



## Centar za demokratsku tranziciju - CDT

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### **PUBLIC STATEMENT OF THE CENTER FOR DEMOCRATIC TRANSITION ABOUT THE ELECTION PROCESS UNTIL NOW (18.00, 20 October)**

The Center for Democratic Transition estimates that the elections are being conducted in a proper atmosphere. CDT is monitoring respect of the election procedure at more than 90% of the polling stations.

The turnout at polling stations as of 17.00 63.43% of voters. In the Northern region (Bijelo Polje, Berane, Andrijevica, Kolašin, Mojkovac, Plav, Rožaje, Plužine, Pljevlja, Šavnik, Žabljak), turnout at polling stations was 67.38%; in the Central region (Cetinje, Danilovgrad, Nikšić, Podgorica), turnout was 65.38%; while in the Southern region (Bar, Budva, Herceg Novi, Kotor, Ulcinj) 54.57% of voters have voted.

The Center for Democratic Transition points out that, since 14.00 when we announced noticed irregularities at the polling stations, we have not received any additional information until this moment that would lead us to conclude that there have been serious violations of the election procedures.

We do note some examples of irregular procedures at polling stations:

In Polling Station 59, Stari grad 1, in Berane, a voter tried to vote with the use of someone else's identification card, which was not permitted.

In Polling Station 22 Trepča in Andrijevica, voting was suspended from 12:45 until 13:30 due to the need to hold consultations among the members of the Polling Board about the method of annulling ballot papers for those who vote publicly.

In Polling Station 28 Savina in Kotor, one voter voted even though he was not on the Voter's List. CDT questions the respect of the election procedure at this polling station; therefore, we will monitor closely its work until the polling station is closed.

In Polling Stations 17, 117 and 118 at Dragova Luka in Nikšić, a group of people -- despite warnings from the President of the Polling Board -- continue to disturb the work at the polling place and create unnecessary throng near the polling stations. Additionally, near the polling stations, propaganda materials of the political parties were present.

In Polling Station 79 at Primary School Pavle Rovinski in Podgorica, we were informed about irregularities of signing of voters in the Book of Voters. At the moment, we are checking more precisely these received reports. The voting at this



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polling station has not yet been suspended, but the representatives of the Municipal Election Commission are expected to arrive soon.

All noted irregularities cannot importantly influence the course of the election process nor the results of elections. We note, in fact, that all reported irregularities referenced up until now represent only 2% of the polling stations.

**Podgorica, 18.00, 20 October 2002**

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