

# HOW DEMOCRATS COLLUDE WITH AUTOCRATS

**AZERBAIJAN'S ELECTIONS RIGGED  
WITH INTERNATIONAL HELP**

CONTEXT, ANALYSIS, AND RECOMMENDATIONS  
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# CONTEXT AND OVERVIEW

The New Azerbaijan Party, led by President Ilham Aliyev, won a narrow victory in Azerbaijan's 2024 snap parliamentary election on September 1, securing 68 out of 125 seats, according to official results. This election was held two months earlier than scheduled to avoid conflicting with UN climate talks in Baku (COP29). The ruling party lost two seats compared to the previous parliament. In comparison, 44 seats were won by 'independents,' overwhelmingly coerced by the ruling regime and not opposing its policies in any meaningful way. Voting took place for the first time in Nagorno-Karabakh since 1994, symbolizing Azerbaijan's renewed control over the region.

On paper, the election was watched, with some 50 organizations conducting observer missions. While the vote was peaceful, the election period cannot be considered fully compliant with democratic standards, with the civil society and independent journalists harassed throughout the campaign, forced to emigrate, or arrested, and this election did not significantly alter the dominant position of Aliyev's party in parliament. The low voter turnout of 37% raised concerns about the legitimacy of the election process, symbolized a lack of interest by the voters given to real alternatives to the ruling regime, and no candidates accurately represented the political views and positions of the population. As discussed in this report, in addition to legitimate election observers from OSCE/ODIHR and OSCE PA, the regime made it particularly difficult for independent groups, especially domestic ones, to conduct observation. Senior Russian and Belarusian officials with ties to intelligence services – some sanctioned by the West, including for torturing democratic opposition – along with members of election commissions from the

Global South, were preferred by the regime over independent domestic observers. The invited foreign observers disregarded multiple electoral violations in exchange for a trip to Baku. The European Platform for Democratic Elections (EPDE) views them as fake observers. Additionally, many of the identified fake observers are members of parliamentary friendship groups with Azerbaijan, which EPDE considers a conflict of interest that impairs their ability to objectively assess elections.

EPDE agrees with ODIHR's critical assessment of the elections for several reasons. As mentioned above, the pre-election environment was marked by heavy restrictions on political freedoms, including freedom of expression, assembly, and association. Political opposition faced repression, and key candidates and activists were arrested or successfully pressured to withdraw from the race. Media access remained heavily restricted, favoring the ruling regime, while independent candidates were heavily sidelined. These factors alone affect the transparency and credibility of the elections, leading to EPDE's conclusion that they did not meet democratic standards, which is in line with the findings and conclusions presented by the Election Observation Mission of ODIHR.

## Fake Observers

The fake observation phenomenon involves election monitoring by groups and individuals who lack independence and credibility. These missions often align with non-democratic regimes and issue favorable reports, even when elections have evident irregularities. They aim to legitimize flawed elections and counter criticism from credible organizations like OSCE/ODIHR, predominantly by domestic propaganda in the host country. Unlike legitimate observers, these groups offer little transparency and ignore international standards and election observation methodologies. Per EPDE's experience, fake observers focus on creating a false sense of legitimacy for non-democratic regimes, undermining efforts to ensure fair and democratic elections.

For its methodology, EPDE defines fake observers as individuals meeting any of the following criteria:

- They participate in election observation missions organized by non-democratic entities.

- They fail to denounce the elections as undemocratic despite official monitoring missions deeming them unfree, unfair, or conducted in violation of democratic standards.
- They make statements or comments that lend legitimacy to the elections, contradicting the assessments of credible democratic missions.
- Their presence can be confirmed by a picture or statement from a media outlet. Due to the detailed nature of local authoritarian propaganda, EPDE accepts Russian, Belarusian, and Azerbaijani state media as reliable sources solely for confirming the presence of such individuals.

EPDE has been actively uncovering fake observation missions, and EPDE's work includes thorough research and open-source investigations to reveal the role of these so-called observers. EPDE has exposed nearly 1000 individuals who undertook efforts to legitimize flawed elections in various countries between 2015 and 2024, including:

2015

- Local & Regional Election Ukraine
- Referendum Election Armenia
- Parliamentary Election Azerbaijan

2016

- Referendum Election Azerbaijan

2017

- Local & Regional Election Russia

2018

- Local & Regional Election Russia
- Presidential Election Russia
- Presidential Election Russia (Occupied Crimea)
- Presidential Election Russia (Occupied Territories of Ukraine)
- Presidential Election Azerbaijan
- Presidential Election Unrecognized Donetsk People's Republic
- Presidential Election Unrecognized Lugansk People's Republic

- Presidential Election Zimbabwe
- Local & Regional Election Cambodia

2019

- Local & Regional Election Russia
- Parliamentary Election Unrecognized Republic of South Ossetia
- Presidential Election Unrecognized Republic of Abkhazia

2020

- Parliamentary Election Azerbaijan
- Plebiscite Election Russia
- Plebiscite Election Russia (Occupied Crimea)

2021

- Parliamentary Election Russia
- Parliamentary Election Russia (Occupied Crimea)

2022

- Pseudo-referendums Russian-occupied territories of Ukraine
- Parliamentary Election Hungary

2023

- Pseudo-elections Russian-occupied territories of Ukraine

2024

- Local & Regional Election Russia (including occupied territories of Ukraine)
- Presidential Election Russia (including occupied territories of Ukraine)



## Findings from Regional Organizations

Multiple non-Western organizations, such as the Commonwealth of Independent States, sent accredited election observers to Azerbaijan and issued statements, their observations contrasting sharply with the assessments from independent local NGOs or OSCE/ODIHR and OSCE PA. Among them, the CIS mission, led by Leonid Anfimov, observed the parliamentary elections in Azerbaijan and concluded that the government made significant efforts to ensure transparent and open elections. The mission noted that the election day proceeded peacefully, without substantial violations, and praised the country for its effective organization. Anfimov also pointed out that the ‘observers’ from the CIS visited various regions across Azerbaijan and confirmed the legitimacy of the electoral process and its compliance with democratic standards<sup>1</sup>.

In addition to the CIS mission, the Interparliamentary Assembly of CIS Member Nations (IPA-CIS) also observed the elections in Azerbaijan, visiting 145 polling stations nationwide. According to their findings, the elections were “conducted at a high organizational level,” with observers able to work freely. They highlighted the advanced preparation of election commission members, the effective organization of voting, and video surveillance and document verification systems<sup>2</sup>.

Andrey Yatskin, the First Deputy Chairperson of the Federation Council of Russia, coordinated the mission, which included representatives from Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, and Russia, as well as experts from the International Institute for Monitoring Democratic Development under the IPA-CIS<sup>3</sup>.

- 1 Глава Миссии наблюдателей от СНГ Леонид Анфимов о парламентских выборах в Азербайджане: в стране приложены значительные усилия для проведения открытых и транспарентных выборов, Commonwealth of Independent States, September 1 (2024), <https://cis.minsk.by/news/27982>
- 2 145 участков посетили наблюдатели от МПА СНГ в Азербайджане, Interparliamentary Assembly of CIS Member Nations IACIS, September 2 (2024), [https://iacis.ru/novosti/institut\\_monitoringa\\_razvitiya\\_demokratii\\_mpa\\_sng/145\\_uchastkov\\_posetili\\_nablyudateli\\_ot\\_mpa\\_sng\\_v\\_azerbajdzhane](https://iacis.ru/novosti/institut_monitoringa_razvitiya_demokratii_mpa_sng/145_uchastkov_posetili_nablyudateli_ot_mpa_sng_v_azerbajdzhane)
- 3 Яцкин: Выборы в Милли Меджлис Азербайджана прошли при соблюдении прав и свобод всех участников избирательного процесса, Federation Council of the Federal Assembly of Russia, September 2 (2024), <http://www.council.gov.ru/events/news/160005/>

Russian senators, including Alexander Zhukov, Natalia Kosikhina, Alexander Terentyev, Ilyas Umakhanov, and Anatoly Shirokov also took part in monitoring missions on behalf of the Interparliamentary Assembly of the Commonwealth of Independent States, the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation, as well as the Parliamentary Assembly of the Union of Belarus and Russia, which covered various cities, including Hacigabul, Nakhchivan, Salyan, and Shirvan. They visited district commissions and polling stations, praising the work of the Central Election Commission of Azerbaijan for its preparation and organization of the elections. Yatskin commended the election process for ensuring the rights and freedoms of all participants, stating, “The elections complied with internationally recognized democratic principles and the constitutional and electoral legislation of the country.”

Observers from these organizations visited 145 polling stations and monitored all stages of the election process, from opening the polls to counting the votes. They spoke highly of the high level of preparedness of the election commission members, the organization of the voting procedures, and the use of video surveillance and document verification systems by the polling station members. Yatskin emphasized that the elections took place amid “active competition” and provided “all necessary conditions for the observers to carry out their work.” At a press conference in Baku on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of September, Yatskin reiterated the fair and transparent nature of the elections, underscoring that they adhered to the principles of free and fair elections.

The Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) also sent a mission to observe the elections. The OIC mission claims to have observed the electoral process in three stages: pre-poll preparations, polling day, and voting counting. According to their statement, after meeting with Azerbaijani electoral authorities and receiving briefings, the mission concluded that the elections were conducted in a transparent, free, and organized manner. In that statement, the OIC Secretary General, Hissein Brahim Taha, congratulated the people of Azerbaijan on the successful conduct of the elections, noting that the turnout demonstrated voters’ commitment to exercising their political and civil rights, including in

the “liberated territories.” The mission observed that voters were engaged, and the process upheld principles of transparency and fairness<sup>4</sup>.

The Organization of Turkic States (OTS) also deployed an observation mission of officials from the Secretariat and Central Election Commission representatives from OTS member states, observing the election process in Baku and the Absheron-Khizi region. The mission met with key figures in the Azerbaijani government, such as Mr. Mazahir Panahov, Chairperson of the Central Election Commission, to discuss the election’s organization, including the participation of international and local observers. The OTS team monitored 36 polling stations and noted that the elections were carried out without interference from administrative or law enforcement authorities, ensuring the “free will of the people.” The delegation emphasized that polling stations were well-prepared and accessible to people with disabilities. Per their statement, the OTS observers also participated in the vote-counting process in Baku and observed that it was conducted in compliance with national legislation. They highlighted the wide media coverage as a positive factor in the election’s legitimacy. In conclusion, the OTS mission assessed the elections as “open and transparent” and aligned with national laws and international standards<sup>5</sup>.

The Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) observer mission, led by Nuran Niyazaliev and the SCO’s Deputy Secretary-General, praised Azerbaijan’s recent parliamentary elections as a significant step in the country’s democratic development. According to Niyazaliev, the elections were conducted transparently and met the standards of Azerbaijan’s constitution and electoral code. He highlighted that the voting process was calm, with no violations, external interference, or pressure on election officials. Niyazaliev emphasized the presence of local, public, and international observers, including media representatives, ensuring credibility and transparency. At a press conference on September 2, he expressed gratitude to Azerbaijan’s Central Election Commission, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and other institutions for facilitating the SCO’s work.

4 OIC Secretary General Congratulates the Republic of Azerbaijan on Successful Early Parliamentary Elections, Organization of Islamic Cooperation OIC, September 2 (2024), <https://new.oic-oci.org/SitePages/NewsDetail.aspx?Item=5141>

5 International Election Observation Mission: Early Elections to the Milli Majlis of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Organization of Turkic States, September 2 (2024), <https://www.turkicstates.org/assets/pdf/haberler/beyanat-3392-262.pdf>

## Key Findings from OSCE ODIHR and OSCE PA Election Observations

Unlike the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe, the joint election observation mission from the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR) and the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly (OSCE PA) was present and accredited by Azerbaijan's CEC. Led by Michael Creed, Special Coordinator of the OSCE short-term observers, and Lucie Potůčková, Head of the OSCE PA delegation, the mission deployed over 200 short-term observers across the country<sup>6</sup>.

In preparation for the elections, the mission engaged in extensive pre-election briefings with civil society organizations, political parties, and officials from Azerbaijan's Central Election Commission. Mr. Creed emphasized the thoroughness of these briefings, stating, "The election commission has provided us with particularly detailed information, which has been crucial in helping us stay well-informed about the elections."<sup>7</sup>

On election day, OSCE observers were stationed at multiple polling locations, monitoring the process from the polls opening to the vote count. According to their conclusions, technically, the voting process was carried out according to Azerbaijan's legal framework, which they said "does not meet international standards or OSCE commitments for democratic elections," and observed "serious irregularities and omissions of important safeguards were observed, particularly in the vote count, raising questions about the integrity of the process." Additionally, the mission identified broader concerns regarding the general electoral environment, which they believed undermined the integrity of the elections.

One primary issue the mission raised was the lack of genuine political competition. The ruling New Azerbaijan Party's dominance created an environment with limited options for voters, particularly regarding

6 International election observers to Azerbaijan's early parliamentary elections to hold press conference on Monday, OSCE Parliamentary Assembly OSCE PA, September 1 (2024), <https://www.oscepa.org/en/news-a-media/press-releases/press-2024/international-election-observers-to-azerbaijans-early-parliamentary-elections-to-hold-press-conference-on-monday>

7 OSCE observers well-prepared for Azerbaijan elections, says mission head, Report Informasiya Agentliyi, September 1 (2024), <https://report.az/en/domestic-politics/head-of-osce-observation-mission-says-well-informed-about-elections/>

opposition candidates. Additionally, the media landscape was another critical concern. The mission noted that opposition parties faced considerable difficulties gaining access to mainstream media, severely restricting their ability to reach voters. Media coverage was heavily biased in favor of the ruling party, further limiting political pluralism.

Ditmir Bushati, Head of ODIHR's long-term election observation mission, remarked, "Despite the efficiency of the process, these conditions did not allow elections to be held in line with democratic standards. We stand ready to support the authorities in implementing our long-standing recommendations to improve the overall process for the good of all citizens." This sentiment echoed throughout the mission's findings, as they observed multiple barriers that limited equal participation for opposition candidates.

Other issues included concerns over the candidate registration process, which disproportionately affected opposition members, and the apparent use of state resources in favor of the ruling party, which cast further doubts on the fairness of the campaign environment. Despite the smooth technical running of the polling stations, the mission assessed that the elections did not meet many international standards and good practices for free and fair elections<sup>8</sup>.

8 ODIHR Election Observation Mission Final Report: Early parliamentary elections in Azerbaijan, Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe, September 2 (2024), <https://www.osce.org/odihr/elections/575509>

# IDENTIFIED FAKE OBSERVERS

## Latvia

### Baiba Veisa

Country	Observing mission	Affiliation
Latvia	Central Election Commission of Latvia <sup>9</sup> (Centrālā vēlēšanu komisija)	Central Election Commission of Latvia <sup>11</sup> (Centrālā vēlēšanu komisija) United List <sup>13</sup> party (Apvienotā saraksta)

Baiba Veisa observed<sup>9,10</sup> Azerbaijan's September 2024 snap parliamentary election as vice chairperson<sup>11</sup> of the Central Election Commission of Latvia. She has been appointed<sup>12,13</sup> on February 2023, as a nominee of the United List (Apvienotā saraksta) party<sup>13</sup>. Pictures and a video featuring Baiba Veisa are available in the sources linked in footnotes<sup>9,12,13,14</sup>. Azerbaijani media outlets quoted Baiba Veisa:

- 9 Baiba Veisa: Füzulidə seçicilər seçki məntəqələri açılmamış küçədə növbəyə dururdu, Azerbaijan State News Agency, September 2 (2024), [https://azertag.az/xeber/baiba\\_veisa\\_fuzulide\\_sechiciler\\_sechki\\_menteqeleri\\_achilmamis\\_kuchede\\_novbeye\\_dururdu\\_video-3161466](https://azertag.az/xeber/baiba_veisa_fuzulide_sechiciler_sechki_menteqeleri_achilmamis_kuchede_novbeye_dururdu_video-3161466)
- 10 Baiba Veisa: “Şuşada seçicilərin böyük həvəs və ruh yüksəkliyi ilə səsvermə prosesinə qoşulduqlarının şahidi olduq”, Respublika, September 3 (2024), <https://www.respublika-news.az/az/news/1725350045-baiba-veisa-susada-sechicilerin-boyyuk-heves-ve-ruh-yukseklilyi-ile-ses-verme-prosesineqosulduqlarinin-sahidi-olduq>
- 11 Management > Baiba Veisa, Centrālā vēlēšanu komisja, <https://www.cvk.lv/en/department/management>
- 12 Baiba Veisa on LinkedIn, <https://www.linkedin.com/in/baibaveisa/>
- 13 Par CVK priekšsēdētājas vietnieci ievēlē Veisu, sekretāra amatā – Eglāju, LSM.lv, February 3 (2023), <https://www.lsm.lv/raksts/zinas/latvija/par-cvk-priekssedetajas-vietnieci-ivele-vei-su-sekretara-amata-eglaju.a494762/>
- 14 Baiba Veisa / Executive committee, European Fair Play Movement, <http://www.fairplayeur.com/efpm/executive-committee/p/baiba-veisa-1/>



*“All the stations I visited were equipped according to the law. My colleagues from the commission did not inform me about any violations of the law, and I myself did not observe them. Of course, I was happy to see a large number of young people in the city.”<sup>9</sup>*

*“We really hope that friendly relations between Latvia and Azerbaijan will continue in the future. Our official delegations come to Azerbaijan quite often, and of course we expect delegations from Azerbaijan to come to Latvia as well.”<sup>9</sup>*

*“Baş çəkdiyim bütün məntəqələr qanunvericiliyə uyğun şəkildə təchiz olunmuşdu. Komissiyadan olan həmkarlarım mənə heç bir qanun pozuntusu barədə məlumat vermədilər, elə özüm də onları müşahidə etməmişəm. Təbii ki, şəhərdə çoxlu sayda gənci görməyim məni sevindirdi.”<sup>9</sup>*

*“Biz həqiqətən də Latviya ilə Azərbaycan arasında dostluq əlaqələrinin gələcəkdə də davam edəcəyinə ümid edirik. Rəsmi nümayəndə heyətlərimiz kifayət qədər tez-tez Azərbaycana gəlir və təbii ki, Azərbaycandan da Latviyaya nümayəndə heyətlərinin gələcəyini gözləyirik.”<sup>9</sup>*

EPDE has contacted Ms. Veisa for confirmation and the context of her quote. She replied her comments were factual with regard to the narrow scope of her observation and the lack of reported context may have presented her as validating the entire election process. She reiterated her strong support for democratic values and transparency. She stated that travel costs have been covered by the Latvian CEC, while local accomodation was covered by the local CEC “as per official invitation”.

