

Findings of the Promo-LEX Observation Mission following the monitoring of the New Local Elections of November 21, 2021 Election Day



The Promo-LEX Observation Mission presents its main findings with regard to the opening and closing of the polling stations (PS), voting during the Election Day and incidents reported by observers during the monitoring of the new local elections of November 21, 2021. At the same time, we present the rapid vote counting results, conducted by Promo-LEX OM, in 15 settlements, where elections for the position of mayor were held.

The information was collected and reported by 28 static short-term observers (STOs), who monitored the electoral process in each of the polling stations set up in 14 level- one administrative units[1]. The elections in the municipality of Balti were observed by four mobile teams of two observers each that monitored all the 60 PSs set up.

During the election day, as a whole, the voting was organized efficiently and the process was smooth. About 18% of monitored PSs opened with insignificant delays. According to observers, the voting procedures were conducted in compliance with COVID-19 requirements in 89% of polling stations.

The Promo-LEX Observation Mission of the New Local Elections of November 21, 2021 finds that of the total of 18 notifications reported by Promo-LEX observers, 14 were processed as incidents, namely:

- intimidation of the Promo-LEX observer – 2 cases (PS 17/12, Falesti, Calinesti (by PAS representatives (1); by an unidentified person (1));
- unjustified presence of unauthorized persons inside the polling station or within 100 m of the PS – 2 cases (PS 16/11 Edinet, Cupcini (PAS-1, BESC-1), PS 17/12, Falesti, Calinesti (unidentified-1 case));
- unjustified cessation / suspension of voting process in the polling station – 1 case (PS 16/10, Edinet, Cupcini);
- interruption of the shooting of electoral operations during the voting day -1 case (PS 11/26, Cimislia, Hartop);
- availability of advertising materials on displays, electoral panels within 100 m of the polling station – 3 cases (PS 2/41, 2/57, PS 2/32 Balti municipality – BECS);
- ballot boxes were not sealed according to the legal procedures / broken / damaged or absence of seals on the ballot boxes – 1 case (PS 16/9, Edinet, Cupcini);

- deficiencies in electoral lists – 1 case (PS16 / 11 Edinet, Cupcini);
- photographing of ballots, other violations of the secrecy of the vote – 2 cases (PS 16/11 Edinet, Cupcini, PS 11/26, Cimislia, Hartop).
- deficiencies in the counting of ballot papers – 1 case (PS 17/12, Falesti, Calinesti).

Considering that the voter turnout exceeded 1/4 of the number of voters registered in the electoral lists, we find that the elections are valid in all 15 constituencies.

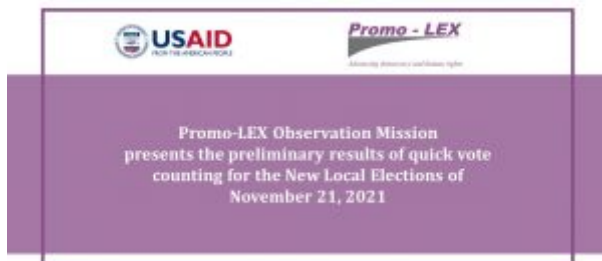
The closure of the observed PSs was held with no violations. The vote counting process carried out by the electoral bodies was generally quick and calm. However, in at least 7 PSs (19%), the members of the PEBs ignored the rule stating that in the counting process, the ballot paper must be displayed to all the other participants of the counting process by a single member of the bureau.

Traditionally, in these elections too, the Promo-LEX OM carried out a parallel vote counting. Out of the total number of 88 protocols collected, 36 were obtained directly from the Precinct Electoral Bureaus (PEBs) observed, and the other 52 (Balti constituency) were collected as they were submitted by the PEBs presidents to Constituency Electoral Council. The findings of Promo-LEX confirm the preliminary results established by the Central Electoral Commission. In the first round, mayors were elected in 9 settlements, and on December 5, 2021, the second round of elections will be organized in 6 other settlements.

N.	Settlement	Elected mayor	Preliminary results of the CEC	Promo-LEX preliminary results	Difference
1	Camenca village, Glodeni district	Postolachi Ala (PAS)	560 (70,00%)	560 (70,00%)	–
2	Palanca village, Stefan Voda district	Cozlovschi Dumitru (PAS)	359 (53,50%)	359 (53,50%)	–

3	Negureni village, Ungheni district	Uscatu Galina (PDM)	359 (53,34%)	359 (53,34%)	–
4	Hlinaia village, Edinet district	Ceban Tudor (PAS)	415 (55,18%)	415 (55,19%)	+0,01%
5	Calinesti village, Falesti district	Procopciuc Ala (IC)	495 (51,99%)	495 (52%)	+0,01%
6	Pirlita village, Falesti district	Neagu Sergiu (PAS)	768 (77,65%)	768 (77,65%)	–
7	Ucrainca commune, Causeni district	Macovei Tamara (PAS)	427 (80,72%)	427 (80,72%)	–
8	Iscalau commune, Falesti district	Boiciuc Alexandru (PPS)	609 (68,96%)	609 (68,97%)	+0,01%
9	Stefanesti village, Stefan Voda district	Bujorean Ruslan (BECS)	271 (59,82%)	271 (59,82%)	–

Details on the results of parallel vote counting in all 15 constituencies are contained in the presentation below.



The press release is prepared as part of the New Local Election Observation Mission of November 21, 2021, carried out by the Promo-LEX Association with the financial support of the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) through the “Democracy, Transparency and Accountability” Program.

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[1] Ucraina commune and Opaci village (Causeni district), Hartop commune (Cimislia district), the town of Cupcini and Hlinaia village (Edinet district), Işcalau commune, Calinesti and Parliaa villages (Falesti district), Camenca commune (Glodeni district) Hancesti), Cneazevca commune (Leova district), Palanca and Ştefaneati villages (Stefan Voda district), Negurenii Vechi commune (Ungheni district).