



1 **Motion for Emergency Resolution**

2

3

4 **Condemnation of electoral procedures and call for parliamentary**
5 **discussion on the Local and Presidential Elections in Bulgaria of**
6 **23.10.2011**

7

8

9 On 23.10.2011 in Bulgaria took place Local and Presidential Elections that violated many
10 Bulgarian electoral laws, and regulations. The elections were monitored by a group of
11 German observers invited by Heirich-Böll-Striftung and Zelenite. Their findings were
12 presented to a Bulgarian court and accepted for further investigations. The findings could be
13 summarized as follows:

14

15 1) The secrecy of the ballot (as, de jure, provided by § 2 of the elections act) was violated
16 in the whole country, through ballots printed on semi-transparent so that the polling station
17 staff easily could see where the cross had been made (or not made). This observation is
18 base on visiting over 50 polling stations all over the country. This is confirmed by witnesses
19 (citizens) from everywhere. We have, accordingly, notified Central Election Committee in
20 an official complaint, arguing that with the secrecy of the ballot being violated totally, the
21 elections must be annulled and repeated.

22

23 2): There were many more or less serious violations of the regulations how to organize the
24 election day, how to equip the polling stations, and especially of the rules how to count the
25 votes. Polling station teams generally were even not prepared to follow the official
26 regulations (lack of instruction and training), and in fact, in most cases they were able to
27 follow the official regulations only by relying on our and foreign observers. Moreover, our
28 observers found polling booths with curtains cut so that the polling station team could see
29 into the booth from its desk. They also found polling booths placed at a window in the
30 ground floor, so that people from outside could monitor or influence what happened in the
31 booth or exchange pre filled ballots with empty ones (which indeed we observed).

32

33 The EGP congress in Paris condemns the substandard election practices and asks the
34 Greens in the European Parliament to initiate a discussion in the European Parliament on
35 this subject.