## Italy

### Naike Gruppioni

Country	Observing mission	Affiliation	Earlier election
Italy	Probably individual	Chamber of Deputies of Italy <sup>15</sup>	Azerbaijan's February 2024 snap presidential election <sup>19</sup>

Naike Gruppioni, born in Bologna, is an Italian politician who has been a member of the Chamber of Deputies<sup>15</sup> since 2022. With a degree in Business Administration, she had an entrepreneurial career, including serving as vice president<sup>16</sup> of her family's company, Sira Industrie, until 2022. Naike Gruppioni is also the Vice President of the Italy USA Foundation. She entered politics in the 2022 general elections<sup>17</sup>, representing the Azione party and switching<sup>18</sup> to Italia Viva in May 2023. Elected for the XIX legislature, she holds positions in the Chamber of Deputies. Naike Gruppioni had already<sup>19</sup> observed the February 2024 snap presidential election in Azerbaijan and was strongly criticized<sup>20,21</sup>. Pictures featuring Naike Gruppioni are available in the sources linked in footnotes<sup>15,19</sup>. Azerbaijani media outlets quoted Naike Gruppioni:

- 15 Итальянский депутат: Я восхищена желанием азербайджанцев активно участвовать в выборах, Media.az, September 1 (2024), <https://media.az/politika/italyanskij-deputat-ya-voshishena-zhelaniem-azerbajdzhancev-aktivno-uchastvovat-v-vyborah>
- 16 Naike Gruppioni CV, [https://dait.interno.gov.it/documenti/trasparenza/POLITICHE\\_20220925/CAMERA\\_ITALIA\\_20220925/candidati/CI11/CU1123/1348377/5318\\_1348377\\_naike\\_gruppioni\\_25092022\\_cv.pdf](https://dait.interno.gov.it/documenti/trasparenza/POLITICHE_20220925/CAMERA_ITALIA_20220925/candidati/CI11/CU1123/1348377/5318_1348377_naike_gruppioni_25092022_cv.pdf)
- 17 Chi è Naike Gruppioni la candidata-imprenditrice che debutta in politica e finisce in Parlamento, Bologna Today, September 27 (2022), <https://www.bolognatoday.it/politica/elezioni-2022/naike-gruppioni-terzo-polo-calenda-parlamento-emilia.html>
- 18 Naike Gruppioni e Giulia Pigoni lasciano Azione e aderiscono a Italia Viva, il Riformista, May 16 (2023), <https://www.ilriformista.it/naike-gruppioni-e-giulia-pigoni-lasciano-azione-e-aderiscono-a-italia-viva-357007/>
- 19 Kenan Aliyev on X/Twitter, September 7 (2024), <https://x.com/libertykenan/status/1755287721411510385?s=20>
- 20 Azerbaijan's business of election observation, Forbidden Stories, February 20 (2024), <https://forbiddenstories.org/azerbaijans-business-of-election-observation/>
- 21 Il regime azero si fa bello ospitando tre parlamentari italiani, L'Espresso, February 14 (2024), <https://lespresso.it/c/attualita/2024/3/14/il-regime-azero-si-fa-bello-ospitando-tre-parlamentari-italiani/50327>





*“This is the second time I have observed the election process in Azerbaijan. One of the characteristics of your country that amazes me is the desire of the Azerbaijani people to actively participate in these elections. People’s passion is the manifestation of democracy.” Italian deputy Naike Gruppioni said these words in an interview to AZERTAC.<sup>22</sup>*

*„I have been to several polling stations since morning. Based on my observations at the polling stations, I can say that the election process was organized very carefully and transparency was ensured. I was pleased to see young people among the voters. At the same time, the participation of both young men and women in organizational work shows that the people of Azerbaijan are interested in building their own successful future,” said the deputy, adding that we politicians always like to talk about human rights. “However, I have witnessed the protection of human rights here today. I was a live witness of the rights given to women, especially during the election process in Azerbaijan. Women are very active in organizing elections and monitoring the election process. This is a clear example of the rights given to women.”<sup>22</sup>*

*“Artıq ikinci dəfədir Azərbaycanda seçki prosesini müşahidə edirəm. Ölkənimdə məni heyratə gətirən xüsusiyyətlərdən biri Azərbaycan xalqının bu seçkilərdə fəal iştirak etmək istəyidir. İnsanların həvəsi də məhz demokratiyanın təzahürüdür.” Bu sözləri AZƏRTAC-a müsahibəsində italyalı deputat Naike Gruppioni deyib.<sup>22</sup>*

*“Mən səhər saatlarından başlayaraq artıq bir neçə seçki məntəqəsində olmuşam. Seçki məntəqələrində apardığım müşahidələrə əsasən deyə bilərəm ki, seçki prosesi çox diqqətlə təşkil olunub və şəffaflıq təmin edilib. Mən seçicilər arasında gəncləri görməkdən məmnun oldum. Eyni zamanda, təşkilati işlərdə həm gənclərin, həm də xanımların iştirakı onu göstərir ki, Azərbaycan xalqı öz uğurlu gələcəyini qurmaq üçün maraq göstərir”, – deyən deputat bildirib ki, biz siyasətçilər daim insan hüquqlarından danışmağı xoşlayırıq. “Ancaq mən bu gün burada insan hüquqlarının qorunmasının canlı şahidi oldum. Xüsusilə Azərbaycanda seçki prosesində qadınlara verilən hüquqların canlı şahidi oldum. Qadınlar həm seçkilərin təşkilində, həm də seçki prosesinə nəzarətdə çox fəal iştirak edirlər. Bu isə qadınlara verilmiş hüquqların bariz nümunəsidir.”<sup>22</sup>*

22 İtalyalı deputat: Azərbaycan xalqının seçkilərdə fəal iştirak istəyi məni heyratə gətirdi, Azərbaycan State News Agency, September 1 (2024), [https://azertag.az/xeber/italiyali\\_deputat\\_azerbaycan\\_xalqinin\\_sechkilerde\\_faal\\_istirak\\_isteyi\\_meni\\_heyrete\\_getirdi-3158942](https://azertag.az/xeber/italiyali_deputat_azerbaycan_xalqinin_sechkilerde_faal_istirak_isteyi_meni_heyrete_getirdi-3158942)

## Portugal

### Duarte Pacheco

Country	Observing mission	Affiliation	Earlier election
Portugal	International Parliamentarians Congress (IPC) <sup>31</sup>	PSD Partido Social Democrata (Social Democratic Party)	Russia's March 2018 presidential election <sup>32</sup>

Duarte Pacheco is a member<sup>23</sup> of the social-democratic party PSD (Partido Social Democrata) and has been a fixture in the Portuguese Parliament since his first election<sup>24</sup> in 1991. In January 2024, the electoral alliance Aliança Democrática, to which the PSD belongs, decided not to list Duarte Pacheco anymore for the next term<sup>25</sup>. From<sup>24</sup> November 2020 to<sup>26,27</sup> October 2023, Duarte Pacheco was the president of Inter-Parliamentary Union headquartered in Geneva<sup>26</sup>.

In this capacity, Duarte Pacheco went to Baku to take part in the special session<sup>28,29</sup> of the Azerbaijani Parliament held on May 16, 2023 on the occasion of the 100th birth anniversary of former president Heydar Aliyev, father of current president Ilham Aliyev. Mehmet Süreyya Er from Turkey has also attended this session. Duarte Pacheco observed Azerbaijan's September 2024 snap parliamentary election as a member

- 23 Duarte Pacheco, Partido Social Democrata, <https://www.psd.pt/pt/grupo-parlamentar/duarte-pacheco>
- 24 Duarte Pacheco Elected New IPU President In Historic Virtual Vote, Inter-Parliamentary Union, November 2 (2020), <https://www.ipu.org/news/press-releases/2020-11/duarte-pacheco-elected-new-ipu-president-in-historic-virtual-vote>
- 25 "Fico triste. Mas é a vida": Deputado Duarte Pacheco diz adeus ao Parlamento ao fim de 30 anos, Correio da Manhã, January 22 (2024), <https://www.cmjornal.pt/politica/detalhe/fico-triste-mas-e-a-vida-deputado-duarte-pacheco-diz-adeus-ao-parlamento-ao-fim-de-30-anos>
- 26 President, Inter-Parliamentary Union, <https://www.ipu.org/about-ipu/structure-and-governance/president>
- 27 Tribute to outgoing IPU President Duarte Pacheco – Portugal, Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) / Youtube, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8a1piVu78rI>
- 28 Milli Majlis Meets in Plenary for National Leader Heydar Aliyev's Centenary, The Milli Majlis of the Republic of Azerbaijan, May 16 (2023), <https://meclis.gov.az/news.php?id=1492&lang=en>
- 29 Speaker of Azerbaijani Parliament meets with President of Inter-Parliamentary Union, Azeri-Press Agency (APA), May 16 (2023), <https://apa.az/en/domestic-policy/speaker-of-azerbaijani-parliament-meets-with-president-of-inter-parliamentary-union-403386>

of<sup>30,31</sup> the mission of the International Parliamentarians Congress (IPC), headquartered in Islamabad, Pakistan (not to be confused with the IPU – Inter-Parliamentary Union). They already had observed together<sup>32</sup> the February 2024 snap presidential election in Azerbaijan. Pictures and a video featuring Duarte Pacheco are available in the sources linked in footnotes<sup>24,28,29,31</sup>. Azerbaijani media outlets quoted Duarte Pacheco:



*Duarte Pacheco said there had been a transparent process at all the polling stations they visited. “There was no pressure or restrictions during the voting process. I would like to show this example to other countries.”<sup>33</sup>*

*Дуарте Пачеко сказал, что на всех избирательных участках, которые они посетили, был прозрачный процесс. «В процессе голосования не было никакого давления или ограничений. Я хотел бы показать этот пример другим странам.»<sup>33</sup>*

When contacted by the EPDE for confirmation and context of his quote, Pacheco confirmed the accuracy of the quote and that it was indeed his evaluation of his observation. According to his knowledge, all his expenses were covered by the International Parliamentarians Congress (IPC).

## United Kingdom

### Qurban Hussain

Country	Observing mission	Affiliation
United Kingdom Pakistan	Probably individual	UK Parliament <sup>37,38</sup> Liberal Democrats <sup>37,38</sup>

- 30 IPC-nin Baş katibi: Seçkilər təzyiqlik və məcburiyyət olmadan keçib, Azeri-Press Agency (APA), September 1 (2024), <https://apa.az/secki-2024/ipc-nin-bas-katibi-seckiler-tezyiqlik-ve-mecburiyyet-olmadan-kecib-863491>
- 31 IPC Delegation Observes Snap General Elections in Azerbaijan, International Parliamentarians Congress, September 2 (2024), <https://ipcongress.org/ipc-delegation-observes-snap-general-elections-in-azerbaijan/>
- 32 Presidential Election Russia 2018, European Platform for Democratic Elections, March 2018, <https://www.fakeobservers.org/fake-election-observers/elections/details/presidential-election-russia-2018.html>
- 33 Генеральный секретарь Международной парламентской организации: Выборы прошли на высоком уровне, Azerbaijan State News Agency, September 1 (2024), [https://azertag.az/ru/xeber/generalnyi\\_sekretar\\_mezhdunarodnoi\\_parlamentskoi\\_organizacii\\_vybory\\_proshli\\_na\\_vysokom\\_urovne-3159746](https://azertag.az/ru/xeber/generalnyi_sekretar_mezhdunarodnoi_parlamentskoi_organizacii_vybory_proshli_na_vysokom_urovne-3159746)

British-Pakistani Qurban Hussain is the only identified observer from the United Kingdom. He is a peer at the House of Lords<sup>34,35,36</sup> from Luton and is a member of the Liberal Democrats<sup>37,38</sup>. Pictures and a video featuring Qurban Hussain are available in the sources linked in footnotes<sup>34,35,36,37</sup>. Azerbaijani media outlets quoted Qurban Hussain:

*[Qurban Hussain] said that during his observations, he witnessed people freely expressing their right to vote: "Voters came to the polling station, presented their ID cards, after checking them by the authorized persons, entered the booth covered with a curtain and made their choices. I felt the joy of people in Shusha. While I was there, I noticed that the voters were eager to come and cast their votes. I should mention that this was the first election I observed abroad and there were no surprises. The election was held in Azerbaijan in the same way as it was held in Great Britain."<sup>35</sup>*

*[Qurban Hussain], müşahidələri zamanı insanların öz seçki hüququndan sərbəst şəkildə ifadə etdiyinin şahidi olduğunu deyib: "Seçicilər seçki məntəqəsinə gələrək, öz şəxsiyyət vəsiqələrini təqdim edir, səlahiyyətli şəxslər onları yoxladıqdan sonra pərdə ilə örtülmüş kabinəyə daxil olaraq, öz seçimlərini edirdilər. Mən Şuşada insanların sevincini hiss etdim. Orada olduğum müddətdə müşahidə etdim ki, seçicilər həvəslə gəlib öz səslerini verirlər. Onu qeyd edirəm ki, bu, mənim xaricdə müşahidə etdiyim ilk seçki idi və heç bir sürpriz olmadı. Seçki Böyük Britaniyada necə keçirsə, Azərbaycanada da eynilə həmin formada keçdi."<sup>35</sup>*

EPDE has reached out to Lord Qurban Hussain for confirmation of the quotes in the media and the background of his travels. He confirmed the accuracy of the quote and that he was invited by the ambassador of Azerbaijan in UK and all expenses have been paid by Azerbaijani

- 34 Seçkiləri müşahidə edən Britaniya Lordlar Palatasının üzvü: Təəccüblü heç bir hal ilə qarşılaşmamışam, Azerbaijan State News Agency, September 1 (2024), <https://video.azertag.az/video/222674>
- 35 Britaniyalı deputat: Şuşada insanların sevincini hiss etdim, həvəslə gəlib səs verirdilər, Azəri-Press Agency (APA), September 1 (2024), <https://apa.az/secki-2024/britaniyalı-deputat-susada-insanlarin-sevincini-hiss-etdim-hevesle-gelib-ses-verirdiler-863480>
- 36 Britaniya Lordlar Palatasının üzvü Füzulidə səsvərmə prosesini izləyib, Azerbaijan State News Agency, September 1 (2024), [https://azertag.az/xeber/britaniya\\_lordlar\\_palatasinin\\_uzvu\\_fuzulide\\_sesverme\\_prosesini\\_izleyib-3158554](https://azertag.az/xeber/britaniya_lordlar_palatasinin_uzvu_fuzulide_sesverme_prosesini_izleyib-3158554)
- 37 Liberal Democrat peer Qurban Hussain investigated after admitting smuggling Pakistani boy into UK, <https://www.mirror.co.uk/news/uk-news/liberal-democrat-peer-qurban-hussain-5379225>
- 38 MPs and Lords > Lord Hussain, UK Parliament, <https://members.parliament.uk/member/4221/career>

government and have been declared accordingly to the House of Lords Members register of interest.

## Romania

### Cristian-Augustin Niculescu-Țâgârlaș

Country	Observing mission	Affiliation
Romania	Romanian Senate <sup>40,41</sup>	Romanian Senate <sup>39</sup> PNL Partidul Național Liberal <sup>42</sup> (National Liberal Party)

Cristian-Augustin Niculescu-Țâgârlaș, from Baia Mare, is a member of the friendship Group with Azerbaijan<sup>39,40</sup> at the Romanian Senate<sup>41</sup>. He is also a member of the PNL party and serves as vice chairperson of its group in the Senate<sup>42</sup>. Pictures featuring Cristian-Augustin Niculescu-Țâgârlaș are available in the sources linked in footnotes<sup>39,41</sup>. Azerbaijani media outlets quoted Cristian-Augustin Niculescu-Țâgârlaș:

- 39 Rumıniyalı parlamentari: Seçki prosesində mətbuat nümayəndələri üçün heç bir məhdudiyət olmayıb, Azeri-Press Agency (APA), September 1 (2024), <https://apa.az/secki-2024/ruminiya-li-parlamentari-secki-prosesinde-metbuat-numayendeleri-ucun-hec-bir-mehdudiyet-olmayib-foto-863498>
- 40 Grupul parlamentar de prietenie cu Azerbaidjan, Senatul României, <https://www.senat.ro/GrupuriPrietenieAct.aspx?Organizatie=9e435029-fa6d-4214-a0c6-b1565e93bf40>
- 41 Rumıniyalı parlamentari: Beynəlxalq müşahidəçilər və medianın sərbəst fəaliyyətinə imkan yaradılmışdı, Report İnformasiya Agentliyi, September 1 (2024), <https://report.az/daxili-siya-set/ruminiya-parlamentinin-uzvu-beynelxalq-musahideciler-ve-media-numayendelerinin-serbest-fealiyyetine-imkan-yaradilmisdi/>
- 42 Cristian-Augustin NICULESCU-ȚĂGĂRLAȘ, Senatul României, <https://www.senat.ro/FisaSenator.aspx?ParlamentariID=84387473-AE51-4921-9DE4-CB42DE4EB7D7>

“Opportunities had been created for free and unrestricted activity of international observers and media representatives during the snap elections to the Milli Majlis of Azerbaijan, said Cristian-Augustin Niculescu-Tagarlas, an international observer and a member of the Romanian Parliament, Report informs. According to the Romanian politician, optimal conditions were created for citizens of Azerbaijan to exercise their democratic rights.<sup>43</sup>

Seçki prosesində beynəlxalq müşahidəçilər və media nümayəndələrinin sərbəst fəaliyyətinə imkan yaradılmışdı. “Report”un məlumatına görə, bunu Rumıniya parlamentinin üzvü Kristian Avqustin Nikulesku Azərbaycanda keçirilən parlament seçkiləri ilə bağlı müşahidələrini bölüşərkən deyib. O qeyd edib ki, vətəndaşların demokratik hüquqlarından istifadə etmələri üçün optimal şərait yaradılmışdı.<sup>41</sup>

EPDE has reached out to Mr. Niculescu-Ţăgârlaş for confirmation of his quote. In his reply he clarified the context and scope of the observation. He highlighted that all costs related to his travels were covered by the Romanian Senate.

