**The statement by**

**group of independent international observers**

**on elections of deputies of the State Duma of the sixth convocation on December, 4th, 2011**

The group of the independent international observers accredited by the Central election committee of the Russian Federation [at the suggestion of](http://www.multitran.ru/c/m.exe?t=3281893_1_2) the russian non-governmental organizations, consisting of 51 observers, carried out monitoring of voting and [vote count of electors](http://www.multitran.ru/c/m.exe?t=307634_1_2) on elections of deputies of the State Duma of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation of the sixth convocation.

On December, 2nd, 2011 the international observers have signed the Memorandum of fair and non-politized monitoring of elections in which principles of the activity were fixed. The international observers visited electoral districts from Vladivostok to Kaliningrad. [Based on the results of](http://www.multitran.ru/c/m.exe?t=4168480_1_2)  visiting of the districts observers filled in questionnaires of the international observer in which questions allowed to estimate degree of observance of principles of elections.

The international obligations of the Russian Federation provide elections on the basis of principles of general, equal, and direct [election law](http://www.multitran.ru/c/m.exe?t=5009828_1_2) [by secret ballot](http://www.multitran.ru/c/m.exe?t=4107373_1_2), principles of open and public elections, periodic elections, free elections and fair elections. The principles are fixed in the election legislation of the Russian Federation.

The group of the international observers which was carrying out short-term monitoring of elections, used the questionnaires. Questions of questionnaire assumed estimation of degree of observance of eight of the nine principles (except for a principle of periodic elections which is observed on actual basis in the process of [calling of the election](http://www.multitran.ru/c/m.exe?t=4107379_1_2) by the Decree of the President of the Russian Federation from August, 29th, 2011 №1124 «On [calling of the election](http://www.multitran.ru/c/m.exe?t=4107379_1_2) of deputies of the State Duma of Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation of new convocation»).

The Russian public institute of election law under the direction of United council of observers consisting of lord Patrick  Douglas  Hamilton (Great Britain), Giulietto Chiesa (political scientist, Italy), Nick Griffin (deputy of European Parliament, Great Britain), George Kline Preston (executive director of the Institute of progress by means of the rights, USA), Pedro Maurinio (president Mediasete, Spain), Bela Kovacs (deputy of European Parliament, Hungary), Mateusz Piskorski (President of the European center for the geopolitical analysis, Poland), Igor Borisov (chairman of the council of the Russian public institute for [election law](http://www.multitran.ru/c/m.exe?t=5009828_1_2)), Georgiy Fedorov ([executive director](http://www.multitran.ru/c/m.exe?t=1469408_1_2) of association NCO "Civil control") carried out processing of questionnaires of the international observers.

[Based on the results of](http://www.multitran.ru/c/m.exe?t=4168480_1_2)  processing of questionnaires it is established that the international observers have answered positively the overwhelming majority of the questions corresponding to  [implementation](http://www.multitran.ru/c/m.exe?t=3523104_1_2) of concrete international principles of elections.

At the same time, the group of the international observers has desultory remarks in the process of realization of these principles during voting and counting of votes on some electoral districts.

So, [based on the results of](http://www.multitran.ru/c/m.exe?t=4168480_1_2)  processing of questionnaires, the group of the international observers has noticed problems with access to voting premises and voting of individuals with disabilities on some districts. Also problems connected with the small area of voting premise (electoral districts №126, 342, 334, 336 in Vladivostok), family voting (electoral district of №232 in Vladivostok), open sinking of ballots by voters in voting box (electoral district №135 in Vladivostok) were found out. Besides, the international observers have fixed problems with police on electoral district №402 in Krasnoyarsk and propaganda material on electoral district №800 in Omsk region.

In Moscow the international observers have fixed the fact of preventing to work of representatives of mass media – TV channel TVTS (electoral district №1550).

The international observers have noticed that national observers addressed them with messages on infringements less than on 5 % of the visited electoral districts.

During counting of votes of voters the international observers mentioned cases of non-observance of the procedures of vote count in a part of sequence of single act on some electoral districts.

As a whole, [based on the results of](http://www.multitran.ru/c/m.exe?t=4168480_1_2)  processing of questionnaires the group of independent international observers comes to a conclusion that principles of general, equal, direct election law [by secret ballot](http://www.multitran.ru/c/m.exe?t=4107373_1_2), open and public elections, periodic elections, free elections, fair elections and true elections according to the filled and signed questionnaires are  [maintain](http://www.multitran.ru/c/m.exe?t=25181_1_2)ed comprehensively.

As a whole, the international observers have estimated voting process as "very good" in 86,5 % cases, ''good" in 10,9 % cases, "satisfactory" in 2,5 % cases.

Counting of votes is estimated by observers as "very good" - on 50 % of the visited electoral districts, "good" on 50 % of the visited electoral districts despite the procedural remarks. There weren't negative estimations of voting procedure and counting of votes in the processed questionnaires.

The group notices that observers got full access to the necessary information on all visited electoral districts. It has created all necessary conditions for realization of independent monitoring of elections taking into account powers of the international observers established by the legislation of the Russian Federation and explanation of the Central Electoral Committee of Russia.

**The group of independent international observers considers that voting and vote count on elections of deputies of the State Duma of Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation of the sixth convocation were held according to the international electoral standards and the legislation of the Russian Federation with observance of principles of general, equal, a direct election law** [**by secret ballot**](http://www.multitran.ru/c/m.exe?t=4107373_1_2)**, open and public elections, periodic elections, free elections, fair elections and true elections.**

Moscow, on December, 5th, 2011