



Organization for Security and
Co-operation in Europe
Presence in Albania

HEAD OF PRESENCE REMARKS FOLLOWING A MEETING OF OSCE, EU AND U.S. AMBASSADORS WITH SOCIALIST PARTY CHAIR

Tirana, 23 January 2013

Q: We do understand Mr. Rama presented you with some concerns regarding the preparation of elections. How did you find such concerns?

Ambassador Wollfarth: On elections, the preparation of the elections according to the legislation in place is of utmost importance. All parties, not only including the Socialist Party, should be interested in that. Preparations are going on. They include these electronic elements on counting and on ID. These preparations, and also the elections, should be carried out in a constructive mode regarding issues that lead to a peaceful future of Albania, among those: rule of law, good development of social issues and the economy.

The Central Election Commission is working on it; the parliament is in a committee discussing, which means it is working. Anything that is constructive can count on our support. It is important for Albania's development, for Albania's future and also for Albania's integration into existing structures inside Europe.

We had a very constructive talk with the Chair of the Socialist Party, Mr. Edi Rama, on these items. Anything that is deflecting from this could lead to a less constructive atmosphere and we are discouraging to look towards destructive things. The dialogue is on and it will continue.

Q: Mr. Ambassador, did you discuss the three laws with Mr. Rama? Is there a new stand on them?

EU Ambassador Ettore Sequi: We have not discussed this issue.

Q: Did you discuss the allocation of parliamentary seats with Mr. Rama and what is your stand?

EU Ambassador Ettore Sequi: I think that Ambassador Wollfarth has very precisely and eloquently explained what was the content of the conversation. So, we discussed a number of issues related to the electoral process and the preparation of the elections.

Ends