## Bulgaria

### Petar Georgiev Kanev (Петър Георгиев Кънев)

Country	Observing mission	Affiliation	Earlier elections
Bulgaria	Parliamentary Assembly of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation (PABSEC) <sup>46</sup>	National Assembly of the Republic of Bulgaria <sup>44</sup> Bulgarian Socialist Party BSP <sup>44</sup>	Azerbaijan's February 2024 snap presidential election <sup>48</sup> Azerbaijan's November 2015 parliamentary election <sup>49</sup>

As an MP of the Bulgarian Parliament<sup>44</sup>, Petar Georgiev Kanev is a member of numerous bi- and multilateral friendship parliamentary groups, including the friendship group Bulgaria-Azerbaijan<sup>44</sup>. The one he chairs

43 Romanian MP: Election observers and media can operate freely in Azerbaijan, Report Informasiya Agentliyi, September 1 (2024), <https://report.az/en/domestic-politics/romanian-mp-election-observers-and-media-can-operate-freely-in-azerbaijan/>

44 Members of parliament > Petar Georgiev Kanev, National Assembly of the Republic of Bulgaria, <https://parliament.bg/en/MP/3507>

himself is the friendship group Bulgaria-Russia<sup>44</sup>. Petar Georgiev Kanev is a member of<sup>44</sup> the openly pro-russian<sup>32,45</sup> Bulgarian Socialist Party. Petar Georgiev Kanev is a vice president and the head of the Bulgarian Delegation<sup>46</sup> at the PABSEC and was a member of its mission<sup>46,47</sup> during Azerbaijan's September 2024 snap parliamentary election. Before Azerbaijan's September 2024 snap parliamentary election, Petar Georgiev Kanev had already<sup>48</sup> observed the February 2024 presidential election in Azerbaijan and, much earlier, the November 2015 parliamentary election<sup>49</sup>. Pictures featuring Petar Georgiev Kanev are available in the sources linked in footnotes<sup>47,48,56,57,77,89</sup>. An Azerbaijani media outlet quoted:



*"This is not my first visit here, and every time I am amazed by the high level of organization that Azerbaijan demonstrates in preparing, meeting, and visiting polling stations, and today's parliamentary election is no exception. Today we visited eight polling stations, and I noticed that the turnout was stable. I am confident that by the end of the day, the turnout will be decent. I wish good luck to the future members of your parliament and, of course, to all citizens of Azerbaijan," he said.*"<sup>50</sup>

- 45 Socialists say Bulgaria pays high price for EU's Russia sanctions, Reuters, March 17 (2017), <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-bulgaria-election-socialists/socialists-say-bulgaria-pays-high-price-for-eus-russia-sanctions-idUSKBN1601AA/>
- 46 PABSEC National Delegations > Republic of Bulgaria > Mr. Petar KANEV, PABSEC Parliamentary Assembly of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation, <https://www.pabsec.org/page-detail/pabsec-national-delegations/7>
- 47 Зампредседателя ПА ОЧЭС: Высоко оцениваем парламентские выборы в Азербайджане, September 2 (2024), Media.az, <https://media.az/politika/zampredsedatelya-pa-oches-vy-tyborax-v-azerbajdzhane>
- 48 Foreign observers' count shows global value of Azerbaijan's presidential election – PABSEC, Trend News Agency, February 7 (2024), <https://en.trend.az/azerbaijan/politics/3858658.html>
- 49 Миссия ОЧЭС положительно оценила организацию голосования на парламентских выборах в Азербайджане, 1news.az, November 2 (2015), <https://1news.az/politics/20151102104313715.html>
- 50 Level of organization of parliamentary election in Azerbaijan admirable - PABSEC's VP, trend news agency, September 1 (2024), <https://en.trend.az/azerbaijan/politics/3939652.html>

## Kameliya Neykova (Камелия Стоянова Нейкова)

Country	Observing mission	Affiliation
Bulgaria	Central Election Commission of Bulgaria <sup>51,52</sup>	There Is Such a People party <sup>53</sup> (Има такъв народ)

Kameliya Neykova is the chairperson of the Central Election Commission of Bulgaria<sup>51,52</sup> and traveled to Baku with her deputy<sup>52</sup>, Rositsa Mateva. She was nominated to her function as chairperson of the Central Election Commission of Bulgaria<sup>53</sup> by the “There Is Such a People” political party. Pictures featuring Kameliya Neykova are available in the sources linked in footnotes<sup>51,53</sup>. Azertag quotes her as saying:

*“Bulgarian CEC Chairperson Kameliya Neykova expressed her satisfaction with participating in the observation of the snap elections to the Milli Majlis and emphasized her commitment to actively monitoring the electoral processes. She said that the parliamentary elections were conducted excellently and noted the high voter turnout witnessed during her visits to several polling stations since morning.”<sup>51</sup>*

## Rositsa Mateva (Росица Борисова Матева)

Country	Observing mission	Affiliation
Bulgaria	Central Election Commission of Bulgaria <sup>51,52</sup>	Central Election Commission of Bulgaria <sup>51,52</sup>

Rositsa Mateva was one of the very few observers from the European Union during Azerbaijan’s September 2024 snap parliamentary election. She is the vice chairperson<sup>52</sup> of the Central Election Commission of Bulgaria and came there with the head of that institution, Kameliya

51 Azerbaijan’s CEC Chairperson meets with Bulgarian counterpart, Azerbaijan State News Agency, September 1 (2024), [https://azertag.az/en/xeber/azerbajjans\\_cec\\_chairperson\\_meets\\_with\\_bulgarian\\_counterpart-3159074](https://azertag.az/en/xeber/azerbajjans_cec_chairperson_meets_with_bulgarian_counterpart-3159074)

52 Media Review: September 2, Bulgarian News Agency BTA, September 2 (2024), <https://www.bta.bg/en/news/bulgaria/735217-media-review-september-2>

53 Kamelia Neykova is the new chairperson of the Central Election Commission, Bulgarian National Television website, May 05 (2021), <https://bnt.bg/news/kamelia-neykova-is-the-new-chairperson-of-the-central-election-commission-294944news.html>



Neykova. Pictures featuring Rositsa Mateva are available in the sources linked in footnotes<sup>51,54</sup>.

## Serbia

### Igor Bečić

Country	Observing mission	Affiliation
Serbia	Parliamentary Assembly of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation (PABSEC) <sup>56,55</sup>	National Assembly of the Republic of Serbia <sup>55</sup> SNS Serbian Progressive Party <sup>58</sup> (СНС Српска напредна странка)

Igor Bečić is a Serbian MP from Novi Sad and is a member of the ruling Serbian Progressive Party<sup>55</sup>, headed by Aleksandar Vučić. He observed Azerbaijan's September 2024 snap parliamentary election as a member of the PABSEC mission<sup>56,57</sup>, to which he was nominated as a representative of Serbia<sup>55</sup>. In May 2024, Igor Bečić was elected<sup>58</sup> the Committee for the Control of Security Services president at the National Assembly (parliament) of the Republic of Serbia. Pictures featuring Igor Bečić are available in the sources linked in footnotes<sup>56,57,58,77</sup>. Azerbaijani media outlets quoted Igor Bečić:

- 54 Rositsa Mateva explained why the 2 in 1 vote will have 4 ballot boxes, Факти.бг, May 21 (2024), <https://fakti.bg/en/bulgaria/882593-rosica-mateva-obasni-zashto-na-vota-2-v-1-shte-ima-4-kutii-za-buletinite>
- 55 Members of Parliament > MP > Igor Bečić, National Assembly of the Republic of Serbia, [http://www.parlament.gov.rs/IGOR\\_BEICIC+.679.488.html](http://www.parlament.gov.rs/IGOR_BEICIC+.679.488.html)
- 56 QDİƏT müşahidə missiyası seçkilərin demokratik standartlara uyğun keçirildiyini bildirib, Azəri-Press Agency (APA), September 2 (2024), <https://apa.az/secki-2024/qdiet-musahide-mis-siyasi-seckilerin-demokratik-standartlara-uygun-kecirildiyini-bildirib-863538>
- 57 Igor Becic: New Azerbaijan Party's electoral triumph reflects trust in Ilham Aliyev, September 2 (2024), <https://report.az/en/foreign-politics/igor-becic-new-azerbaijan-party-s-electoral-tri-umph-reflects-trust-in-ilham-aliyev/>
- 58 Igor Bečić izabran za predsednika Odbora za kontrolu službi bezbednosti, N1, May 10 (2024), <https://n1info.rs/vesti/igor-becic-izabran-za-predsednika-odbora-za-kontrolu-službi-bezbed-nosti/>

“The observation mission of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization (BSEC) determined that the elections were held in accordance with all democratic standards. During our meeting with the Chairperson of the Central Election Commission, Mazahir Panakhov, we also confirmed that appropriate conditions were created for everyone to hold the elections. We have not registered any violations of the law. I congratulate the New Azerbaijan Party on its victory in the elections. This is an indication of the high level of cooperation between Azerbaijan and Serbia.”<sup>56</sup>

“Qara Dəniz İqtisadi Əməkdaşlıq Təşkilatının (QDİƏT) Parlament Məclisinin müşahidə missiyası müəyyən edib ki, seçkilər bütün demokratik standartlara uyğun olaraq həyata keçirilib. Mərkəzi Seçki Komissiyasının sədri Məzahir Pənahovla görüşümüz zamanı da biz öz tərəfimizdən təsdiq etdik ki, seçkilərin keçirilməsi üçün hər kəsə müvafiq şərait yaradılıb. Bizim tərəfimizdən hər hansı qanun pozuntusu qeydə alınmayıb. Mən Yeni Azərbaycan Partiyasını seçkilərdə qazandığı inamlı qələbə münasibətilə təbrik edirəm. Bu, ölkə vətəndaşlarının Prezident İlham Əliyevə olan etimadının göstəricisidir. Azərbaycanla Serbiya arasındakı strateji əməkdaşlıq yüksək səviyyədədir. Bu da qarşılıqlı etimadın göstəricisidir.”<sup>56</sup>

## Zivota Starcević

Country	Observing mission	Affiliation
Serbia	Serbian Parliament <sup>59</sup>	National Assembly of the Republic of Serbia <sup>59,60</sup> JS Jedinstvena Srbija <sup>60</sup> (Јединствена Србија) (United Serbia)

Zivota Starcević is a member of the Serbian Parliament<sup>59</sup> and is a member of<sup>60</sup> the national-conservative United Serbia party. He confirmed

59 Serbiyalı müşahidəçi: Azərbaycanda seçicilər səsvermə prosesində iştirakın vacibliyini dərk edir, Azeri-Press Agency (APA), September 1 (2024), <https://apa.az/secki-2024/serbiyalı-musahide-ci-azerbaycanda-secciler-sesverme-prosesinde-istirakin-vacibliyini-derk-edir-863499>

60 Members of Parliament > MP > Zivota Starcević, National Assembly of the Republic of Serbia, [http://www.parlament.gov.rs/ZIVOTA\\_STARCEVIC.1122.488.html](http://www.parlament.gov.rs/ZIVOTA_STARCEVIC.1122.488.html)

on his Facebook profile<sup>61,62</sup> that he observed<sup>63</sup> Azerbaijan's September 2024 snap parliamentary election as a representative of the Serbian Parliament<sup>59</sup>. Pictures featuring Zivota Starcević are available in the sources linked in footnotes<sup>59,61,64</sup>. Azerbaijani media outlets quoted Zivota Starcević:



*Serbian MP Zivota Starcevic, who observed the voting process in the parliamentary elections in Azerbaijan, said that his delegation visited several polling stations, and the elections were held in accordance with democratic standards, Report informs. The observer noted that no cases were recorded that could interfere with the voting process. "The voting took place in peaceful conditions. No violations were recorded at the polling stations where we conducted monitoring. Thanks to the professionalism of the Central Election Commission, everything was at a high level," Zivota Starcevic emphasized. The parliamentarian added that the staff at the polling stations demonstrated a high level of professionalism. "This shows that they have received the necessary training," he concluded.<sup>64</sup>*

*Azərbaycanda parlament seçkilərini müşahidə edən Serbiya parlamentinin üzvü Jivota Starceviç səsvermə günü bir neçə məntəqədə olduqlarını və seçkilərin demokratik standartlara uyğun keçirildiyini deyib. „Report“un məlumatına görə, o bildirib ki, seçki prosesinə mane olan heç bir şeyə rast gəlinmədi: “Proses sülh şəraitində oldu. Bizim müşahidə apardığımız məntəqələrdə heç bir qanunsuzluq olmadı. Mərkəzi Seçki Komissiyasının peşəkarlığı nəticəsində hər şey yüksək səviyyədə oldu. Mən istədiyim yoxlamaları apara bildim. Bu, demokratik şəraitin növbəti təzahürüdür”. Müşahidəçi söyləyib ki, məntəqə işçiləri peşəkarlıqla çalışırdılar: “Bu, göstərir ki, onlar lazımı təlimləri keçmişdilər.”<sup>65</sup>*

- 61 Starcević Života on Facebook, September 1 (2024), <https://www.facebook.com/starceviczivota/videos/531527412895682/>
- 62 Starcević Života on Facebook, September 1 (2024), <https://www.facebook.com/starceviczivota/posts/pfbid0vGSDHnw37YxARpxRreQsL76ws1MQbvYjdBLGcqt57VfQUXsy7jXBffn9mArKaqi6l>
- 63 Избирательный процесс на парламентских выборах в Азербайджане организован на высоком уровне – наблюдатель из Сербии, Trend News Agency, September 1 (2024), <https://www.trend.az/azerbaijan/politics/3939356.html>
- 64 Serbian observer says Azerbaijan elections meet democratic standards, Report İnformasiya Agentliyi, September 1 (2024), <https://report.az/en/domestic-politics/serbian-observer-says-azerbaijan-elections-meet-democratic-standards/>
- 65 Serbiyalı müşahidəçi: Seçkilər demokratik standartlara uyğun keçirilib, Report İnformasiya Agentliyi, September 1 (2024), <https://report.az/daxili-siyaset/serbiyalı-musahideci-seckil-er-demokratik-standartlara-uygun-kecirilib/>

## Ukraine

### Volodymyr Kreidenko (Володимир Крейденко)

Country	Observing mission	Affiliation	Earlier election
Ukraine	Ukrainian Parliament <sup>66,68</sup>	Ukrainian Parliament <sup>68</sup> Servant of the People (Слуга Народу) <sup>68</sup>	February 2020 Azerbaijani presidential election <sup>69</sup>

Volodymyr Kreidenko is a member of President Zelensky's party "Servant of the People" and is very active as a member<sup>66</sup> and co-chairperson<sup>67</sup> of the Ukraine-Azerbaijan Inter-Parliamentary Friendship Group at the Verkhovna Rada<sup>68</sup> (Ukrainian Parliament). He also serves as deputy chairperson of the Verkhovna Rada committee on transport and infrastructure<sup>67</sup>. Earlier, Volodymyr Kreidenko had<sup>69</sup> observed the presidential election in Azerbaijan in February 2020. Pictures featuring Volodymyr Kreidenko are available in the sources linked in footnotes<sup>66,67,69,70,71</sup>. Azerbaijani media outlets quoted Volodymyr Kreidenko:

- 66 Парламентские выборы в Азербайджане соответствуют международным стандартам, Azeri-Press Agency (APA), September 1 (2024), <https://ru.apa.az/vybory-2024/nablyudatel-iz-ukrainy-parlamentskie-vybory-v-azerbajdzane-sootvetstvuyut-mezhdunarodnym-standartam-585860?ysclid=m0jhlroita168373232>
- 67 На парламентских выборах в Азербайджане соблюдены все необходимые демократические процедуры, Trend News Agency, September 1 (2024), <https://www.trend.az/azerbaijan/politics/3939588.html>
- 68 Володимир Вікторович Крейденко, Verkhovna Rada, <https://itd.rada.gov.ua/mps/info/page/21162>
- 69 Ukrainian observer talks high voter turnout in Azerbaijani parliamentary elections, Azernews, February 9 (2020), <https://www.azernews.az/nation/161525.html>
- 70 Ali Radanın deputatı: Vətəndaşlar öz namizədlərinə azad şəkildə səs vermək imkanına malik olublar, Report İnformasiya Agentliyi, September 1 (2024), <https://report.az/daxili-siyaset/ali-radanin-deputati-vetendaslar-oz-namizedlerine-azad-sekilde-ses-vermek-imkanina-malik-olublar/>
- 71 Azerbaijan, Ukraine discuss prospects for development of transport infrastructure, Azerbaijan State News Agency, February 28 (2023), [https://azertag.az/en/xeber/azerbaijan\\_ukraine-discuss\\_prospects\\_for\\_development\\_of\\_transport\\_infrastructure-2509916](https://azertag.az/en/xeber/azerbaijan_ukraine-discuss_prospects_for_development_of_transport_infrastructure-2509916)



“These are not the first elections that I have observed in Azerbaijan, and all of them were free, without a hint of pressure. Today, my colleagues and I visited ten polling stations in Baku. At all of them, citizens had the opportunity to vote freely for their candidate,” [Kreidenko] said. According to him, the most important thing for an observer is commitment to democracy and international law.<sup>72</sup>

“Bu, Azərbaycanda müşahidə etdiyim ilk seçki deyil və onların hamısı azad şəkildə, heç bir təzyiq olmadan təşkil olunub. Bu gün mən və həmkarlarım Bakıda on seçki məntəqəsində olmuşuq. Bütün seçki məntəqələrində vətəndaşlar azad şəkildə öz namizədlərinə səs vermək imkanına malik olublar”, – [Kreidenko] bildirib. Deputatın sözlərinə görə, müşahidəçi üçün ən önəmlisi demokratiya və beynəlxalq hüquqa sadıqlıqdır.<sup>70</sup>

## Mykola Halushko (Микола Галушко)

Country	Observing mission	Affiliation
Ukraine	Ukrainian Parliament <sup>73</sup>	Ukrainian Parliament <sup>73</sup> Servant of the People (Слуга Народу) <sup>73</sup>

Mykola Halushko is a member of President Zelensky’s party “Servant of the People” and is active as a member of the Ukraine-Azerbaijan Inter-Parliamentary Friendship Group at the Verkhovna Rada<sup>73</sup> (Ukrainian Parliament). Pictures featuring Mykola Halushko are available in the sources linked in footnotes<sup>70,71,74</sup>.

72 Ukrainian MP: Citizens of Azerbaijan can vote freely, Report İnformasiya Agentliyi, September 1 (2024), <https://report.az/en/domestic-politics/ukrainian-mp-citizens-of-azerbaijan-can-vote-freely/>

73 Галушко Микола Леонідович, Verkhovna Rada, <https://itd.rada.gov.ua/mps/info/page/21018>

74 Voting process held within the respect to international and human rights, Azeri-Press Agency (APA), September 1 (2024), <https://en.apa.az/election-2024/ukrainian-mp-on-snap-parliamentary-election-in-azerbainan-voting-process-held-within-the-respect-to-international-and-human-rights-446932>

## Anton Shvachko (АНТОН ШВАЧКО)

Country	Observing mission	Affiliation
Ukraine	Ukrainian Parliament <sup>75</sup>	Ukrainian Parliament <sup>75</sup> Servant of the People (Слуга Народу) <sup>75</sup>

Anton Shvachko is a member of President Zelensky's party "Servant of the People" and is active in the Ukraine-Azerbaijan Inter-Parliamentary Friendship Group at the Verkhovna Rada<sup>75</sup> (Ukrainian Parliament). Pictures featuring Anton Shvachko are available in the sources linked in footnotes<sup>71,74</sup>.

## Albania

### Petro Koçi

Country	Observing mission	Affiliation
Albania	Parliamentary Assembly of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation (PABSEC) <sup>76</sup>	Socialist Party <sup>76</sup>

Petro Koçi observed Azerbaijan's September 2024 snap parliamentary election as a member of the PABSEC mission<sup>76</sup>. A member of the Albanian Socialist Party, Petro Koçi heads<sup>76,77</sup> the Albanian Delegation to PABSEC and serves as vice president of this organization<sup>76,77</sup>. Pictures featuring Petro Koçi are available in the sources linked in footnotes<sup>56,57,76,77,78</sup>.

