

## **Memorandum of Understanding between the Central Electoral Commissions of the Republic of Armenia and the Nagorno Karabakh Republic**

On December 17, 2010, Chairmen of the Central Electoral Commissions of the Republic of Armenia and the Nagorno Karabakh Republic, Garegin Azaryan and Rashid Petrosyan signed a Memorandum of Understanding between the two Commissions in the capital of the Nagorno Karabakh Republic, Stepanakert. The MOU is intended to promote the establishment of democratic processes and widely accepted democratic norms of human rights and freedoms in the two republics, the deepening of bilateral cooperation in the sphere of electoral legislation, as well as the introduction of modern technologies in the electoral process. The parties will enhance the cooperation in the following areas: exchange of experience, improvement of electoral legislation, ensuring the implementation of electoral rights of citizens, legal regulation of the activities of political parties, introduction of information technologies in the electoral process, promotion of legal and electoral culture of participants in the electoral process, training of election administration authorities. The provisions of the Memorandum will be implemented in practice through setting up joint working groups, exchange of research and draft legislation on electoral processes between the Commissions, deployment of observer missions and other methods acceptable to the parties and facilitating the exchange of experience. During the visit, the delegation of the Armenian Central Electoral Commission was received by the President of the Nagorno Karabakh Republic Bako Sahakyan. The President commended the signing of the MOU between the Central Electoral Commissions of the Republic of Armenia and the Nagorno Karabakh Republic and expressed hope that through the consistent work of the parties the provisions of the Memorandum would have practical application, contributing to closer bilateral ties between the two states and a more profound cooperation between the Commissions.

