

Press Release

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Post election period is a test of political maturity for Georgian politicians

Statement by Terry Davis, Secretary General of the Council of Europe

Strasbourg, 06.01.2008 – "Yesterday's presidential elections in Georgia were closely watched by international observers and the central electoral commission is yet to publish the official results.

"In these circumstances, Georgian political leaders should show responsibility, political maturity and respect for the democratic process. Calling for mass protests before the official results are known and before the international observers have made public their assessment of the elections is both premature and immature.

"If the opposition has any evidence to back their allegations of electoral fraud, they should give it to international observers and use the procedures which are guaranteed by the Georgian constitution," said Council of Europe Secretary General Terry Davis today.

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