75 Швачко Антон Олександрович, Verkhovna Rada, <https://itd.rada.gov.ua/mps/info/page/22604>

76 PABSEC Standing Committee, PABSEC Parliamentary Assembly of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation, <https://www.pabsec.org/page-detail/standing-committee/10#committee-11>

77 Participation of the PABSEC Delegation in the Monitoring Mission for the Early Parliamentary Elections in the Republic of Azerbaijan Baku 1 September 2024, PABSEC Parliamentary Assembly of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation, <https://www.pabsec.org/news-detail/participation-of-the-pabsec-delegation-in-the-monitoring-mission-for-the-early-parliamentary-elections-in-the-republic-of-azerbaijan-baku-1-september-2024/674>

78 Procesi i ndryshimit, realitet me këmbë në tokë. Petro Koci komenton zgjedhjet e Ramës, A2 CNN on YouTube, September 9 (2024), <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=COADyQNYmyY>

## Moldova

### Vitalie Jacot

Country	Observing mission	Affiliation	Earlier election
Moldova	Moldovan Parliament <sup>79,81</sup>	PAS Partidul Acțiune și Solidaritate (Party Action and Solidarity) <sup>79</sup>	Azerbaijan's February 2024 snap presidential election <sup>82</sup>

Vitalie Jacot has been a member<sup>79,80</sup> of Maia Sandu's Party Action and Solidarity since its creation in 2016 and was elected from Chișinău to the Moldovan Parliament<sup>79</sup> in 2021, where he is the chairperson of the Moldova-Azerbaijani Interparliamentary Friendship Group<sup>81</sup> and had already<sup>82</sup> observed the February 2024 snap presidential election in Azerbaijan. Pictures featuring Vitalie Jacot are available in the sources linked in footnotes<sup>82,83</sup>. Azerbaijani media outlets quoted Vitalie Jacot:



*According to the MP, the voting process at polling stations was as transparent as possible, and voters were open to constructive dialogue. "Everything was very well planned and organized. I can say that all my expectations from these elections were met," Jacot concluded.<sup>83</sup>*

*Deputatın sözlərinə görə, seçki məntəqələrində səsvermə prosesi son dərəcə şəffaf keçib, seçicilər konstruktiv dialoqa açıq olub.<sup>84</sup> "Hər şey çox yaxşı planlaşdırılmış və təşkil olunmuşdu. Deyə bilərəm ki, bu seçkilərlə bağlı bütün gözləntilərim özünü doğrultdu", - V.Jacot vurğulayıb.<sup>84</sup>*

- 79 Structura Parlamentului > Deputații > Jacot Vitalie, Parlamentul Republicii Moldova, <https://www.parlament.md/StructuraParlamentului/Deputa%C8%9Bii/tabid/87/Id/1043/language/ro-RO/Default.aspx>
- 80 Vitalie Jacot, Wikipedia, [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vitalie\\_Jacot](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vitalie_Jacot)
- 81 Voting process in Azerbaijani presidential election goes on calmly, in working environment – Moldovan MP, Trend News Agency, February 7 (2024), <https://en.trend.az/azerbaijan/politics/3858754.html>
- 82 Azerbaijani voters display amazing optimism in presidential election – Moldovan MP, Trend News Agency, September 1 (2024), <https://en.trend.az/azerbaijan/politics/3859548.html>
- 83 MP: Moldova could use Azerbaijan's experience in holding elections, Report Informasiya Agentliyi, September 1 (2024), <https://report.az/en/domestic-politics/mp-moldova-could-use-azerbaijan-s-experience-in-holding-elections/>
- 84 Moldovalı deputat: Biz seçkilərin keçirilməsi ilə bağlı Azərbaycanın təcrübəsini öyrənə bilərik, Report Informasiya Agentliyi, September 1 (2024), <https://report.az/daxili-siyaset/moldova-li-deputat-biz-seckilerin-kecirilmesi-ile-bagli-azerbaycanin-tecrubesini-oyrene-bilerik/>

## Georgia

### Irakli Kadagishvili

Country	Observing mission	Affiliation
Georgia	Georgian Parliament <sup>85</sup>	Georgian Dream party <sup>85</sup>

Irakli Kadagishvili is a member of<sup>85</sup> the ruling party Georgian Dream. As an MP, he chairs the Rules and Procedural Issues Committee of the parliament<sup>85</sup>. Irakli Kadagishvili was the head<sup>86</sup> of the Georgian Parliament's observing mission during Azerbaijan's September 2024 snap parliamentary election. Pictures featuring Irakli Kadagishvili are available in the sources linked in footnotes<sup>85,86</sup>. Azerbaijani media outlets quoted Irakli Kadagishvili:

*"That's why we participated in the elections as observers at the invitation of the Milli Majlis. Our observation group visited 8 polling stations yesterday. In these stations, the process was organized according to the law. Voting was conducted quietly. Our observations showed that the entire election process took place according to the rules. Our delegation highly appreciates the elections. Voters expressed their will freely, we did not observe any pressure or interference from outside."<sup>87</sup>*

*"Məhz buna görə Milli Məclisin dəvəti ilə seçkilərdə müşahidəçi kimi iştirak etdik. Bizim müşahidəçi qrupumuz dünən 8 seçki məntəqəsində oldu. Bu məntəqələrdə proses qanuna uyğun formada təşkil edilmişdi. Səsvərəmə sakit şəkildə keçirilirdi. Bizim müşahidələrimiz onu göstərdi ki, bütün seçki prosesi qaydalara uyğun baş tutub. Bizim nümayəndə heyəti seçkiləri yüksək qiymətləndirir. Seçicilər öz iradələrini azad şəkildə ifadə edirdilər, onlara təzyiq və ya kənarından hansısa müdaxilənin olması bizim tərəfimizdən müşahidə olunmadı."<sup>87</sup>*

85 Parliament official says choosing ruling party in election means maintaining peace, moving towards Europe, Agenda.ge, July 17 (2024), <https://agenda.ge/en/news/2024/39908#gsc.tab=0>

86 Наблюдатель из Грузии: Мы не зафиксировали фактов давления и вмешательства на выборах в Азербайджане, Media.az, September 2 (2024), <https://media.az/politika/nably-udatel-iz-gruzii-my-ne-zafiksirovali-faktov-davleniya-i-vmeshatelstva-na-vyborah-v-azerbajdzhanе>

87 Gürcü deputat: Nümayəndə heyətimiz seçkiləri yüksək qiymətləndirir, Azeri-Press Agency (APA), September 2 (2024), <https://apa.az/secki-2024/gurcu-deputat-numayende-heyetimiz-seckil-eri-yuksekk-qiymetlendirir-863566>



## Ramaz Nikolaishvili

Country	Observing mission	Affiliation	Earlier election
Georgia	Parliamentary Assembly of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation (PABSEC) <sup>88</sup>	Georgian Parliament <sup>88</sup> UNM United National Movement (Natsebi) <sup>88</sup>	Azerbaijan's February 2024 snap presidential election <sup>89</sup>

Ramaz Nikolaishvili is a member of<sup>f88</sup> the main opposition party in Georgia, the United National Movement (UNM). Ramaz Nikolaishvili has served as the deputy Minister of Defense<sup>88</sup>. As an MP, he is the vice president<sup>88</sup> of the PABSEC and was a member of its mission during Azerbaijan's September 2024 snap parliamentary election. He had already<sup>89</sup> observed the presidential election in February 2024. Pictures featuring Ramaz Nikolaishvili are available in the sources linked in footnotes<sup>56,57,77,89,90</sup>. Azerbaijani media outlets quoted Ramaz Nikolaishvili:



*“The elections held in Azerbaijan are not similar to the elections in other countries. Each Azerbaijani voted only for the candidate of his choice. This is also proved by the results we have achieved. In general, the people of Azerbaijan should be proud of their victory. The strong policy of President Ilham Aliyev won you a whole Azerbaijan. We believe that holding*

*„Azərbaycanda keçirilən seçkilər digər ölkələrdəki seçkilərə bənzəmir. Hər bir azərbaycanlı seçkidə yalnız öz istədiyi namizədə səs verirdi. Bunu bizim əldə etdiyimiz nəticələr də sübut edir. Ümumiyyətlə, Azərbaycan xalqı öz qələbəsi ilə qürur duymalıdır. Prezident İlham Əliyevin güclü siyasəti sizə bütöv bir Azərbaycan qazandırdı. Biz öz tərəfimizdən hesab edirik ki, Azərbaycanda bu cür seçkilərin keçirilməsi çox əlamətdar haldır. Azərbaycan işğaldan azad*

88 PABSEC National Delegations > Georgia > Mr. Ramaz NIKOLAISHVILI, PABSEC Parliamentary Assembly of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation, <https://www.pabsec.org/national-delegations/5>

89 Georgian MP: Elections in Azerbaijan were highly organized, Report İnformasiya Agentliyi, February 7 (2024), <https://report.az/en/domestic-politics/georgian-mp-elections-in-azerbaijan-were-highly-organized/>

90 Ramaz Nikolaishvili: Azərbaycan ərəzi bütövlüyünü bərpa etdikdən sonra prezident və parlament seçkilərini keçirdi, <https://report.az/xarici-siyaset/ramaz-nikolasvili-azerbaycan-erazi-butovluunu-berpa-etdikden-sonra-prezident-ve-parlament-seckilerini-kecirdi/>

such elections in Azerbaijan is very significant. We were able to hold both presidential and parliamentary elections in the occupied territories. We had representatives of the opposition parties there we asked people their opinions. If the people's right to vote is ensured, then we can say that the elections took place. I think that the relations between our countries will be stronger We have a positive attitude towards cooperation between It is also in our interest for Azerbaijan to have economic power.<sup>56</sup>

edilmiş torpaqlarda həm prezident, həm də parlament seçkilərini keçirməyə müvəffəq oldu. Biz səhərdən axşamadək bir çox məntəqələrdə olduq. Orada müxalifət partiyalarının nümayəndələri də var idi. Müşahidələrimiz zamanı insanlardan da onların fikirlərini soruşduq. Əgər bir ölkədə insanların səsvermə hüququ təmin olunursa, deməli seçkilər uğurlu keçirilib. Biz də deyə bilərik ki, seçkilər baş tutub. Hesab edirəm ki, parlamentin yeni tərkibi formalaşdırıldıqdan sonra bizim ölkələrimiz arasındakı əlaqələr daha da güclənəcək. Biz qanunverici orqanlarımız arasında əməkdaşlığa müsbət yanaşırıq. Azərbaycanın iqtisadi gücə malik olması bizim də marağımızdadır.<sup>56</sup>

## Turkey

### Ahmet Yener

Country	Observing mission	Affiliation	Earlier election
Turkey	n/a	Turkish High Election Board <sup>91</sup> (YSK Yüksek Seçim Kurulu)	Azerbaijan's February 2024 presidential election <sup>93</sup>

Ahmet Yener was elected chairperson<sup>91</sup> of the Turkish High Election Board (electoral commission) in January 2023. It is unclear<sup>92</sup> if he observed Azerbaijan's September 2024 snap parliamentary election in this capacity or as a member of another observation mission. Ahmet Yener had already observed the February 2024 presidential election in Azerbaijan with a large group of his deputies from the Turkish

91 YSK başkanlığına Ahmet Yener seçildi, AA, January 26 (2023), <https://www.aa.com.tr/tr/gundem/ysk-baskanligina-ahmet-yener-secildi/2798252>

92 Ахмет Йенер: Парламентские выборы в Азербайджане проходят прозрачно, Media.az, September 1 (2024), <https://media.az/politika/ahmet-yener-parlamentskie-vybory-v-azerbajdzhane-prohodyat-prozrachno>

High Election Board<sup>93</sup>. Pictures featuring Ahmet Yener are available in the sources linked in footnotes<sup>91,92,93</sup>. Azerbaijani media outlets quoted Ahmet Yener:



*Parliamentary elections in Azerbaijan are held in an organized and transparent manner. According to Anadolu Agency, this was stated by the chairman of the Supreme Electoral Council of Turkey Ahmet Yener, who has attended the snap parliamentary elections in Azerbaijan as an observer.<sup>92</sup>*

*Парламентские выборы в Азербайджане проходят организованно и прозрачно. Как сообщает агентство Anadolu, об этом сказал председатель Высшего избирательного совета Турции Ахмет Йенер, принимающий участие в качестве наблюдателя во внеочередных парламентских выборах в Азербайджане.<sup>92</sup>*

## Mehmet Süreyya Er

Country	Observing mission	Affiliation	Earlier election
Turkey	Parliamentary Assembly of Turkic Speaking Countries (TÜRKPA) <sup>94</sup>	TÜRKPA <sup>94</sup>	Azerbaijan's February 2024 presidential election <sup>96</sup>

Mehmet Süreyya Er<sup>94</sup>, a Turkish diplomat, is the secretary general of the TÜRKPA. He was a director within the Public Diplomacy Coordination Office of the Prime Ministry of Turkey until 2012, and then he headed the Turkish Cooperation and Coordination Agency (TIKA). Before being elected to lead TÜRKPA, he was the Turkish ambassador to Uzbekistan from 2019 to 2021. A picture and a video featuring Mehmet Süreyya Er are available in the sources linked in footnotes<sup>95,96</sup>.

93 Yüksek Seçim Kurulu'nun 07 Şubat 2024 tarihinde düzenlenen Erken Cumhurbaşkanı Seçimini gözlemlemek amacıyla Bakü'ye çalışma ziyareti, Turkish High Election Board, February 12 (2024), <https://www.ysk.gov.tr/tr/haber/yuksek-secim-kurulunun-07-sub-at-2024-tarihinde-duzenlenen-erken-cumhurbaskani-secimini-gozlemlemek-amaciyla-baku%E2%80%99ye-calisma-ziyareti/46637444>

94 Mehmet Süreyya Er, TÜRKPA, <https://turkpa.org/person/1>

95 Учения ВС Азербайджана | Иностранные наблюдатели о выборах в Азербайджане, уа.ру, August 30 (2024), <https://ya.ru/video/preview/2428292155776432460>

96 TÜRKPA Mission monitored early presidential election in Azerbaijan, TÜRKPA, February 7 (2024), <https://turkpa.org/news/796-turkpa-mission-monitored-early-presidential-election-in-azerbaijan>

## Ahmet Zenbilci

Country	Observing mission	Affiliation	Earlier election
Turkey	Parliamentary Assembly of Turkic Speaking Countries (TÜRKPA) / Organization of Turkic States (OTS) <sup>95,100</sup>	Grand National Assembly of Turkey <sup>98</sup> Justice and Development Party <sup>97</sup> (AK Party) (Adalet ve Kalkınma Partisi)	Azerbaijan's February 2024 presidential election <sup>99</sup>

Ahmet Zenbilci is a member of<sup>97</sup> the ruling Justice and Development Party (AK Party). He is a member of the Turkish parliament as well as the vice chairperson of TÜRKPA's Commission on Environment, Natural Resources, and Health Protection<sup>98</sup>. He had already observed the February 2024 presidential election in Azerbaijan<sup>99</sup>. Videos featuring Ahmet Zenbilci are available in the sources linked in footnotes<sup>95,100</sup>. Azerbaijani media outlets quoted Ahmet Zenbilci:

*The head of the delegation, A. Zenbilci, highly appreciated the holding of the extraordinary parliamentary elections for the first time in the territories freed from occupation. He pointed out that Azerbaijan has demonstrated democracy to the whole world and expressed confidence that the elections will be held in the best way.<sup>101</sup>*

*Nümayəndə heyətinin rəhbəri A.Zenbilci növbədənənar parlament seçkilərinin ilk dəfə işğaldan azad edilmiş ərazilərdə keçirilməsini yüksək qiymətləndirib. O, Azərbaycanın bütün dünyaya demokratiya nümayiş etdirdiyini diqqətə çatdıraraq seçkilərin ən yaxşı şəkildə keçiriləcəyindən əminliyini ifadə edib.<sup>101</sup>*

- 97 Şəbnəm İncəsü kimdir?, Milligazette, August 29 (2024), <https://www.milligazete.com.tr/haber/21460530/sebnem-incesu-kimdir>
- 98 Turkish MP expresses well wishes for Azerbaijan's renewed parliament, Report İnformasiya Agentliyi, September 1 (2024), <https://report.az/en/domestic-politics/turkish-mp-express-es-well-wishes-for-azerbaijan-s-renewed-parliament/>
- 99 Növbədənənar Prezident seçkisinin yekunlarına dair beynəlxalq müşahidəçilərin keçirdiyi mətbuat konfransları, Photostock.az, February 8 (2024), <https://photostock.az/media/65C4948735E6A>
- 100 TÜRKPA nümayəndə heyətinin rəhbəri: Müşahidələrimiz göstərir ki, seçkilər demokratik şəraitdə davam edir, Azerbaijan State News Agency, September 1 (2024), <https://video.azertag.az/video/222738>
- 101 Mərkəzi Seçki Komissiyasının sədri TÜRKPA nümayəndə heyəti ilə görüşüb, Azerbaijan State News Agency, August 30 (2024), [https://azertag.az/xeber/merkezi\\_sechki\\_komissiyasinin\\_sedr\\_i\\_turkpa\\_numayende\\_heyeti\\_ile\\_gorusub\\_video-3155978](https://azertag.az/xeber/merkezi_sechki_komissiyasinin_sedr_i_turkpa_numayende_heyeti_ile_gorusub_video-3155978)

## Filiz Kılıç

Country	Observing mission	Affiliation	Earlier election
Turkey	Parliamentary Assembly of Turkic Speaking Countries (TÜRKPA) / Organization of Turkic States (OTS) <sup>102</sup>	Grand National Assembly of Turkey <sup>102</sup> MHP Nationalist Movement Party <sup>102</sup> (Milliyetçi Hareket Partisi)	Azerbaijan's February 2024 presidential election <sup>103</sup>

Filiz Kılıç, a professor of Turkish literature and former founding president<sup>102</sup> of the Hacı Bektaş Veli University in Nevşehir from 2008 to 2017, is an MP and is a member of the far-right Nationalist Movement Party (MHP Milliyetçi Hareket Partisi), where she has served as deputy chairperson<sup>102</sup> since 2021. Before Azerbaijan's September 2024 snap parliamentary election, Filiz Kılıç had already<sup>103</sup> observed the February 2024 presidential election in Azerbaijan. A picture and a video featuring Filiz Kılıç are available in the sources linked in footnotes<sup>95,104</sup>.

## Mahmut Rıdvan Nazırlı

Country	Observing mission	Affiliation	Earlier election
Turkey	Parliamentary Assembly of Turkic Speaking Countries (TÜRKPA) / Organization of Turkic States (OTS) <sup>105</sup>	Grand National Assembly of Turkey <sup>105</sup> Justice and Development Party <sup>105</sup> (AK Party) (Adalet ve Kalkınma Partisi)	Azerbaijan's February 2024 snap presidential election <sup>107</sup>

Mahmut Rıdvan Nazırlı is a member of<sup>105</sup> the ruling Justice and Development Party (AK Party). As a member of the Turkish parliament from Ankara, he serves in the Foreign Affairs Commission<sup>106</sup>. Mahmut Rıdvan

102 Filiz Kılıç, TÜRKPA, <https://turkpa.org/person/71-filiz-kilic>

103 Növbədənənar Prezident seçkisinin yekunlarına dair beynəlxalq müşahidəçilərin keçirdiyi mətbuat konfransları, Photostock.az, February 8 (2024), <https://photostock.az/media/65C4969ADAA51>

104 MHP Genel Başkan Yardımcısı Prof. Dr.Filiz Kılıç Cumhurbaşkanı Erdoğan'la Görüştü, NDHaber, August 14 (2022), <https://www.ndhaber.com.tr/mhp-genel-baskan-yardimcisi-prof-dr-filiz-kilic-cumhurbaskani-erdoganla-gorustu>

105 Mahmut Rıdvan Nazırlı, TÜRKPA, <https://turkpa.org/person/76-mahmut-ridvan-nazirli>

106 header information, Mahmut Rıdvan Nazırlı on X/Twitter, <https://x.com/mahmutnazirli>

Nazırlı had already<sup>107</sup> observed the February 2024 snap presidential election in Azerbaijan. Pictures featuring Mahmut Rıdvan Nazırlı are available in the sources linked in footnotes<sup>105,107,108</sup>.

## Kadim Durmaz

Country	Observing mission	Affiliation	Earlier election
Turkey	Parliamentary Assembly of Turkic Speaking Countries (TÜRKPA) / Organization of Turkic States (OTS) <sup>98</sup>	Grand National Assembly of Turkey <sup>109</sup> Republican People's Party <sup>109</sup> (CHP Cumhuriyet Halk Partisi)	Azerbaijan's February 2024 snap presidential election <sup>110</sup>

Kadim Durmaz is a member of the social-kemalist Republican People's Party CHP as a member of the Turkish parliament from Tokat<sup>109</sup>. He had already<sup>110</sup> observed the February 2024 snap presidential election in Azerbaijan, also with the TÜRKPA mission. A picture and videos featuring Kadim Durmaz are available in the sources linked in footnotes<sup>95,98,109</sup>.

