 June 2007)

The Association of Independent Press and Independent Journalism Center announce the launching, within the Civic Coalition for Free and Fair Elections – Coalition 2007, of the results of the fifth stage of monitoring (4 – 11 June 2007) of the coverage by the major Moldovan radio/TV stations and newspapers of the second round of local elections.

### GENERAL CONCLUSIONS

In the second round of local elections are found both positive and negative changes in the way of reflection of the electoral campaign by monitored radio and TV stations.

Although they continue to favor with the same frequency the ruling party, presenting as news the press releases of the Government and of the President's Office, the public stations *Moldova 1*, *Radio Moldova* broadcasted also the opinions of some opposition parties regarding the elections on 3 June. It is worth mentioning that *Radio Moldova* presented two news favoring PCRM on 2 June (about the participation of Prime Minister Tarlev at the kindergarten opening, granting each group of children with a TV set; about the start of service of a Cimislia-Chisinau road segment and the satisfaction of people on this occasion), when the electoral campaign is prohibited by law.

Also *Antena C* acted as a mouthpiece of the governance, informing about „the remarkable progress in health sector”, amendment of the Law on Budget and future increase of salaries for state employees, increase of expenses for gas supply, about the opening in Chisinau of children camps, for which parents pay only 20% of the total cost, the reduction of pollution agents in the atmosphere compared to the European states, as well as Mr. Tarlev's intention to end the construction of dwelling houses started in the '80s-'90s etc.

*NIT*, *Antena C* continued to ignore the opposition. Certain positive changes were registered in the broadcast of *N4*, which used information from several political parties. It also presented the objective news about the reality of the capital.

*Russkoe Radio* confined itself to the broadcasting of information presented by the Central Election Commission. *TV 7* reduced the critical news, but continued to offer access to all political parties. A wide reflection of the electoral campaign is offered also by *Vocea Basarabiei* and *PRO TV*. Just as before 3 June in the news and opinion programs broadcasted on *Vocea*

*Basarabiei* prevailed anticommunist approaches and criticism of PCRM. An active pluralist involvement in the reflection of elections showed also *Euro TV*, providing access to the majority of electoral rivals. As a result of evidences, brought by *Euro TV Chisinau*, of violations of electoral legislation, police abusively invaded this station's office, intimidating its employees.

It is worth stressing that the representative of the ruling party did not follow the requests to participate at the electoral debates, not even at the stations that favor him.

Former governmental and local public publications continue to cover the electoral actions of the local and central public administration, as well as to attack – one of them – the opposition candidates, who remained in the electoral race after 3 June 2007. *Moldova Suverană* publishes defamatory and offensive materials about Dorin Chirtoaca. As in the previous period, in the majority of private newspapers prevailed critical articles, addressing the communist governance, and publicity to the advantage of opposition parties. After 3 June 2007 the majority of national private newspapers, with exception of *Saptamana* and *Komsomolskaia Pravda*, favor directly or indirectly Dorin Chirtoaca, the candidate of PL. Local private newspapers presented and relatively objectively analyzed the results of elections at the local level, without favoring obviously any electoral rival.

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The project is implemented in partnership with the Institute of Marketing and Polls IMAS-INC Chisinau. The monitoring period is 10 April 2007 – 17 June 2007. The results will be made public by means of bimonthly reports in the first monitoring month and weekly reports in the following months. Also, the reports will be posted on the web page designed for general local elections [www.alegeri.md/2007](http://www.alegeri.md/2007) created within Coalition 2007 by ADEPT.

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53 Șciusev street, Chișinău, 2012 MD, tel. (37322) 213652, 227539, fax (37322) 226681