

Fake Observation

117 international observers monitored 26 September 2016 Referendum in Azerbaijan

PACE Delegation included 7 persons

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|  | <p>PACE M.P. <i>VMRO - Democratic Party for Macedonian National Unity</i></p> <p>Assembly of the Republic of Macedonia</p> <p>Membership of political groups: the European People's Party (Member)</p> |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>We think the referendum result expresses the willingness of the people of Azerbaijan as a step forward towards safe, stable and sustainable development of their country.</i> • <i>the voting process was transparent, well organized, efficient and peaceful throughout all polling day.</i> • <i>No serious violations were registered during the counting process</i> • <i>notes that there was campaigning on the referendum during which both sides – supporters and opponents – were able to present their opinion;</i> • <i>considers that the result of the referendum, in favour of adoption of the modifications to the Constitution, expresses the willingness of the people of Azerbaijan to take a step forward towards safe, stable and sustainable development of their country and to target the establishment of a more efficient system of governance and the implementation of more meaningful reforms needed for the country to respond to the <u>democratic</u> and economic challenges it faces;</i> | |
| Date | 26 September 2016, 11:24 AM |
| Links | http://assembly.coe.int/nw/xml/News/News-View-EN.asp?newsid=6326&lang=2&cat=31 http://en.apa.az/azerbaijan-politics/foreign-news/pace-voting-process-in-azerbaijan-was-transparent.html |



Stefan SCHENNACH

**PACE M.P.
Representative**
Deputy
SPÖ
Parliament
**The co-rapporteurs for the monitoring
of Azerbaijan by the PACE**

 **Austria**

Membership of political groups:
Socialist Group (Member)

- **“Many people have been queuing up to vote since the start of the referendum, and most of the voters are women”**
- **Schennach said much has been done to ensure a transparent and democratic voting. He said people are freely casting their ballots, monitored by observers.**
- *We think the referendum result expresses the willingness of the people of Azerbaijan as a step forward towards safe, stable and sustainable development of their country.*
- *the voting process was transparent, well organized, efficient and peaceful throughout all polling day.*
- *No serious violations were registered during the counting process*
- *notes that there was campaigning on the referendum during which both sides – supporters and opponents – were able to present their opinion;*
- *considers that the result of the referendum, in favour of adoption of the modifications to the Constitution, expresses the willingness of the people of Azerbaijan to take a step forward towards safe, stable and sustainable development of their country and to target the establishment of a more efficient system of governance and the implementation of more meaningful reforms needed for the country to respond to the democratic and economic challenges it faces;*

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| transparent.html http://en.apa.az/azerbaijan-politics/domestic-news/pace-voting-in-azerbaijani-referendum-well-organized.html http://azertag.az/en/xeber/995816 |
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|  | <p>PACE M.P. Representative Deputy <i>Parti démocrate libéral</i> Camera Deputatilor The co-rapporteurs for the monitoring of Azerbaijan by the PACE</p> <p> Romania</p> <p>Membership of political groups: Group of the European People's Party (Member)</p> |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>As the PACE co-rapporteur on Azerbaijan, I will mention this positive step in the report of the next fact-finding mission. But I hope first of all this unfortunate mistake will be eventually withdrawn from the final observation report proposed to the PACE Bureau meeting on October 10,”</i> • <i>“We had very important meetings with representatives of NGOs and media outlets, opposition members, as well as the country’s leadership, members of parliament and the CEC chairman,”</i> • <i>“I think the population of Baku and other districts was well aware of the referendum. My observations show this and I have asked a few people, they confirmed it,”</i> • <i>We think the referendum result expresses the willingness of the people of Azerbaijan as a step forward towards safe, stable and sustainable development of their country.</i> • <i>the voting process was transparent, well organized, efficient and peaceful throughout all polling day.</i> • <i>No serious violations were registered during the counting process</i> • <i>notes that there was campaigning on the referendum during which both sides –</i> | |

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| <p><i>supporters and opponents – were able to present their opinion;</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>considers that the result of the referendum, in favour of adoption of the modifications to the Constitution, expresses the willingness of the people of Azerbaijan to take a step forward towards safe, stable and sustainable development of their country and to target the establishment of a more efficient system of governance and the implementation of more meaningful reforms needed for the country to respond to the <u>democratic</u> and economic challenges it faces;</i> | |
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|  | <p>PACE M.P. Deputy <i>Partito Democratico</i> Camera dei deputati</p> <p> Italy</p> <p>Membership of political groups: Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe (Member)</p> |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>We think the referendum result expresses the willingness of the people of Azerbaijan as a step forward towards safe, stable and sustainable development of their country.</i> • <i>the voting process was transparent, well organized, efficient and peaceful throughout all polling day.</i> • <i>No serious violations were registered during the counting process</i> | |