## Şamil Ayrım

Country	Observing mission	Affiliation	Earlier election
Turkey	Turkish-Azerbaijani parliamentary friendship group <sup>115</sup>	Grand National Assembly of Turkey <sup>112</sup> Justice and Development Party (AK Party) (Adalet ve Kalkınma Partisi)	Azerbaijan's February 2024 snap presidential election <sup>113</sup>

107 Early Presidential Election in the Republic of Azerbaijan, TÜRKPA, <https://turkpa.org/observation/276-early-presidential-election-in-the-republic-of-azerbaijan>

108 Mahmut Rıdvan Nazırlı on X/Twitter, <https://x.com/mahmutnazirli>

109 KADİM DURMAZ – 2023 YILI BÜTÇE GÖRÜŞMELERİ, CHP Party, December 13 (2022), <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-834ZuEqHuU>

110 Növbədənəknər Prezident seçkisinin yekunlarına dair beynəlxalq müşahidəçilərin keçirdiyi mətbuat konfransları, Photostock.az, February 8 (2024), <https://photostock.az/media/65C4948AB-BAEF>

Şamil Ayrım is a member of<sup>111</sup> the ruling Justice and Development Party (AK Party). As a member of the Turkish parliament<sup>112</sup>, he heads the Turkish-Azerbaijani parliamentary friendship group<sup>111</sup>, himself being ethnically Azeri<sup>112</sup>. Şamil Ayrım had already observed the February 2024 snap presidential election in Azerbaijan<sup>113</sup>. Pictures and a video featuring Şamil Ayrım are available in the sources linked in footnotes<sup>113,114,115</sup>.

## Orhan Erdem

Country	Observing mission	Affiliation	Earlier election
Turkey	Turkish-Azerbaijani parliamentary friendship group <sup>115</sup>	Grand National Assembly of Turkey <sup>116</sup> Justice and Development Party <sup>116</sup> (AK Party) (Adalet ve Kalkınma Partisi)	Azerbaijan's February 2024 snap presidential election <sup>117</sup>

Orhan Erdem<sup>116</sup> is a member of the Turkish Parliament ruling Justice and Development Party (AK Party). He has served as deputy minister of education since October 2011. Together with Şamil Ayrım, he observed Azerbaijan's September 2024 snap parliamentary election as a member of the mission of the Turkish-Azerbaijani parliamentary friendship group<sup>115</sup>. Orhan Erdem had already observed the February 2024 snap presidential election in Azerbaijan<sup>117</sup>. A picture and a video featuring Orhan Erdem are available in the sources linked in footnotes<sup>115,116</sup>.

111 Türkiyəli deputat: "Azərbaycanda seçki prosesinin səviyyəsi gündən-günə artır", BizimYol.info, February 9, (2020) <https://www.bizimyol.info/az/news/231681.html>

112 Şamil Ayrım: Azərbaycan-Türkiyə münasibətləri daha da inkişaf edəcək, Yeni Azərbaycan, July 5 (2018), [https://www.yeniazərbaycan.com/SonXeber\\_e34473\\_az.html](https://www.yeniazərbaycan.com/SonXeber_e34473_az.html)

113 Türkiye-Azerbaijan Inter-Parliamentary Friendship Group condemns PACE's action against Azerbaijani MPs, Trend News Agency, February 8 (2024), <https://en.trend.az/azerbaijan/politics/3859585.html>

114 Samil Ayrım: Azerbaijan's parliamentary elections continue under democratic rules, Report İnformasiya Agentliyi, September 1 (2024), <https://report.az/en/domestic-politics/samil-ayrim-azerbaijan-s-parliamentary-elections-continue-under-democratic-rules/>

115 Турция станет наблюдателем на парламентских выборах в Азербайджане, EuraneWS, August 31 (2024), <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ya-yPNM9N-M>

116 Genel Başkan Yardımcısı Orhan ERDEM, Türk Parlamenterler Birliği, July 25 (2021), <https://www.tpb.org.tr/genel-baskan-yardimcisi-orhan-erdem/>

117 Növbədənənar Prezident seçkisinin yekunlarına dair beynəlxalq müşahidəçilərin keçirdiyi mətbuat konfransları, Photostock.az, February 8 (2024), <https://photostock.az/media/65C498A857459>

## Mehmet Kavuncu

Country	Observing mission	Affiliation
Turkey	Turkish-Azerbaijani parliamentary friendship group <sup>118</sup>	Grand National Assembly of Turkey <sup>118</sup>

Mehmet Kavuncu is a member of the Turkish Parliament and is a member of the Turkish-Azerbaijani parliamentary friendship group<sup>118</sup>. A picture featuring Mehmet Kavuncu is available in the source linked in footnote<sup>118</sup>.

## Abdulkadir Emin Önen

Country	Observing mission	Affiliation
Turkey	Asian Parliamentary Assembly (APA) <sup>120</sup>	Grand National Assembly of Turkey <sup>119</sup> Justice and Development Party <sup>119</sup> (AK Party) (Adalet ve Kalkınma Partisi)

Abdulkadir Emin Önen is a member of<sup>119</sup> the ruling Justice and Development Party (AK Party) and is a member of the Turkish parliament<sup>119</sup>. He serves as the chairperson of the executive council of the APA, headquartered in Teheran, while the secretary general<sup>271</sup> is Mohammad Reza Majidi from Iran. They have formed their observation mission for the September 2024 snap parliamentary election<sup>120</sup>. Pictures featuring Abdulkadir Emin Önen in the sources linked in footnotes<sup>119,120,272</sup>. Azerbaijani media outlets quoted Abdulkadir Emin Önen:

118 Mehmet Kavuncu: выборы Милли Меджлиса проходят без нарушений, Vestnik Kavkaza, September 1 (2024), <https://vestnikavkaza.ru/news/mehmet-kavuncu-vybory-milli-medzli-sa-prohodat-bez-narusenij.html>

119 AK Partili Emin Önen, Cumhurbaşkanımıza destek için Karaköprü Kırısında, Sabah, May 20 (2020), <https://www.sabah.com.tr/sanliurfa/2023/05/20/ak-vekil-emini-onen-cumhurbaskanimiza-destek-icin-karakopru-kirsalinda>

120 TBMM üzü: Yeni tərkipli parlamentin böyük nailiyyətlər qazanacağına inanırım, Report İnformasiya Agentliyi, September 2 (2024), <https://report.az/xarici-siyaset/tbmm-in-uz-vu-prezident-ilham-eliyevin-liderliyi-ile-azerbaycan-parlamentinin-yeni-terkibinin-da-ha-boyuk-nailiyyetler-qazanacagina-inaniram/>





*Abdulkadir Emin Önen, a member of the Grand National Assembly of Turkey, said that the election process was conducted in a transparent and democratic manner. He said that the elections held in Azerbaijan were at a higher level than world standards. The election process took place in both Baku and Baku suburbs in calm conditions.<sup>121</sup>*

*Türkiyə Böyük Millət Məclisinin üzvü Abdulkadir Emin Önen seçki prosesinin şəffaf və demokratik şəkildə aparıldığını deyib. Bildirib ki, Azərbaycanda keçirilən seçkilər dünya standartlarından da yüksək səviyyədə idi. Həm Bakı, həm də Bakıətrafı ərazilərdə seçki prosesi sakit şəraitində reallaşdı.<sup>121</sup>*

## Ömer Kocaman

Country	Observing mission	Affiliation	Earlier election
Turkey	Parliamentary Assembly of Turkic Speaking Countries (TÜRKPA) / Organization of Turkic States (OTS) <sup>122</sup>	Organization of Turkic States (OTS) <sup>122</sup>	Azerbaijan's November 2015 parliamentary election <sup>123</sup>

Since September 2015, Ömer Kocaman from Turkey has been the deputy secretary general<sup>122</sup> of the OTS. He is an economic diplomat who is strongly connected to Russia. From 2002 to 2004, Kocaman lived in Moscow and worked as an assistant to the secretary general of the Russian-Turkish Businessmen Union while studying at the Moscow State Institute of International Relations (MGIMO). He worked for more than ten years in Turkey at the Turkish Cooperation and Coordination Agency (TIKA), then headed by Mehmet Süreyya Er, until he joined the OTS<sup>122</sup>. At Azerbaijan's September 2024 snap parliamentary election, Ömer Kocaman led the observation mission of the OTS. Much earlier, Ömer Kocaman had already observed the November 2015 parliamentary election there<sup>123</sup>. Pictures featuring Ömer Kocaman are available

121 Baş katib: Bu parlament seçkiləri Azərbaycanda seçki prosesinin nə qədər inkişaf etdiyini göstərdi, Azerbaijan State News Agency, September 2 (2024), [https://azertag.az/xeber/bas\\_katib\\_bu\\_parlament\\_sechkileri\\_azerbaycanda\\_sechki\\_prosesinin\\_ne\\_qeder\\_inkisaf\\_etdiyini\\_goster-di-3160066](https://azertag.az/xeber/bas_katib_bu_parlament_sechkileri_azerbaycanda_sechki_prosesinin_ne_qeder_inkisaf_etdiyini_goster-di-3160066)

122 Ömer Kocaman, Organization of Turkic States, [https://turkicstates.org/en/genel-sekreter-yardimcilari/omer-kocaman\\_1](https://turkicstates.org/en/genel-sekreter-yardimcilari/omer-kocaman_1)

123 Türk Keneşi Genel Sekreter Yardımcısı Dr. Ömer Kocaman Azərbaycan Merkez Seçim Kurulu Başkanı Mazahir Panahov ilə görüşmüşdür, Organization of Turkic States, October 29 (2015) [https://turkicstates.org/tr/haberler/turk-kenesi-genel-sekreter-yardimcisi-dr-omer-kocaman-azerbaycan-merkez-secim-kurulu-baskani-mazahir-panahov-ile-gorusmustur\\_609](https://turkicstates.org/tr/haberler/turk-kenesi-genel-sekreter-yardimcisi-dr-omer-kocaman-azerbaycan-merkez-secim-kurulu-baskani-mazahir-panahov-ile-gorusmustur_609)

in the sources linked in footnotes<sup>123,124,129</sup>. Azerbaijani media outlets quoted Ömer Kocaman:

*"The mission did not find any circumstances affecting the results of the elections. Also, no negative cases were found inside or near the polling stations. We declare that the elections were held in an open and transparent manner, in accordance with the national legislation of the country and laws adopted at the international level."*<sup>129</sup>

*"Missiya seçkilərin nəticələrinə təsir edən hər hansı hal aşkarlamayıb. Həmçinin seçki məntəqələrinin daxilində və yaxınlığında heç bir neqativ hala rast gəlinməyib. Seçkilərin açıq və şəffaf, ölkənin milli qanunvericiliyinə və beynəlxalq səviyyədə qəbul edilmiş qanunlara uyğun keçirildiyini bəyan edirik."*<sup>129</sup>

## Aygün Attar

Country	Observing mission	Affiliation
Turkey	Parliamentary Assembly of Turkic Speaking Countries (TÜRKPA) / Organization of Turkic States (OTS) <sup>125</sup>	Organization of Turkic States (OTS) <sup>125</sup>

Aygün Attar observed Azerbaijan's September 2024 snap parliamentary election as a member of the TÜRKPA / OTS observation mission<sup>125,126</sup>. She is a member of the Security and Foreign Policy Council under the President of Turkey Recep Tayyip Erdoğan. Moreover, Aygün Attar is the chairperson of the Turkey-Azerbaijan Friendship, Cooperation, and Solidarity Foundation<sup>127,128</sup>. Pictures featuring Aygün Attar are available

124 Мазахир Панахов встретился с делегацией Организации тюркских государств, Trend News Agency, August 29 (2024), <https://www.trend.az/azerbaijan/politics/3938521.html>

125 Asim Mollazadə TDT-nin Beynəlxalq Müşahidəçilər Missiyası ilə görüşdü, Qaynarinfo.az, August 29 (2024), <https://qaynarinfo.az/az/asim-mollazade-tdt-nin-beynelxalq-musahidecil-er-missiyasi-ile-goerustu>

126 OTS Election Observation Mission started in Azerbaijan, Türk Devletleri Teşkilatı, August 31 (2024), [https://www.turkicstates.org/en/haberler/ots-election-observation-mission-started-in-azerbaijan\\_3391](https://www.turkicstates.org/en/haberler/ots-election-observation-mission-started-in-azerbaijan_3391)

127 Türkiyə-Azərbaycan Dostluq, Əməkdaşlıq və Həmrəylik Fondunun

128 Turkish Presidency Security Council Member Attar: Azerbaijan Expected to Recognize TRNC, Cyprus Mirror, June 5 (2024), [https://www.kibrispostasi.com/c140-DAILY\\_NEWS/n525020-turkish-presidency-security-council-member-attar-azerbaijan-expected-to-recognize-trnc](https://www.kibrispostasi.com/c140-DAILY_NEWS/n525020-turkish-presidency-security-council-member-attar-azerbaijan-expected-to-recognize-trnc)

in the sources linked in footnotes<sup>124,125,126,129</sup>. Azerbaijani media outlets quoted Aygün Attar:



*Professor Aygün Attar, a member of the Security and Foreign Policy Council under the President of Turkey, said that the number of female candidates in the early parliamentary elections was quite high, which is a commendable fact. According to Aygün Attar, women were active among the voters who participated in the voting process. She noted that this situation is an indicator of democracy: “This also shows that gender discrimination is not allowed in Azerbaijan. This is an important event.”<sup>129</sup>*

*Türkiyə Prezidenti yanında Təhlükəsizlik və Xarici Siyasət Şurasının üzvü, professor Aygün Attar isə deyib ki, növbədənənar parlament seçkilərində qadın namizədlərin sayı kifayət qədər çox olub, bu isə təqdirəlayiq haldır. Aygün Attarın sözlərinə görə, səsvermə prosesində iştirak edən seçicilər arasında qadınlar fəallıq göstərib. O, bu halın demokratiyanın göstəricisi olduğunu qeyd edib: “Bu həm də onu göstərir ki, Azərbaycanda cinsi ayrı-seçkiliyə yol verilmir. Bu, mühüm hadisədir.”<sup>129</sup>*

## Ibrahim Khalil Korkmaz

Country	Observing mission	Affiliation
Turkey	Conference of Asian Political Parties (ICAPP) <sup>132</sup>	Justice and Development Party <sup>132</sup> (AK Party) (Adalet ve Kalkınma Partisi)

During Azerbaijan’s September 2024 snap parliamentary election, Ibrahim Khalil Korkmaz from Turkey headed<sup>130,131</sup> the observation mission of the ICAPP. He is the Deputy Head of the Foreign Relations Department of the ruling Justice and Development Party (AK Party)<sup>132</sup>.

129 ŞƏT Baş katibinin müavini: Seçkilər demokratik prinsiplərə uyğun keçirildi, Azeri-Press Agency (APA), September 2 (2024), <https://apa.az/secki-2024/tdt-missiyasinin-rehberi-seckiler-beynelxalq-sevijyede-qebul-edilmis-qanunlara-uygun-sekilde-kecirilib-863575>

130 AK Parti rəsmisi: Azad edilən torpaqlarda 50 faizlik seçici fəallığı müharibədə qazanılan zəfəri taclandırdı, Report İnformasiya Agentliyi, September 2 (2024), <https://report.az/xarici-siyaset/akp-rsmisi-xankendi-basda-olmaqla-azad-edilen-torpaqlarda-texminen-50-lik-seccici-fealligi-muharibede-qazanilan-zeferi-taclandirdi/>

131 AK Party official: 50% voter turnout in liberated lands crowned victory in war, Report İnformasiya Agentliyi, September 2 (2024), <https://report.az/en/foreign-politics/ak-party-official-50-voter-turnout-in-liberated-lands-crowned-victory-in-war/>

132 Ибрахим Халил Коркмаз: выборы Милли Меджлиса проходят в очень спокойной атмосфере, Vestnik Kavkaza, September 1 (2024), <https://vestnikavkaza.ru/news/ibrahim-halil-korkmaz-vybory-milli-medzliisa-prohodat-v-ocen-spokojnoj-atmosfere.html>

Pictures featuring Ibrahim Khalil Korkmaz in the sources linked in footnotes<sup>130,132</sup>. Azerbaijani media outlets quoted Ibrahim Khalil Korkmaz:

“About 50% voter turnout in Azerbaijan’s liberated lands, including Khankandi, crowned the victory in the war, said Ibrahim Halil Korkmaz, a representative of the International Conference of Asian Political Parties (ICAPP), deputy chairperson of the Turkish ruling Justice and Development Party (AK Party) for foreign relations, Report informs. According to Korkmaz, the most important feature of the parliamentary elections held on September 1 is that they were held for the first time in 54 polling stations in the liberated territories. “This showed us a significant process and made us proud,” he said.”<sup>131</sup>

Xankəndi başda olmaqla, azad edilən torpaqlarda təxminən 50%-lik seçici fəallığı müharibədə qazanılan zəfəri taclandırdı. „Report“ xəbər verir ki, bunu Asiya Siyasi Partiyalarının Beynəlxalq Konfransının (İCAAP) nümayəndəsi, Türkiyənin hakim Ədalət və İnkişaf Partiyasının (AK Parti) xarici əlaqələr üzrə sədr müavini İbrahim Halil Korkmaz deyib. Onun sözlərinə görə, sentyabrın 1-də keçirilən parlament seçkilərinin ən mühüm özəlliyi işğaldan azad edilmiş ərazilərdə 54 seçki məntəqəsində təşkil olunmaqla ilk dəfə baş tutmasıdır: “Bu da bizə anlamlı bir prosesə şahidlik etməyimizə və qürur duymağımıza səbəb olub. Qardaş Azərbaycan xalqı Xankəndi şəhəri başda olmaqla azad edilən torpaqlarda təxminən 50%-lik iştirakla müharibədə qazanılan zəfəri taclandırdı.”<sup>130</sup>

## Kazakhstan

### Nurlan Seytimov (Нурлан Сейтимов)

Country	Observing mission	Affiliation
Kazakhstan	Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) <sup>134</sup>	CIS <sup>134</sup> Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Kazakhstan <sup>133</sup>

Nurlan Seytimov, a high-ranking Kazakh diplomat<sup>133</sup>, is the deputy secretary general of the CIS representing Kazakhstan<sup>134</sup>, alongside secretary general Sergey Lebedev for Russia and first secretary general

<sup>133</sup> Nurlan Seytimov, Wikidata, <https://www.wikidata.org/wiki/Q126013755>

<sup>134</sup> CEC Chairperson met with CIS observation mission delegation, Central Election Commission of the Republic of Azerbaijan, August 13 (2024), <https://www.msk.gov.az/en/news/view/1362>

Leonid Anfimov for Belarus. A picture featuring Nurlan Seytimov is available in the source linked in footnote<sup>134</sup>.

## Mukash Iskandirov (Мукаш Искандиров)

Country	Observing mission	Affiliation
Kazakhstan	Parliamentary Assembly of Turkic Speaking Countries (TÜRKPА) / Organization of Turkic States (OTS) <sup>135</sup>	Parliament of Kazakhstan <sup>135</sup>

Mukash Iskandirov, a member of the Parliament of Kazakhstan, observed Azerbaijan's September 2024 snap parliamentary election as a member of the TÜRKPА mission<sup>135</sup>. A picture and a video featuring Mukash Iskandirov in the sources linked in footnotes<sup>98,135</sup>.

