

# Press Release

## Parliamentary Assembly Communication Unit

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## PACE delegation to observe constitutional referendum in Serbia

Strasbourg, 19.10.2006 – A 19-member delegation from the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe (PACE), headed by Alexander Fomenko (Russia, UEL), will observe the referendum on a new constitution taking place in Serbia on 28 and 29 October 2006.

The delegation, which has been invited to carry out the observation by the Secretary of the Republican Electoral Commission, will assess – within the framework of the Assembly's monitoring of Serbia – whether the conduct of the referendum is in line with Council of Europe standards.

On Thursday 26 and Friday 27 October the parliamentarians are due to meet election officials and representatives of the different regions of Serbia, as well as NGO and media representatives.

On Saturday 28 and Sunday 29, they will deploy around the country to observe the voting in a representative cross-section of polling stations.

### The members of the delegation are:

Alexander Fomenko, head of the delegation

#### Socialist Group (SOC)

Sead Avdić	Bosnia and Herzegovina
Elvira Cortajarena	Spain
Piotr Gadzinowski	Poland
Pär Axel Sahlberg	Sweden
Zoltán Szabó	Hungary

#### Group of the European People's Party (EPP/CD)

Pedro Agramunt	Spain
Andrzej Grzyb	Poland
Danuta Jazłowiecka	Poland
Mustafa Ilicali	Turkey
Andrea Rigoni	Italy
Oliver Šambevski	"the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia"

#### Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe (ALDE)

Helena Bargholtz	Sweden
Lord Russell-Johnston	United Kingdom
Jelleke Veenendaal	Netherlands
Andrej Zernovsky	"the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia"

#### European Democrat Group (EDG)

Ruhi Açikgöz	Turkey
Christopher Chope	United Kingdom
Emmanuel Zingeris	Lithuania

#### Group of the Unified European Left (UEL)

Alexander Fomenko	Russian Federation
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The Parliamentary Assembly brings together 315 members from the national parliaments of the 46 member states.

President: René van der Linden (Netherlands, EPP/CD); Secretary General of the Assembly: Mateo Sorinas.

Political Groups: SOC (Socialist Group); EPP/CD (Group of the European People's Party); ALDE (Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe); EDG (European Democratic Group); UEL (Group of the Unified European Left).

There will be a press conference at 12 noon on Monday 30 October in the Majestic Hotel, Belgrade (Obilićev Venac 28, Belgrade 11000) at which the head of the delegation will announce the observers' preliminary conclusions. A full report will be submitted to the Assembly's Standing Committee, meeting in San Marino on 17 November 2006.

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