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|  <p>Yanaki STOILOV</p> | <p>PACE M.P. Deputy <i>BPS Leftist Bulgaria</i> National Assembly of the Republic of Bulgaria</p> <p> Bulgaria</p> <p>Membership of political groups: Socialist Group (Member)</p> |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>We think the referendum result expresses the willingness of the people of Azerbaijan as a step forward towards safe, stable and sustainable development of their country.</i> • <i>the voting process was transparent, well organized, efficient and peaceful throughout all polling day.</i> • <i>No serious violations were registered during the counting process</i> • <i>notes that there was campaigning on the referendum during which both sides – supporters and opponents – were able to present their opinion;</i> • <i>considers that the result of the referendum, in favour of adoption of the modifications</i> | |

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|  | <p>PACE M.P. Representative Deputy <i>PSOE</i> Congreso de los Diputados</p> <p> Spain</p> <p>Membership of political groups: Socialist Group (Member)</p> |
| <p>Antonio GUTIÉRREZ</p> | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>We think the referendum result expresses the willingness of the people of Azerbaijan as a step forward towards safe, stable and sustainable development of their country.</i> • <i>the voting process was transparent, well organized, efficient and peaceful throughout all polling day.</i> • <i>No serious violations were registered during the counting process</i> • <i>notes that there was campaigning on the referendum during which both sides – supporters and opponents – were able to present their opinion;</i> • <i>considers that the result of the referendum, in favour of adoption of the modifications to the Constitution, expresses the willingness of the people of Azerbaijan to take a step</i> | |







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| <i>forward towards safe, stable and sustainable development of their country and to target the establishment of a more efficient system of governance and the implementation of more meaningful reforms needed for the country to respond to the <u>democratic</u> and economic challenges it faces;</i> | |
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|  | <p>PACE M.P.</p> <p>Deputy <i>Law and Justice (PiS)</i> Sejm</p> <p> Poland</p> <p>Membership of political groups: European Conservatives Group (Bureau)</p> |
| <p>Dominik TARCZYŃSKI</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>We think the referendum result expresses the willingness of the people of Azerbaijan as a step forward towards safe, stable and sustainable development of their country.</i> • <i>the voting process was transparent, well organized, efficient and peaceful throughout all polling day.</i> • <i>No serious violations were registered during the counting process</i> • <i>notes that there was campaigning on the referendum during which both sides – supporters and opponents – were able to present their opinion;</i> • <i>considers that the result of the referendum, in favour of adoption of the modifications</i> | |

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The Committee of the Regions of European Union - 4 persons

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|  | <p>Member of the Committee of the Regions</p> |
| <p>Pauliina HAIJANEN</p> | <p> Finland</p> |
| <p>Head of the observation group</p> | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>the voting was transparent, and that they registered no violations during the referendum</i> • <i>Haijanen also said they studied the amendments to the Constitution ahead of the visit to the country.</i> • <i>Changes and additions to Azerbaijan’s Constitution are aimed at strengthening the institute of administration and improving protection of human rights,</i> • <i>a group of observers, consisting of four people, studied the content and legitimacy of constitutional amendments put for the referendum beforehand, and observed the</i> | |

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| <p><i>process at 10 polling stations on the election day.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Based on the observations, the mission members came to conclusion that the voting process was well prepared from both technical and organizational points of view</i> • <i>in general the referendum in Azerbaijan is completely valid and its results show the people's desires.</i> | | |
| <p>Other members of the observation group</p> | | |
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| <p>Kurmet MÜÜRSEPP</p> | <p>Urmas SUKLE</p> | <p>Dainis TURLAIS</p> |
| <p> Estonia</p> | <p> Estonia</p> | <p> Latvia</p> |
| <p>Links</p> | <p>http://azertag.az/en/xeber/996375</p> <p>http://en.trend.az/azerbaijan/politics/2665192.html</p> <p>http://yeniazerbaycan.com/Siyaset_e31105_az.html</p> | |

Other European Politicians

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|  | <p>PACE M.P.</p> <p>Representative Deputy <i>Partido Popular</i> Congreso de los Diputados</p> |
| <p>Carmen QUINTANILLA</p> | <p> Spain</p> <p>Membership of political groups: Group of the European People's Party (Member)</p> |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>“People are voting freely. I congratulate the Azerbaijani people beforehand,”</i> • <i>“Azerbaijani people are voting for their democracy and freedom. I would like to congratulate all Azerbaijani people on this occasion.”</i> • <i>The constitutional referendum is very well-organized in Azerbaijan</i> • <i>The referendum to amend Azerbaijan’s Constitution is being held transparently</i> | |
| <p>Date</p> | <p>26 September 2016, 12:06 PM</p> |
| <p>Links</p> | <p>http://en.apa.az/azerbaijan-politics/domestic-news/pace-member-i-congratulate-azerbaijani-people-beforehand.html</p> <p>http://en.trend.az/azerbaijan/politics/2664629.html</p> |



Mario David

**Former MEP,
Portugal**

European People's Party (EPP)
Vice President of the
International Center Democratic
Party

- *the voting was held in a free manner and met best international standards.*
- *the voting fully reflected the will of the Azerbaijani people.*
- *“To sum up, it is the conviction of our delegation that the process of the referendum...has been conducted in a free, open and sound process, in accordance with the best international standards, and that it will definitively express the will of the people of Azerbaijan.”*