## Murat Ergeshbayev (Мурат Ергешбаев)

Country	Observing mission	Affiliation
Kazakhstan	Interparliamentary Assembly of Member Nations of the Commonwealth of Independent States (IPA-CIS) <sup>136</sup>	Parliament of Kazakhstan <sup>136</sup>

Murat Ergeshbayev is a member of the Parliament of Kazakhstan, where he serves as the secretary of the Committee on Finance and Budget<sup>136</sup>. Pictures featuring Murat Ergeshbayev are available in the sources linked in footnotes<sup>137,138</sup>.

135 Qazaxistan parlamentinin deputatı: Seçkilərin Azərbaycan xalqı üçün xeyirli olacağına ümid edirəm, Azerbaijan State News Agency, September 1 (2024), <https://video.azertag.az/video/222770>

136 Парламентарии стран Содружества дали оценку прошедшим парламентским выборам в Азербайджане, IPA-CIS, September 1 (2024), [https://iacis.ru/novosti/institut\\_monitoringa\\_razvitiya\\_demokratii\\_mpa\\_sng/parlamentarii\\_stran\\_sodruzhestva\\_dali\\_otcenu\\_proshedshim\\_parlamentskim\\_viboram\\_v\\_azerbajdzhane](https://iacis.ru/novosti/institut_monitoringa_razvitiya_demokratii_mpa_sng/parlamentarii_stran_sodruzhestva_dali_otcenu_proshedshim_parlamentskim_viboram_v_azerbajdzhane)

137 Қазақстан отмечает высокую активность граждан Азербайджана на парламентских выборах, Media.az, September 1 (2024), <https://media.az/politika/kazahstan-otmechaet-vy-sokuyu-aktivnost-grazhdan-azerbajdzhana-na-parlamentskih-vyborah>

138 В Баку прошло совещание международных наблюдателей на выборах в Милли Меджлис, IPA-CIS, August 3 (2004), [https://iacis.ru/novosti/institut\\_monitoringa\\_razvitiya\\_demokratii\\_mpa\\_sng/v\\_baku\\_proshlo\\_soveshanie\\_mezhdunarodnih\\_nablyudatelej\\_na\\_viboram\\_v\\_mil-li-medzhilis](https://iacis.ru/novosti/institut_monitoringa_razvitiya_demokratii_mpa_sng/v_baku_proshlo_soveshanie_mezhdunarodnih_nablyudatelej_na_viboram_v_mil-li-medzhilis)

## Askhat Mukashev (Асхат Мукашев)

Country	Observing mission	Affiliation
Kazakhstan	Interparliamentary Assembly of Member Nations of the Commonwealth of Independent States (IPA-CIS) <sup>136</sup>	IPA-CIS <sup>136</sup>

Askhat Mukashev is the representative of the Parliament of Kazakhstan to the IPA-CIS<sup>136</sup>, although he is not himself a member of the Parliament. A picture featuring Askhat Mukashev is available in the source linked in footnote<sup>138</sup>.

## Yerzhan Mustafin (Ержан Мустафин)

Country	Observing mission	Affiliation
Kazakhstan	Parliamentary Assembly of Turkic Speaking Countries (TÜRKPA) / Organization of Turkic States (OTS) <sup>124</sup>	OTS <sup>139</sup> Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Kazakhstan <sup>139</sup>

Yerzhan Mustafin has worked at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Kazakhstan<sup>139</sup> since 2008. He was the consul of Kazakhstan<sup>140</sup> in Bern, Switzerland, between August 2018 and January 2020. In February 2022, he joined<sup>140</sup> the OTS, where he serves as a project director in the OTS secretariat<sup>139</sup>. A picture featuring Yerzhan Mustafin is available in the source linked in footnote<sup>124</sup>.

## Adilkhan Bizhanov (Адилхан Бижанов)

Country	Observing mission	Affiliation
Kazakhstan	Parliamentary Assembly of Turkic Speaking Countries (TÜRKPA) / Organization of Turkic States (OTS) <sup>143</sup>	Central Election Commission of Kazakhstan <sup>141</sup>

Adilkhan Bizhanov is the chief expert<sup>141</sup> at the International Cooperation Department of the Central Election Commission of Kazakhstan.

<sup>139</sup> Project Directors, Organization of Turkic States, <https://www.turkicstates.org/en/personel-bilgileri>

<sup>140</sup> Yerzhan Mustafin on LinkedIn, <https://www.linkedin.com/in/in1/details/experience/>

<sup>141</sup> Контактная информация, Центральная избирательная комиссия Республики Казахстан, <https://www.election.gov.kz/rus/kontaktnaya-informatsiya/index.php>

He took part<sup>142</sup> in the observation of Azerbaijan’s September 2024 snap parliamentary election as a member of<sup>143</sup> the mission of the OTS. Adilkhan Bizhanov is also a lecturer<sup>144</sup> at the Zhangir Khan University in Uralsk, Kazakhstan. Pictures featuring Adilkhan Bizhanov are available in the sources linked in footnotes<sup>142,144</sup>. Azerbaijani media outlets quoted Adilkhan Bizhanov:



*He emphasized that all conditions have been created for voters in the polling stations: “All conditions have been created for voters. Activity is high, stations are equipped with web cameras.”<sup>143</sup>*

*O vurğulayıb ki, məntəqələrdə seçicilər üçün hər cür şərait yaradılıb: “Seçicilər üçün hər cür şərait yaradılıb. Fəallıq yüksəkdir, məntəqələr veb-kameralarla təchiz olunub.”<sup>145</sup>*

## Uzbekistan

### Tolibjon Madumarov (Толибжон Мадумаров)

Country	Observing mission	Affiliation
Uzbekistan	Interparliamentary Assembly of Member Nations of the Commonwealth of Independent States (IPA-CIS) <sup>136</sup>	Parliament of Uzbekistan <sup>136</sup>

Tolibjon Madumarov is the Deputy Chairperson of the Committee on Defense and Security at the Parliament of Uzbekistan<sup>136</sup>.

142 Адилхан Бижанов: выборы Милли Меджлиса прошли без нарушений, Vestnik Kavkaza, September 2 (2024), <https://vestnikavkaza.ru/news/adilhan-bizhanov-vybory-milli-medzli-sa-prosli-bez-narusenij.html>

143 Member of OTS observation mission: Azerbaijani citizens demonstrate high activity in elections, Report Informasiya Agentliyi, September 1 (2024), <https://report.az/en/milli-majlis/member-of-ots-observation-mission-citizens-demonstrate-high-activity-in-elections/>

144 Бижанов Адилхан Зеинелович, Жангир Хан Университет, <https://wkau.edu.kz/ru/tulek-ter-new-2/bizhanov-adilhan-zeinelovich/>

145 TDT müşahidə missiyasının üzvü: Vətəndaşlar seçkilərdə yüksək fəallıq nümayiş etdirirlər, Report Informasiya Agentliyi, September 1 (2024), <https://report.az/milli-meclis/tdt-musahide-missiyasinin-uzvu-vetendaslar-seckilerde-yuksekk-fealliq-numayis-etdirirler/>

## Murodjon Mustofayev (Муроджон Мустофаев)

Country	Observing mission	Affiliation
Uzbekistan	Parliamentary Assembly of Turkic Speaking Countries (TÜRKPА) / Organization of Turkic States (OTS) <sup>124</sup>	Organization of Turkic States (OTS) <sup>139</sup> Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Uzbekistan <sup>139</sup>

From 2020 to 2023, Murodjon Mustofayev served as the second and then the first secretary at the Department for Cooperation with Regional Organizations of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Uzbekistan<sup>139</sup>. In 2024, he was appointed to the OTS, where he serves as a project director in the secretariat<sup>139</sup>. Pictures featuring Murodjon Mustofayev are available in the sources linked in footnotes<sup>124,139</sup>.

## Zayniddin Nizamkhodjaev (Зайниддин Низамходжаев)

Country	Observing mission	Affiliation
Uzbekistan	Central Election Commission of Uzbekistan <sup>146</sup>	Central Election Commission of Uzbekistan <sup>146</sup>

Zayniddin Nizamkhodjaev observed Azerbaijan's September 2024 snap parliamentary election for the mission of the Central Election Commission of Uzbekistan, of which he is the chairperson<sup>146</sup>. Pictures featuring Nizamkhodjaev are available in the source linked in footnote<sup>147,202</sup>.

146 Azerbaijan's CEC Chairperson meets his Uzbek counterpart, Azerbaijan State News Agency, September 1 (2024), [https://azertag.az/en/xeber/azerbajijans\\_cec\\_chairperson\\_meets\\_his\\_uzbek\\_counterpart-3159202](https://azertag.az/en/xeber/azerbajijans_cec_chairperson_meets_his_uzbek_counterpart-3159202)

147 Azərbaycan və Özbəkistan MSK rəhbərləri əməkdaşlıq məsələlərini müzakirə ediblər, Report İnformasiya Agentliyi, September 1 (2024), <https://report.az/daxili-siyaset/azerbaycan-ve-ozbekistan-merkezi-secki-komissiyalarinin-rehberleri-emekdasliq-meselelerini-muzakire-edibler/>



## Kyrgyzstan

### Arslanbek Maliev (Арсланбек Малиев)

Country	Observing mission	Affiliation
Kyrgyzstan	Interparliamentary Assembly of Member Nations of the Commonwealth of Independent States (IPA-CIS) <sup>136</sup>	Parliament of Kyrgyzstan <sup>136</sup>

Arslanbek Maliev is a member of the Committee of the Parliament of Kyrgyzstan on International Affairs, Defense, Security and Migration<sup>136</sup>. A picture featuring Maliev is available in the source linked in footnote<sup>138</sup>.

### Shabdanbek Alishev (Шабданбек Алишев)

Country	Observing mission	Affiliation	Earlier election
Kyrgyzstan	Interparliamentary Assembly of Member Nations of the Commonwealth of Independent States (IPA-CIS) <sup>136</sup>	IPA-CIS <sup>136</sup>	Azerbaijan's February 2024 presidential election <sup>148</sup>

Shabdanbek Alishev is the plenipotentiary representative designated by the Parliament of Kyrgyzstan to IPA-CIS<sup>136</sup>, although he is not himself a member of the Parliament. He had already observed the February 2024 presidential election in Azerbaijan<sup>148</sup>. Pictures featuring Shabdanbek Alishev are available in the sources linked in footnotes<sup>138,148</sup>.

### Altynbek Kubatbekov (Алтынбек Кубатбеков)

Country	Observing mission	Affiliation
Kyrgyzstan	Parliamentary Assembly of Turkic Speaking Countries (TÜRKPA) / Organization of Turkic States (OTS) <sup>126</sup>	Central Election Commission of Kyrgyzstan <sup>150</sup>

<sup>148</sup> Azerbaijan's polling stations in Moscow fully comply with international standards, says international observer, Azerbaijan State News Agency, February 7 (2024), [https://azertag.az/en/xeber/azerbajjans\\_polling\\_stations\\_in\\_moscow\\_fully\\_comply\\_with\\_international\\_standards\\_says\\_international\\_observer-2911855](https://azertag.az/en/xeber/azerbajjans_polling_stations_in_moscow_fully_comply_with_international_standards_says_international_observer-2911855)

Altynbek Kubatbekov is a member of<sup>149</sup> the Ata-Zhurt Kyrgyzstan party. He was elected<sup>150</sup> to the Central Election Commission of Kyrgyzstan in June 2023, however he took part in the observation of Azerbaijan's September 2024 snap parliamentary election as a member of<sup>126</sup> the mission of the OTS. Pictures featuring Altynbek Kubatbekov are available in the sources linked in footnotes<sup>124,150</sup>.

## Nurlan Kolchukeev (Нурлан Колчукеев)

Country	Observing mission	Affiliation
Kyrgyzstan	Central Election Commission of Kyrgyzstan <sup>151</sup> within the CIS mission	Central Election Commission of Kyrgyzstan <sup>151</sup>

Nurlan Kolchukeev observed Azerbaijan's September 2024 snap parliamentary election for the mission of the Central Election Commission of Kyrgyzstan, of which he is the deputy chairperson<sup>151</sup>. Pictures featuring Nurlan Kolchukeev are available in the source linked in footnote<sup>155</sup>. Azerbaijani media outlets quoted Nurlan Kolchukeev:

*“Voter lists are posted at all polling stations, and every voter can find their name on these lists. The presence of both party representatives and neutral observers, as well as the use of transparent ink by each voter during the voting process, are indicators of the transparency of these elections.”<sup>151</sup>*

*“Bütün seçki məntəqələrində seçici siyahıları yerləşdirilib və hər seçici bu siyahılarda öz adlarını tapa bilər. Seçki məntəqələrində istər partiya nümayəndələri, istərsə də bitərəflərin müşahidə kimi təmsil olunması, hər bir seçicinin səsvermə zamanı şəffaf mürəkkəbdən istifadə edilməsi bu seçkilərin şəffaf keçirilməsinin göstəricisidir.”<sup>152</sup>*

149 Committee of Parliament approves 3 candidates for post of CEC member, 24.kg, June 6 (2023), [https://24.kg/english/267401\\_Committee\\_of\\_Parliament\\_approves\\_3\\_candidates\\_for\\_post\\_of\\_CEC\\_member/](https://24.kg/english/267401_Committee_of_Parliament_approves_3_candidates_for_post_of_CEC_member/)

150 Алтынбек Кубатбеков избран новым членом Центризбиркома, Bulak.kg, June 8 (2023), <https://bulak.kg/2023/06/08/altynbek-kubatbekov-izbran-novym-chlenom-tsentrizbirkoma/>

151 Kyrgyzstan's CEC: Any instances of electoral fraud in Azerbaijan are out of question, Report İnformasiya Agentliyi, September 1 (2024), <https://report.az/en/domestic-politics/kyrgyzstan-s-cec-any-instances-of-electoral-fraud-in-azerbaijan-are-out-of-question/>

152 Qırğızıstan MSK-sının sədr müavini: «Azərbaycanda seçkilərdə hər hansı saxtakarlıq hallarının olması mümkün deyil», Report İnformasiya Agentliyi, September 1 (2024), <https://report.az/daxili-siyaset/qirgizistan-msk-sinin-sedr-muavini-azerbaycanda-seckilerde-her-hansi-sax-takarliq-hallarinin-olmasi-mumkun-deyil/>



*“What we have seen gives us reason to say that any instances of electoral fraud are out of question”.<sup>151</sup>*

*“Gördüklərimiz bizə deməyə əsas verir ki, seçkilərdə hər hansı saxtakarlıq hallarının olması mümkün deyil”.<sup>152</sup>*

## Anar Dubanbayeva (Анар Дубанбаева)

Country	Observing mission	Affiliation
Kyrgyzstan	Central Election Commission of Kyrgyzstan <sup>153</sup> within the CIS mission	Central Election Commission of Kyrgyzstan <sup>153</sup>

Anar Dubanbayeva observed Azerbaijan’s September 2024 snap parliamentary election for the mission of Central Election Commission of Kyrgyzstan, of which she is a member<sup>153</sup>. A picture featuring Anar Dubanbayeva is available in the source linked in footnote<sup>155</sup>. Azerbaijani media outlets quoted Anar Dubanbayeva:



*“Since arriving in Azerbaijan, we have observed five polling stations. In these stations, we witnessed only a high level of organization. Voters are freely casting their ballots for their preferred candidates. We observed excellent organization in these elections.”<sup>153</sup>*

*„Azərbaycana gələndən artıq 5 seçki məntəqəsində müşahidələr aparmışıq. Bu seçki məntəqələrində ancaq yüksək təşkilatçılıq gördük. Seçicilər istədikləri namizədə sərbəst şəkildə səs verirlər. Biz bu seçkilərdə yüksək təşkilatçılığı müşahidə etdik.”<sup>154</sup>*

153 Kyrgyz observer: Voters in Azerbaijan freely elect their preferred candidates, Report İnformasiya Agentliyi, September 1 (2024), <https://report.az/en/domestic-politics/kyrgyz-observer-voters-in-azerbaijan-freely-choose-their-preferred-candidates/>

154 Qırğızıstanlı müşahidəçi: “Azərbaycanda seçicilər istədikləri namizədə sərbəst şəkildə səs verirlər”, Trend News Agency, September 1 (2024), <https://report.az/daxili-siyaset/qirgizistanli-musahideci-azerbaycanda-secciler-istedikleri-namizede-serbest-sekilde-ses-verirler/>

## Nuran Niyazaliyev (Нуран Ниязалиев)

Country	Observing mission	Affiliation
Kyrgyzstan	Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) <sup>155</sup>	SCO <sup>155</sup> Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Kyrgyz Republic <sup>156</sup>

During Azerbaijan's September 2024 snap parliamentary election, Nuran Niyazaliyev from Kyrgyzstan was the head<sup>155</sup> of the observation mission of the SCO. He has spent his whole career as a diplomat. Before his nomination as deputy secretary general of the SCO, he was Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Kyrgyz Republic<sup>156</sup>. A picture and a video featuring Nuran Niyazaliyev are available in the sources linked in footnote<sup>95,157</sup>. Azerbaijani media outlets quoted Nuran Niyazaliyev:

*"The goal of the Azerbaijani government in inviting international observers was to hold the extraordinary parliamentary elections in an open and transparent manner. Our Observation Mission consisted of 16 people and was made up of representatives of the organization. All opportunities were created for us to observe freely. At the same time, all the necessary opportunities were created for journalists. It creates a foundation for democratic and transparent elections. I should also note that the elections were held smoothly according to democratic principles", – N. Niyazaliyev stressed.<sup>157</sup>*

*"Azərbaycan hökumətinin beynəlxalq müşahidəçiləri dəvət etməkdə məqsədi növbədənkənar parlament seçkilərini açıq və şəffaf keçirmək idi. Bizim Müşahidə Missiyamız 16 nəfər olub və təşkilatın mümayəndələrindən təşkil olub. Bizim sərbəst şəkildə müşahidə aparmağımıza bütün imkanlar yaradılmışdı. Eyni zamanda, jurnalistlərə də lazımı bütün imkanlar yaradılmışdı. Bu da seçkilərin demokratik və şəffaf keçirilməsinə zəmin yaradır. Onu da qeyd edim ki, seçkilər rəvan şəkildə demokratik prinsiplərə uyğun keçirildi", – N. Niyazaliyev vurğulayıb.<sup>157</sup>*

155 Глава миссии наблюдателей от ШОС: Внеочередные парламентские выборы в Азербайджане проходят транспарентно, Report Informasiya Agentliyi, September 1 (2024), <https://report.az/ru/vnutrennyaya-politika/glava-missii-nablyudatelej-ot-shos-vneocherednye-parlamentskie-vybory-v-azerbajdzhane-prohodyat-transparentno/>

156 Руководство, Шанхайская организация сотрудничества, <https://rus.sectsc.org/20231127/1166572.html>

157 ŞƏT Baş katibinin müavini: Seçkilər demokratik prinsiplərə uyğun keçirildi, Azeri-Press Agency (APA), September 2 (2024), <https://apa.az/secki-2024/set-bas-katibinin-muavini-seckiler-demokratik-prinsiplere-uygun-kecirildi-863563>



*The Deputy Secretary General of the SCO added that on the morning of the election day, an Observation Mission was carried out in 57 polling stations located in Baku and its surroundings, and it was determined that the elections were held in accordance with all international norms: “We did not detect violations of the election code. There were no obstacles for the citizens. Our mission considers these elections to be transparent, reliable and successful. These elections are a successful step for the development of Azerbaijan.”<sup>157</sup>*

*ŞƏT Baş katibinin müavini onu da əlavə edib ki, seçki günü səhər Bakı və ətrafda yerləşən 57 məntəqədə Müsahidə Missiyası həyata keçirilib və müəyyənləşib ki, seçkilər bütün beynəlxalq normalara uyğun keçirilib: „Seçki məəcəlləsinin pozulması halları tərəfimizdən aşkarlanmayıb. Vətəndaşlara heç bir maneə olmayıb. Missiyamız bu seçkiləri şəffaf, etibarlı və uğurlu hesab edir. Bu seçkilər Azərbaycanın inkişafı üçün uğurlu addımdır.”<sup>157</sup>*

## Tajikistan

### Dilshod Rahmon (Дилшод Рахмон)

Country	Observing mission	Affiliation
Tajikistan	Interparliamentary Assembly of Member Nations of the Commonwealth of Independent States (IPA-CIS) <sup>136</sup>	Parliament of Tajikistan <sup>136</sup>

At the Parliament of Tajikistan, Dilshod Rahmon chairs the Committee “For Ensuring Constitutional Foundations, Human Rights, Citizens’ Freedoms And The Rule Of Law”<sup>136</sup>. A picture featuring Dilshod Rahmon is available in the source linked in footnote<sup>138</sup>.

