



Copenhagen, 29 January 2018

**Memorandum on the OSCE PA Observation of the
Presidential Election in the Russian Federation, 18 March 2018**

Delegation

A Presidential election will be held in the Russian Federation on 18 March 2018, and in anticipation of an invitation to observe, the OSCE PA will deploy an election observation mission to this important election. To ensure geographical balance within the Assembly mission, each national delegation may nominate up to 10% of the entire expected participation. We therefore invite each national delegation to nominate up to **10 (ten) participants**.

Members wishing to participate in this mission are kindly asked to return a completed registration form, as well as accreditation forms with a copy of the photograph page from Members' passports, a digital photo, and the completed Code of Conduct for OSCE PA Election Observers to the International Secretariat at (eom@oscepa.dk) by **16 February 2018**.

Accommodation

The International Secretariat of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly has pre-booked hotel rooms at Hotel National Moscow for this Election Observation Mission at the rate of 13,452 RUB (approx. **195 EUR**), single occupancy, breakfast and VAT included. The corresponding Hotel Booking form will be distributed shortly.

Hotel National

15/1 Bld. 1, Mokhovaya St., // 125009 Moscow, Russia // T: + 7495 2587181 // URL: www.national.ru

Parliamentary briefings will be held in Moscow on 16-17 March 2018 at Hotel National Moscow. The Temporary OSCE PA Headquarters will be in this hotel as well.

Preliminary Programme

Thursday, 15 March 2018

All Day Arrival of observers

Friday, 16 March 2018

All Day Parliamentary briefings (*Hotel National Moscow, Petrovsky Hall*)

Saturday, 17 March 2018

Half Day(tbc) Parliamentary briefings (*cont.*) (*Hotel National Moscow, Petrovsky Hall*)
Departure to Regional Deployment*

Sunday, 18 March 2018

All Day Polling Stations open
Evening De-briefing for observers deployed outside Moscow

Monday, 19 March 2018

08:00 De-Briefing for observers based in Moscow (*Hotel National Moscow, Pskov Hall*)
Afternoon Press-Conference in Moscow (*Location - TBC*)
Suggested departures of observers

*Please note that observers deployed outside Moscow with overnight stay in their destinations will have de-briefings conducted on the ground and are not requested to return to Moscow.

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Airport transfers

We advise to contact Hotel National for arranging your airport transfers.

Election Day

On Election Day, Members will generally work in teams of two. Here you can see the information on various destinations in the Russian Federation.

<https://drive.google.com/open?id=1RKRDHyucsT1xB4AghLgDLDtIH6O3EiS7&usp=sharing>

Please note the International Secretariat will provide the list of deployment destinations as well as recommendation for travel and accommodation arrangements in the regions shortly. **We ask observers not to make specific travel arrangements (transportation/hotels) within the Russian Federation without first consulting with the International Secretariat.** This will help to ensure balanced deployment coverage for the observation mission.

Interpreter / Driver on Election Day

The OSCE/ODIHR will assist us in finding suitable cars/drivers and interpreters for our teams for Election Day. Please let the Secretariat know if your Embassy in Russia will provide Members with a car or/and an interpreter.

Cost of Election Day Driver and Interpreter

OSCE organized interpreters and drivers should be paid in person in cash at the end of the day of observation directly by each observer. The cost for an OSCE organized interpreter/car on Election Day will be communicated shortly.

Visa Information

We strongly advise observers to apply and obtain a visa well in advance of departing for the Russian Federation by contacting the relevant consulate. An official invitation to observe, which can facilitate visa procedures, is anticipated in the near future.

We would like to remind you that national parliaments are responsible for their own Member's expenses, including any hotel cancellations. **We also urge Members to have health and travel insurance that is valid in the Russian Federation.**