

# Prohlášení

## Statement

## Déclaration

Vienna 28 May 2009

### **Permanent Council No. 762**

### **EU Statement on Kyrgyzstan**

The EU refers to the Spot Report Nr. 19/09 issued by the OSCE Centre in Bishkek on 27 May and notes the fact that the Central Election Commission of the Kyrgyz Republic has issued on 26 May an invitation to the ODIHR to observe the Presidential Elections to be held on 23 July 2009.

We are deeply concerned that this invitation includes certain significant restrictions, in particular regarding the number of the ODIHR's observers and the overall composition of the ODIHR's envisaged election observation mission. Such limitations would prevent the ODIHR from observing the forthcoming Presidential Elections in line with the recommendations in the Needs Assessment Mission Report.

Numerous elections in OSCE participating States, which have allowed ODIHR to work without such restrictions, have clearly shown the ODIHR's ability to conduct professional election observation throughout the OSCE region in accordance with its standard methodology, which has been developed over many years. This methodology has a high level of credibility and is also followed by EU election observation missions.

The EU therefore appeals to the Kyrgyz Republic to remove the above-mentioned restrictions on the ODIHR's observation mission for the forthcoming Presidential Elections. We hope that in accordance with our OSCE commitments all observers will be given unfettered access to the entire electoral process in order for Kyrgyzstan to fully benefit from ODIHR's assistance.

The candidate countries TURKEY, CROATIA\* and FORMER YUGOSLAV REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA\*, the countries of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidate countries ALBANIA, BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA, MONTENEGRO and SERBIA, the European Free Trade Association countries and members of the European Economic Area ICELAND and LIECHTENSTEIN, as well as UKRAINE align themselves with this statement.

\*Croatia and Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia continue to be part of the Stabilisation and Association Process.