### Aziz Giyozoda (Азиз Гиёзода)

Country	Observing mission	Affiliation
Tajikistan	Interparliamentary Assembly of Member Nations of the Commonwealth of Independent States (IPA-CIS) <sup>136</sup>	Parliament of Tajikistan <sup>136</sup>

At the Parliament of Tajikistan, Aziz Giyozoda is the deputy chairperson of the Committee on Economy and Finance<sup>136</sup>. A picture featuring Aziz Giyozoda is available in the source linked in footnote<sup>138</sup>.

## Abdulkhalil Gafurzoda (Абдухалил Гафурзода)

Country	Observing mission	Affiliation
Tajikistan	Interparliamentary Assembly of Member Nations of the Commonwealth of Independent States (IPA-CIS) <sup>136</sup>	IPA-CIS <sup>136</sup>

Abdulkhalil Gafurzoda is the plenipotentiary representative designated by the Parliament of Tajikistan to IPA-CIS<sup>136</sup>, although he is not himself a member of the parliament. A picture featuring Abdulkhalil Gafurzoda is available in the source linked in footnote<sup>138</sup>.

## Belarus

### Leonid Anfimov (Леонид Анфимов)

Country	Observing mission	Affiliation
Belarus	Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) <sup>158</sup>	CIS <sup>158</sup>

Since June 2021, Leonid Anfimov<sup>158</sup> has been the first deputy secretary general of the CIS representing Belarus, alongside secretary general Sergey Lebedev for Russia and deputy secretary general Nurlan Seytimov for Kazakhstan. Leonid Anfimov is a very close associate of Belarus president-dictator Alexandr Lukashenko. Pictures and a video featuring Leonid Anfimov are available in the sources linked in footnotes<sup>95,159,160,169</sup>.

158 Биография первого заместителя Генерального секретаря СНГ Л.В.Анфимова, Исполнительный комитет СНГ, <https://cis.minsk.by/page/show?id=19319>

159 Глава Миссии наблюдателей от СНГ на внеочередных выборах в парламент Азербайджанской Республики Леонид Анфимов посетил Сумгаитский первый избирательный округ № 42, Новости СНГ, August 31 (2024), <https://e-cis.info/news/564/120759/>

160 Доклад Председателя Комитета государственного контроля Леонида Анфимова, Официальный интернет-портал Президента Республики Беларусь, September 22 (2017), <https://president.gov.by/ru/events/doklad-predsedatelja-komiteta-gosudarstvennogo-kontrolja-leonida-anfimova-17146>

## Ivan Khlebakazau (Иван Хлебаказу)

Country	Observing mission	Affiliation
Belarus	Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) <sup>161</sup>	Embassy of the Republic of Belarus in Azerbaijan <sup>162</sup>

Ivan Khlebakazau observed Azerbaijan's September 2024 snap parliamentary election as a member of<sup>161</sup> the SCO mission (Belarus joined<sup>161</sup> the SCO in July 2024). Ivan Khlebakazau is the First Secretary of the Embassy of the Republic of Belarus in Azerbaijan<sup>162</sup>. A picture and a video featuring Ivan Khlebakazau are available in the sources linked in footnotes<sup>95,161</sup>.

## Igor Karpenko (Игорь Карпенко)

Country	Observing mission	Affiliation
Belarus	Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) <sup>163</sup>	Central Election Commission of Belarus <sup>163</sup>

Igor Karpenko is the chairperson<sup>163,164</sup> of the Central Election Commission of Belarus. However, he observed Azerbaijan's September 2024 snap parliamentary election as a key member<sup>163</sup> of the CIS mission. Pictures featuring Igor Karpenko are available in the sources linked in footnotes<sup>164,169</sup>.

161 Иван Хлебаказу: новый Милли Меджлис перевернет страницу в парламентской истории Азербайджана, Vestnik Kavkaza, September 2 (2024), <https://vestnikavkaza.ru/news/ivan-hlebakazau-novyy-milli-medzlis-perevernet-stranicu-v-parlamentskoj-istorii-azerbajdzana.html>

162 Belarusian Language and Culture Center opened at AUL, Adu Azerbaijan University of Languages, May 20 (2024), <https://adu.edu.az/en/xeberler/xeberler/8523.html>

163 CIS, SCO observer mission leaders meet in Baku to review election preparations, Caliber.az, August 31 (2024), <https://caliber.az/en/post/cis-sco-observer-mission-leaders-meet-in-baku-to-review-election-preparations>

164 Председатель ЦИК Беларуси Карпенко прибыл в Баку, где будет осуществлять международное наблюдение за выборами, s.by, August 30 (2024), <https://www.sb.by/articles/predsdatel-tsik-belarusi-karpenko-pribyl-v-baku-gde-budet-osushchestvlyat-mezhdunarodnoe-nablyudeni.html>

## Sergey Khomenko (Сергей Хоменко)

Country	Observing mission	Affiliation
Belarus	Council of the Republic <sup>168</sup>	Council of the Republic <sup>168</sup>

Sergey Khomenko used to serve as the minister of justice and the deputy minister of interior and is subject to international sanctions and travel bans for his role in the repressions in Belarus. The EU sanctions list<sup>165</sup> mentions the following as a reason for listing Sergey Khomenko:

*"In his leadership position as Deputy Minister of the Ministry of Internal Affairs (MoIA), he is responsible for the repression and intimidation campaign led by MoIA forces in the wake of the 2020 presidential election, in particular with arbitrary arrests and ill-treatment, including torture, of peaceful demonstrators as well as intimidation and violence against journalists."*<sup>166</sup>

Currently, Sergey Khomenko is the deputy chairperson<sup>167,168</sup> of the Council of the Republic (upper house of Belarus' Parliament). Pictures and a video featuring Sergey Khomenko are available in the sources linked in footnotes<sup>167,169,171</sup>. Azerbaijani media outlets quoted Sergey Khomenko:

165 Council Implementing Decision (CFSP) 2020/1388 of 2 October 2020 implementing Decision 2012/642/CFSP concerning restrictive measures against Belarus, Official Journal of the European Union, <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/en/TXT/PDF/?uri=OJ:L:2020:319I:FULL&-from=EN>

166 Council Implementing Decision (CFSP) 2020/1388 of 2 October 2020 implementing Decision 2012/642/CFSP concerning restrictive measures against Belarus, Official Journal of the European Union, <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/en/TXT/PDF/?uri=OJ:L:2020:319I:FULL&-from=EN>

167 Sergey Xomenko: Seçki məntəqələrinin hamısı Azərbaycan Seçki Məcəlləsinə uyğun avadanlıqla təchiz olunub, ictimai asayiş təmin edilib, Azerbaijan State News Agency, September 1 (2024), <https://video.azertag.az/video/222750>

168 Belarusdan olan müşahidəçilər Xankəndidə səsvermə prosesini izləyiblər, Azerbaijan State News Agency, September 1 (2024), <https://azertag.az/xeber/belarusdan-olan-musahidechiler-xankendide-sesverme-prosesini-izleyibler-3159206>

169 Глава Миссии наблюдателей от СНГ Л.Анфимов о парламентских выборах в Азербайджане: в стране приложены значительные усилия для проведения открытых и транспарентных выборов, Новости СНГ, September 2 (2024), <https://e-cis.info/news/564/120785/>





*“In the cities of Fuzuli and Khankendi, which were freed from occupation, where we observed the voting process, all conditions have been created for the citizens to express their will easily.” APA reports that Sergey Khomenko, Deputy Chairman of the Republican Council of the National Assembly of the Republic of Belarus, said this in his statement to journalists. He said that as a result of his observations, it was concluded that the voting process in Azerbaijan was organized in accordance with the Election Code.<sup>171</sup>*

*“We visited the polling stations in the territories that were liberated from the occupation and are currently being restored. We are talking about the cities of Fuzuli and Khankendi. We will also be in the city of Shusha. I can say that the conditions for citizens to easily express their will, as well as the provision of public order, were met, and the process was organized in accordance with the Election Code. Conditions have been created for people’s choice. Simple people also say that they are sure that only deputies who will serve the prosperity of the country will be elected. There are friendly relations between the speakers of the parliaments of both countries. We hope that the sincere relations between them will be reflected in the relations of our parliaments.”<sup>171</sup>*

*“Səsvermə prosesini müşahidə etdiyimiz işğaldan azad olunan Füzuli və Xankəndi şəhərlərində vətəndaşların iradəsini rahat bildirməsi üçün hər cür şərait yaradılıb”. APA xəbər verir ki, bunu jurnalistlərə açıqlamasında Belarus Respublikası Milli Məclisi Respublika Şurasının sədr müavini Sergey Xomenko deyib. O bildirib ki, müşahidələri nəticəsində Azərbaycanda səsvermə prosesinin Seçki Məcəlləsinə uyğun olaraq təşkil edildiyi qənaətinə gəlinib.<sup>171</sup>*

*“Biz işğaldan azad olunan və hazırda bərpası həyata keçirilən ərazilərdəki seçki məntəqələrində olduq. Söhbət Füzuli və Xankəndi şəhərlərindən gedir. Biz həm də Şuşa şəhərində olacağıq. Onu deyə bilərəm ki, vətəndaşların öz iradəsini rahat şəkildə bildirməsi, eləcə də ictimai asayişin təminatı kimi şərtlərə əməl olunub, proses Seçki Məcəlləsinə uyğun şəkildə təşkil edilib. Xalqın seçimi üçün şərait yaradılıb. Sadə insanlar da deyirlər ki, onlar yalnız ölkənin çiçəklənməsinə xidmət edəcək deputatların seçiləcəyinə əmindirlər. Hər iki ölkənin parlament sədrləri arasında dostluq münasibətləri mövcuddur. Ümid edirik ki, onların arasındakı səmimi münasibətlər parlamentlərimizin də əlaqələrində özünü göstərəcək.”<sup>171</sup>*

## Alexandr Omelyanuk (Александр Омелянюк)

Country	Observing mission	Affiliation
Belarus	Interparliamentary Assembly of Member Nations of the Commonwealth of Independent States (IPA-CIS) <sup>170</sup>	House of Representatives <sup>170</sup>

Alexandr Omelyanuk is the deputy chairperson of the standing commission on legislation of Belarus' House of Representatives<sup>170</sup> (lower house of the Parliament) and observed Azerbaijan's September 2024 snap parliamentary election as a member of<sup>170</sup> the IPA-CIS mission. A picture featuring Alexandr Omelyanuk is available in the source linked in footnote<sup>170</sup>.

## Vladimir Borovento (Владимир Боровенко)

Country	Observing mission	Affiliation
Belarus	Interparliamentary Assembly of Member Nations of the Commonwealth of Independent States (IPA-CIS) <sup>170</sup>	House of Representatives <sup>170</sup>

Vladimir Borovento is the deputy chairperson of the standing commission on industry, fuel and energy complex, transport and communications of Belarus' House of Representatives<sup>170</sup> (lower house of the Parliament) and observed Azerbaijan's September 2024 snap parliamentary election as a member of<sup>170</sup> the IPA-CIS mission. A picture featuring Vladimir Borovento is available in the source linked in footnotes<sup>138</sup>.

## Viktor Kogut (Виктор Когут)

Country	Observing mission	Affiliation
Belarus	Interparliamentary Assembly of Member Nations of the Commonwealth of Independent States (IPA-CIS) <sup>136</sup>	IPA-CIS <sup>136</sup>

<sup>170</sup> Депутаты Палаты представителей принимают участие в наблюдении за выборами в Азербайджане, sb.by, August 30 (2024), <https://www.sb.by/articles/deputaty-palaty-predstavitely-teley-prinimayut-uchastie-v-nablyudeni-za-vyborami-v-azerbaydzhane.html>

Although he is not himself a member of Belarus' Parliament, Viktor Kogut is its plenipotentiary representative to IPA-CIS<sup>136</sup> and observed Azerbaijan's September 2024 snap parliamentary election as a member of<sup>136</sup> the IPA-CIS mission. A picture featuring Viktor Kogut is available in the source linked in footnotes<sup>138</sup>.

## Alexey Vasiliev (Алексей Васильев)

Country	Observing mission	Affiliation
Belarus	Council of the Republic <sup>168</sup>	Council of the Republic <sup>168</sup>

Alexey Vasiliev observed Azerbaijan's September 2024 snap parliamentary election as a member of the Council of the Republic (upper house of the Parliament), where he serves as the deputy chairperson of the Standing Commission on Legislation and State Building<sup>168</sup>. A picture featuring Alexey Vasiliev is available in the source linked in footnote<sup>171</sup>.

## Dmitry Zhuk (Дмитрий Жук)

Country	Observing mission	Affiliation
Belarus	Interparliamentary Assembly of Member Nations of the Commonwealth of Independent States (IPA-CIS) <sup>136</sup>	Council of the Republic <sup>136</sup>

Dmitry Zhuk is the deputy chairperson of the standing committee of Belarus' Council of the Republic (upper house of the Parliament) on International Affairs and National Security<sup>136</sup> and observed Azerbaijan's September 2024 snap parliamentary election as a member of<sup>136</sup> the IPA-CIS mission. A picture featuring Dmitry Zhuk is available in the source linked in footnote<sup>3</sup>.

171 Füzuli və Xankəndidəki səsvərmədə hər cür şərait yaradılıb, Azeri-Press Agency (APA), September 1 (2024), <https://apa.az/secki-2024/belaruslu-musahideci-fuzuli-ve-xankendideki-sesvermede-her-cur-serait-yaradilib-863467>

## Oleg Kuleba (Олег Кулеба)

Country	Observing mission	Affiliation
Belarus	Interparliamentary Assembly of Member Nations of the Commonwealth of Independent States (IPA-CIS) <sup>173</sup>	IPA-CIS <sup>173</sup>

Oleg Kuleba, himself is not a member of parliament in Belarus. He was the head<sup>173</sup> of the IPA-CIS observation mission during Azerbaijan's September 2024 snap parliamentary election. At IPA-CIS, Oleg Kuleba is the director of the so-called "Observer Mission Headquarters"<sup>172</sup>. On August 21, 2024, two weeks before the election, Oleg Kuleba met<sup>173</sup> with Tahir Budagov, deputy chairperson of the ruling New Azerbaijan Party (YAP Yeni Azerbaijan). A picture featuring Oleg Kuleba is available in the source linked in footnote<sup>173</sup>.

## Sergey Rachkov (Сергей Рачков)

Country	Observing mission	Affiliation
Belarus	Parliamentary Assembly of the Union of Belarus and Russia within the Interparliamentary Assembly of Member Nations of the Commonwealth of Independent States (IPA-CIS) mission <sup>176</sup>	House of Representatives <sup>174</sup>

An MP from Belarus, Sergey Rachkov, is also a member of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Union of Belarus and Russia<sup>174</sup>. At Azerbaijan's September 2024 snap parliamentary election, he headed<sup>175</sup> the Parliamentary Assembly of the Union of Belarus and Russia mission, in

172 IPA CIS Observers Met With Leadership of OSCE / ODIHR Election Observation Mission at Kyrgyz Elections, Azeri-Press Agency (APA), October 4 (2020), [https://iacis.ru/News/IIIMDD\\_IPA\\_CIS\\_IPA\\_CIS\\_Observers\\_Met\\_With\\_Leadership\\_of\\_OSCE\\_ODIHR\\_Election\\_Observation\\_Mission\\_at\\_Kyrgyz\\_Elections](https://iacis.ru/News/IIIMDD_IPA_CIS_IPA_CIS_Observers_Met_With_Leadership_of_OSCE_ODIHR_Election_Observation_Mission_at_Kyrgyz_Elections)

173 В центральном аппарате ПЕА прошла встреча с начальником штаба миссии наблюдателей от СНГ, 1news.az, August 21 (2024), <https://1news.az/news/20240821080525750-V-tsentralnom-apparate-PEA-proshla-vstrecha-s-nachalnikom-shtaba-missii-nablyudatelei-ot-SNG>

174 Рачков Сергей Анатольевич, Парламентское Собрание Союза Беларуси И России, IPA-CIS, <https://belrus.ru/info/rachkov/>

175 Belarus-Rusiya İttifaqının Parlament Məclisinin müşahidə missiyası Mərkəzi Seçki Komissiyasında olub, Azerbaijan State News Agency, August 31 (2024), <https://video.azertag.az/vid-eo/222534>

the framework of the larger CIS mission<sup>176</sup>. A video featuring Sergey Rachkov is available in the source linked in footnote<sup>175</sup>.

## Russian Federation

### Natalia Kosikhina (Наталья Косихина)

Country	Observing mission	Affiliation
Russian Federation	Parliamentary Assembly of the Union of Belarus and Russia within the Interparliamentary Assembly of Member Nations of the Commonwealth of Independent States (IPA-CIS) mission <sup>176</sup>	Russian Federation Council <sup>177</sup>

A member of the Federation Council of Russia, Natalia Kosikhina is also a member of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Union of Belarus and Russia<sup>177</sup>. At Azerbaijan's September 2024 snap parliamentary election, she was a member of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Union of Belarus and Russia mission, headed by Sergey Rachkov, in the framework of the larger CIS mission<sup>176</sup>. A video featuring Natalia Kosikhina is available in the source linked in footnote<sup>175</sup>.

### Olga Germanova (Ольга Германова)

Country	Observing mission	Affiliation
Russian Federation	Parliamentary Assembly of the Union of Belarus and Russia <sup>176</sup>	State Duma <sup>178</sup>

A member of the State Duma of the Russian Federation, representing the Bielgorod region, Olga Germanova is also a member of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Union of Belarus and Russia<sup>178</sup>. During Azerbaijan's September 2024 snap parliamentary election, she was an observer for the Parliamentary Assembly of the Union of Belarus and

176 Депутаты Парламентского Собрания примут участие в международном наблюдении за выборами в Азербайджане, IPA-CIS, August 28 (2024) <https://belrus.ru/info/deputaty-parlamentskogo-sobraniya-primut-uchastie-v-mezhdunarodnom-nablyudenii-za-vyborami-v-azerbajdzhane-341816/>

177 Federasiya Şurası Azərbaycandakı parlament seçkilərində qanun pozuntusu aşkar etməyib, Sputnik Azərbaycan, September 1 (2024), <https://sputnik.az/20240901/federasiya-surasi-azerbaycandaki-parlament-seckilerinde-qanun-pozuntusu-askar-etmeyib-467069438.html>

178 Германова Ольга Михайловна, Парламентское Собрание Союза Беларуси И России, IPA CIS, <https://belrus.ru/info/germanova/>

Russia mission, headed by Sergey Rachkov<sup>176</sup>. A video featuring Olga Germanova is available in the source linked in footnote<sup>175</sup>.