Links

<https://www.eureporter.co/frontpage/2016/09/27/azerbaijan-referendum-result-is-ringing-endorsement-of-aliyev-plans/>

http://azertag.az/en/xeber/President_Ilham_Aliyev_received_delegation_of_European_People_039s_Party_VIDEO-995742

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|  <p>Predrag SEKULIĆ</p> | <p>PACE M.P.</p> <p>Representative</p> <p><i>Democratic Party of Socialists</i> Skupština Crne Gore</p> <p> Montenegro</p> <p>Membership of political groups: Socialist Group (Member)</p> |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The referendum for amendments to Azerbaijan’s Constitution was held transparently and democratically</i> | |
| <p>Links</p> | <p>http://en.apa.az/azerbaijan-politics/foreign-news/azerbaijan-s-referendum-held-transparently-pace-member.html</p> |

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|  <p>María Concepción de SANTA ANA</p> | <p>PACE M.P.</p> <p>Substitute Deputy <i>Partido Popular</i> Congreso de los Diputados</p> <p> Spain</p> <p>Membership of political groups: Group of the European People's Party (Member)</p> |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>"The referendum is an important event for your country"</i> • <i>"It is big step for Independence and democracy of Azerbaijan"</i> | |
| <p>Links</p> | <p>http://www.apa.az/xarici_siyaset/ispaniya-parlamentinin-deputati-seciciler-secki-qtulularina-oz-istekleri-ile-yaxinlasirlar.html</p> |



Deputy of the Senate of the Parliament of Italy

Sergio Divina

- *"The voting in Azerbaijan`s referendum has been held in a more disciplined and organized manner than in Italy."*
- *"The referendum was excellently organized in all polling stations."*
- *" We have monitored elections in many countries as observers of the European Union and OSCE. I have observed elections in Azerbaijan before. The voting in Azerbaijan was conducted in line with European standards,"*

Links

<http://azertag.az/en/xeber/996155>

http://www.apa.az/daxili_siyaset/italiyali-senator-musahide-apardigimiz-menteqelerde-nizam-intizam-qaydalarina-riayet-olunub.html



Nathalie Goulet
French Senator

- *"A constitutional referendum in Azerbaijan has been quite transparent,"*
- *"I visit IDPs every time I arrive in Azerbaijan. The work done in the country really makes me happy. I see changes every time I visit the country. Azerbaijan has been developing under the leadership of President Ilham Aliyev. First Lady Mehriban Aliyeva has also played a crucial role in ensuring the country's achievements,"*

Links <http://azertag.az/en/xeber/996152>



Andre Richard
French Senator

- *"Amendments to the Constitution will contribute to the expansion of democracy and improvement of the welfare of the people of Azerbaijan"*
- *According to French parliamentarians' monitoring, the referendum in Azerbaijan was held in a democratic and free manner, in accordance with European standards.*

Links <http://azertag.az/en/xeber/996127>
<http://azertag.az/xeber/995887>



Thierry Mariani
French MP

- *“To tell the truth, we know without observing that everything is all right,”*
- *“It’s the first I have seen more than 20 issues being put to the vote. I think of this as the only way to learn the people’s opinion,”*
- *“Organizers of the referendum allow us to answer various questions. I think everything is all right from organizational point of view. I’m waiting for the results.”*

Links

<http://en.apa.az/azerbaijan-politics/foreign-news/french-mp-everything-is-all-right-at-azerbaijani-referendum.html>



Michel Voisin
French MP

- *‘Referendum is a big democratic step towards future’*

Links

http://www.apa.az/xarici_siyaset/misel-vuazen-referendum-gelecek-ucun-atilmis-boyuk-demokratik-addimdir.html

<http://metbuat.az/news/527989/misel-vuazen-referendum-gelecek-ucun-atilmis-boyuk-demokrati.html>




Tadeusz IWIŃSKI

FORMER PACE M.P.

The former PACE Monitoring Committee
co-rapporteur on Azerbaijan

 **Poland**

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>No shortcomings have so far been recorded during the voting in Azerbaijan's constitutional referendum</i> • <i>I have observed presidential and parliamentary elections in Azerbaijan. I am observing the referendum for the first time.</i> • <i>The group includes members of the mission of the European Academy for Elections Observation and PACE</i> |
| Links | http://en.apa.az/azerbaijan-politics/foreign-news/former-pace-co-rapporteur-no-shortcomings-recorded-during-azerbaijan-s-constitutional-referendum.html |

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|  <p>Kyriakos Kyriakou-Hadjyianni</p> | <p>Rapporteur of the OSCE PA's General Committee on Democracy, Human Rights and Humanitarian Questions</p> <p>Republic of Cyprus</p> |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>"The voting in Azerbaijan's constitutional referendum is organized very well"</i> |
| Links | http://en.apa.az/azerbaijan-politics/domestic-news/osce-pa-rapporteur-praises-organization-of-referendum-in-azerbaijan.html http://news.lent.az/news/254719 |