## Irina Sokolova (Ирина Соколова)

Country	Observing mission	Affiliation
Russian Federation	Interparliamentary Assembly of Member Nations of the Commonwealth of Independent States (IPA-CIS) <sup>136</sup>	IPA-CIS <sup>136</sup>

In January 2017, Irina Sokolova was designated<sup>179</sup> by the Russian Parliament as plenipotentiary representative<sup>136,179</sup> to the IPA-CIS, where she serves as deputy secretary general<sup>179</sup>. She was herself<sup>179</sup> a member of the State Duma in 2009-2016. Pictures featuring Irina Sokolova are available in the sources linked in footnotes<sup>180,181</sup>.

## Alexey Chera (Алексей Чепя)

Country	Observing mission	Affiliation	Earlier elections
Russian Federation	Russian Parliament <sup>182</sup>	State Duma <sup>185</sup> A Just Russia party <sup>180, 183</sup>	Azerbaijan's February 2024 snap presidential election <sup>187</sup> Russia's March 2018 presidential election <sup>32,184</sup>

Alexey Chera is a Russian State Duma member<sup>185,186</sup> and the deputy chairperson of the State Duma Committee on International Affairs. He

179 Секретариат Совета МПА СНГ, IPA-CIS, [https://iacis.ru/ob\\_organizatscii/struktura\\_mpa\\_sng/sekretariat\\_soveta\\_mpa\\_sng](https://iacis.ru/ob_organizatscii/struktura_mpa_sng/sekretariat_soveta_mpa_sng)

180 Наблюдатели от МПА СНГ ведут мониторинг голосования на парламентских выборах в Азербайджане, IPA CIS, September 1 (2024), [https://iacis.ru/novosti/institut\\_monitoringa\\_razvitiya\\_demokratii\\_mpa\\_sng/nablyudateli\\_ot\\_mpa\\_sng\\_vedut\\_monitoring\\_golosovaniya\\_na\\_parlamentskih\\_viborah\\_v\\_azerbajdzhanе](https://iacis.ru/novosti/institut_monitoringa_razvitiya_demokratii_mpa_sng/nablyudateli_ot_mpa_sng_vedut_monitoring_golosovaniya_na_parlamentskih_viborah_v_azerbajdzhanе)

181 Максим Мейксин on Telegram, October 7 (2024), <https://t.me/Meyksin/1536>

182 Канал Алексея Чепы on Telegram, September 1 (2024), [https://t.me/alexchepa\\_duma/2674](https://t.me/alexchepa_duma/2674)

183 Чепя Алексей Васильевич, Государственная Дума Федерального Собрания Российской Федерации, <http://duma.gov.ru/duma/persons/99111967/>

184 Более 150 иностранных депутатов посетят президентские выборы в России, Известия, 22 January 2018, <https://web.archive.org/web/20240903101647/https://iz.ru/697617/dmitrii-laru-angelina-galanina-tatiana-baikova/bolee-150-inostrannykh-deputatov-poseti-at-prezidentskie-vybory-v-rossii>

185 Russian MP: Azerbaijan organized elections at high level, Report İnformasiya Agentliyi, September 1 (2024), <https://report.az/en/domestic-politics/russian-mp-azerbajjan-organized-elections-at-high-level/>

186 Dövlət Dumasının deputatı: Azərbaycanca seçkilər çox yüksək səviyyədə təşkil olunub, Report İnformasiya Agentliyi, September 1 (2024), <https://report.az/daxili-siyaset/dovlet-dumasi-nin-deputati-azerbaycanda-seckiler-cox-yuksekk-seviyyede-teskil-olunub/>

observed Azerbaijan’s September 2024 snap parliamentary election with the mission of the Russian Parliament<sup>184</sup>. Alexey Chepa, also an observer during Azerbaijan’s February 2024 snap presidential election<sup>187</sup>, is a close associate of Leonid Slutsky, another State Duma member who masterminded a large foreign fake observers’ campaign during Russia’s March 2018 presidential election<sup>32</sup>. Pictures featuring Alexey Chepa are available in the sources linked in footnotes<sup>185,187</sup>. Azerbaijani media outlets quoted Alexey Chepa:



*The elections for Azerbaijan’s Milli Majlis (Parliament) were conducted at a very high level, said Russian State Duma MP Alexey Chepa, who participated in the monitoring the snap parliamentary elections in Azerbaijan, Report informs. Chepa noted that he observed the voting process at 12 polling stations. “I can say with certainty that the elections were organized at a very high level,” declared the MP.<sup>185</sup>*

*Azərbaycan Milli Məclisinə seçkilər çox yüksək səviyyədə təşkil olunub. Bu barədə „Report”a Milli Məclisə növbədənənar seçkilərin monitorinqində iştirak edən Rusiya Federasiyası Dövlət Dumasının deputatı Aleksey Çepa məlumat verib. O, 12 seçki məntəqəsində səsvermə prosesini izlədiyini vurğulayıb. “Əminliklə deyə bilərəm ki, seçkilər çox yüksək səviyyədə təşkil olunub”, – deputat bildirib.<sup>186</sup>*

## Alla Polyakova (Алла Полякова)

Country	Observing mission	Affiliation	Earlier elections
Russian Federation <sup>189</sup>	Independent <sup>188</sup>	State Duma <sup>189</sup>	Azerbaijan’s February 2024 snap presidential election <sup>189</sup> Azerbaijan’s February 2020 presidential election <sup>189</sup> Azerbaijan’s April 2018 presidential election <sup>189</sup>

Alla Polyakova is a Russian State Duma member and the deputy chairperson of the State Duma Committee on Control. She is a member of the

187 I hope our voters in Russia show same enthusiasm as I saw in Azerbaijan – Russian lawmaker, Trend News Agency, February 7 (2024), <https://en.trend.az/azerbaijan/politics/3859211.html>

188 Игорь Коротченко: Азербайджан продемонстрировал в очередной раз совершенство своей политической системы и ее устойчивость, 1news.az, September 2 (2024), <https://1news.az/news/20240902025454449-Igor-Korotchenko-Azerbaidzhan-prodemonstriroval-v-ocherednoi-raz-sovershenstvo-svoei-politicheskoi-sistemy-i-ee-ustoichivost>

Russia-Azerbaijan interparliamentary friendship group. The September 2024 snap parliamentary election is the fourth she has observed in Azerbaijan<sup>189</sup>. A picture featuring Alla Polyakova is available in the source linked in footnote<sup>189</sup>.

## Andrey Yatskin (Андрей Яцкин)

Country	Observing mission	Affiliation
Russian Federation	Interparliamentary Assembly of Member Nations of the Commonwealth of Independent States (IPA-CIS) <sup>191</sup>	Russian Federation Council <sup>190</sup>

Andrey Yatskin is the first deputy speaker of the Federation Council of Russia, representing the Rostov region<sup>190</sup>. At the September 2024 snap parliamentary election, he was the coordinator<sup>191</sup> of the international group of observers of the IPA-CIS. Andrey Yatskin is subject to sanctions related to the war on Ukraine<sup>192</sup>. Pictures and a video featuring Andrey Yatskin are available in the sources linked in footnotes<sup>138,180,193</sup>.

189 Алла Полякова: выборы Милли Меджлиса в Азербайджане были организованы на высоком уровне, Vestnik Kavkaza, September 2 (2024), <https://vestnikavkaza.ru/news/alla-polyakova-vybory-milli-medzhlisa-v-azerbajdzane-byli-organizovany-na-vysokom-urovne.html>

190 Structure, Federation Council of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation, <http://www.council.gov.ru/en/structure/persons/1523/>

191 IPA-CIS appoints coordinator for observers group in connection with snap parliamentary elections in Azerbaijan, Azeri-Press Agency (APA), May 16 (2023), <https://en.apa.az/election-2024/ipa-cis-appoints-coordinator-for-observers-group-in-connection-with-snap-parliamentary-elections-in-azerbaijan-442922>

192 Andrey Vladimirovich YATSKIN, OpenSanctions, <https://www.opensanctions.org/entities/Q99541861/>

193 MDB PA-nın beynəlxalq müşahidəçilər qrupu koordinatorunun iştirakı ilə mətbuata açıqlama verilib, Azerbaijan State News Agency, September 1 (2024), <https://video.azertag.az/video/222610>



## Ильяс Умаханов (Ильяс Умаханов)

Country	Observing mission	Affiliation	Earlier election
Russian Federation	Russian Federation Council <sup>194</sup> within the Interparliamentary Assembly of Member Nations of the Commonwealth of Independent States (IPA-CIS) mission	Russian Federation Council <sup>194</sup>	Russia's March 2018 presidential election <sup>197</sup>

Ilyas Umakhanov, currently the first deputy chairperson of Russia's Federation Council Committee on Science, Education, and Culture<sup>194,195</sup>, was mentioned as head<sup>194</sup> of the observation mission of the Federation Council during Azerbaijan's September 2024 snap parliamentary election, although another source says the mission was headed by Alexander Terentyev<sup>202</sup>. Umakhanov is a member<sup>196</sup> of the Interparliamentary Commission on Cooperation between the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation and the Milli Mejlis (parliament) of the Republic of Azerbaijan. Earlier, Ilyas Umakhanov was the deputy chairperson of the Federation Council<sup>197</sup>. Pictures featuring Ilyas Umakhanov are available in the sources linked in footnotes<sup>194,196,198</sup>. Azerbaijani media outlets quoted Ilyas Umakhanov:

194 Russian senator hails Azerbaijan's flawless parliamentary elections, Report İnformasiya Agentliyi, September 2 (2024), <https://report.az/en/domestic-politics/russian-senator-hails-azerbaijan-s-flawless-parliamentary-elections/>

195 Rusiyalı senator: Parlament seçkiləri Azərbaycanın suverenliyinin bərpasının legitimləşdirilməsi prosesini başa çatdırıb, Report İnformasiya Agentliyi, September 2 (2024), <https://report.az/daxili-siyaset/rusiyali-senator-azerbaycan-parlamentine-seckiler-olkenin-suverenliyinin-berpasinin-legitimlesdirilmesi-prosesini-basa-catdirib/>

196 А. Яцкин: Межпарламентское сотрудничество между Россией и Азербайджаном активно развивается, Federation Council of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation, June 20 (2024), <http://council.gov.ru/events/news/157797/>

197 Preliminary report on the Kremlin-friendly international electoral observation, Anton Shekhovtsov / European Platform for Democratic Elections, March (2018), <https://epde.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/03/Anton-Shekhovtsov-Preliminary-report.pdf>

198 Ильяс Умаханов: пусть победа всегда сопровождает Азербайджан!, Vestnik Kavkaza, September 2 (2024), <https://vestnikavkaza.ru/news/ilas-umahanov-pust-pobeda-vsegda-soprovozdaet-azerbajdzan.html>

“We want to congratulate the Azerbaijani people on another brilliant conduct of elections to the highest legislative body,” Umakhanov said. “In my opinion, after the presidential elections in Azerbaijan [held in February 2024], the parliamentary elections complete the process of legal legitimization of the country’s sovereignty restoration.” Umakhanov emphasized that it is crucial for Russia to be surrounded by prosperous, sovereign, and strong states. “This is exactly how we perceive Azerbaijan,” he added.<sup>194</sup>

“Ali qanunverici orqana seçkilərin müvəffəqiyyətlə keçirilməsi münasibətilə Azərbaycan xalqını təbrik etmək istəyirik. Fikrimcə, Azərbaycanda 2024-cü ilin fevralında keçirilmiş prezident seçkilərindən sonra parlament seçkiləri ölkənin suverenliyinin bərpasının hüquqi legitimləşdirilməsi prosesini başa çatdırır”, – o bildirib. Rusiyalı senator vurğulayıb ki, Rusiyanın ətrafında çiçəklənən, suveren və güclü dövlətlərin olması çox vacibdir: “Biz Azərbaycana məhz belə qəbul edirik”.<sup>195</sup>

## Dmitry Kobitsky (Дмитрий Кобицкий)

Country	Observing mission	Affiliation	Earlier election
Russian Federation	Interparliamentary Assembly of Member Nations of the Commonwealth of Independent States (IPA-CIS) <sup>136</sup>	IPA-CIS <sup>136</sup>	Azerbaijan’s February 2024 snap presidential election <sup>199</sup>

Dmitry Kobitsky played a key role in observing Azerbaijan’s September 2024 snap parliamentary election as the secretary general<sup>136</sup> of IPA-CIS. Dmitry Kobitsky had already<sup>199</sup> observed the February 2024 presidential election in Azerbaijan. Pictures featuring Dmitry Kobitsky are available in the sources linked in footnotes<sup>138,199</sup>. Azerbaijani media outlets quoted Dmitry Kobitsky:

<sup>199</sup> Azerbaijan’s electoral legislation complies with all democratic norms and standards, says CIS IPA Secretary General, Azerbaijan State News Agency, February 7 (2024), [https://azertag.az/en/xeber/azerbajjans\\_electoral\\_legislation\\_complies\\_with\\_all\\_democratic\\_norms\\_and\\_standards\\_says\\_cis\\_ipa\\_secretary\\_general-2911636](https://azertag.az/en/xeber/azerbajjans_electoral_legislation_complies_with_all_democratic_norms_and_standards_says_cis_ipa_secretary_general-2911636)



*“We are communicating, including with observers, who confirm the absence of any violations. The election campaign has been organized by the Central Electoral Commission of Azerbaijan at a very decent level. We have confirmed this more than once, being at elections in Azerbaijan. In general, our mission, consisting of 40 people, will visit a fairly large number of polling stations. In the evening, we will summarize the results, gather our monitoring group in order to share our impressions and prepare our conclusion. We will be able to announce the preliminary results already at a press conference on Monday. But we will be able to officially publish them only after the Constitutional Court officially recognizes the elections as having taken place and approves the results. We are very pleased with how the election process is organized in Azerbaijan. Everything corresponds to the best democratic standards, so we have no comments on the election process today.”<sup>200</sup>*

*“Мы общаемся, в том числе и с наблюдателями, которые подтверждают отсутствие каких-либо нарушений. Выборная кампания организована Центральной избирательной комиссией Азербайджана на очень достойном уровне. Это мы подтверждаем уже далеко не первый раз, находясь на выборах в Азербайджане. В целом, наша миссия, состоящая из 40 человек, объездит достаточно большое количество избирательных участков. Вечером подведем итоги, соберем нашу мониторинговую группу для того, чтобы поделиться своими впечатлениями и подготовить наше заключение. Предварительные результаты мы сможем озвучить уже на пресс-конференции в понедельник. Но официально мы их сможем опубликовать только после того, когда Конституционный суд признает официально выборы состоявшимися и утвердит итоги. Мы очень довольны, как организован избирательный процесс в Азербайджане. Все соответствует самым лучшим демократическим нормам, поэтому у нас на сегодняшний день никаких замечаний к избирательному процессу нет.”<sup>200</sup>*

200 Дмитрий Кобицкий: Молодежь показывает высокую активность на парламентских выборах в Азербайджане, Azərbaycan Dövlət İnformasiya Agentliyi AZƏRTAC, September 1 (2024), [https://azertag.az/ru/xeber/dmitrii\\_kobickii\\_molodezh\\_pokazyvaet\\_vysokuyu\\_aktivnost\\_na\\_parlamentskih\\_vyborah\\_v\\_azerbaidzhane-3158178](https://azertag.az/ru/xeber/dmitrii_kobickii_molodezh_pokazyvaet_vysokuyu_aktivnost_na_parlamentskih_vyborah_v_azerbaidzhane-3158178)

“Communicating with parties, their headquarters, and individual candidates, we see that a very large number of young people are registered on party lists. We also observe the youth’s activity directly at the polling station. Young people in Azerbaijan are interested in politics. We observed this in February during the presidential elections. You have very active young people.”<sup>200</sup>

Our group of international observers, part of the common mission of the Commonwealth of Independent States, has long since begun work on understanding the electoral process in Azerbaijan. First, we made a legal conclusion, and it confirms that all normative documents governing the electoral processes in Azerbaijan comply with all the best accepted world standards.<sup>201</sup>

“Общаясь с партиями, с их штабами, с отдельными кандидатами, мы видим, что очень большое количество молодежи заявлено по партийным спискам. Активность молодежи наблюдаем и непосредственно на избирательном участке. Молодые люди в Азербайджане интересуются политикой. Мы наблюдали это и в феврале на президентских выборах. У вас очень активная молодежь.”<sup>200</sup>

Наша группа международных наблюдателей, входящая в общую миссию Содружества Независимых Государств, уже достаточно давно начала работу по осмыслению избирательного процесса в Азербайджане. Сначала мы сделали юридическое заключение, и оно подтверждает то, что все нормативные документы, регулирующие избирательные процессы в Азербайджане, соответствуют всем лучшим принятым мировым нормам.<sup>201</sup>

## Ivan Mushket (Иван Мушкет)

Country	Observing mission	Affiliation
Russian Federation	Interparliamentary Assembly of Member Nations of the Commonwealth of Independent States (IPA-CIS) <sup>138</sup>	IPA-CIS <sup>138</sup>

201 Дмитрий Кобицкий: Избирательные процессы в Азербайджане соответствуют всем принятым мировым нормам, Azərbaycan Dövlət İnformasiya Agentliyi AZƏRTAC, August 31 (2024), [https://azertag.az/ru/xeber/dmitrii\\_kobickii\\_izbiratelnye\\_processy\\_v\\_azerbaidzhane\\_sootvetstvuyut\\_vsem\\_prinyatym\\_mirovym\\_normam-3157502](https://azertag.az/ru/xeber/dmitrii_kobickii_izbiratelnye_processy_v_azerbaidzhane_sootvetstvuyut_vsem_prinyatym_mirovym_normam-3157502)

Ivan Mushket is the Deputy Head of the Secretariat of the IPA-CIS Council and the Director of the IPA-CIS International Institute of International Relations<sup>138</sup>. Pictures featuring Ivan Mushket are available in the sources linked in footnotes<sup>138,180</sup>.

## Alexander Terentyev (Александр Терентьев)

Country	Observing mission	Affiliation
Russian Federation	Russian Federation Council <sup>202</sup> within the Interparliamentary Assembly of Member Nations of the Commonwealth of Independent States (IPA-CIS) mission	Russian Federation Council <sup>202</sup>

At the September 2024 snap parliamentary election, Alexander Terentyev was the head of the observation mission of the Russian Federation Council<sup>202</sup>. Alexander Terentyev is subject to sanctions related to the war on Ukraine<sup>203</sup>. Pictures featuring Alexander Terentyev are available in the sources linked in footnotes<sup>202,204</sup>. Azerbaijani media outlets quoted Alexander Terentyev:



*"We are fascinated by Azerbaijan's sovereign and independent policy for the benefit of its people. Many countries face external influences in elections. We are glad that a strong election campaign was conducted in Azerbaijan, which shows that the people of Azerbaijan are satisfied with the political course chosen by the country's authorities."*<sup>204</sup>

*"Azərbaycanın öz xalqının mənafeyi naminə suveren və müstəqil siyasət aparması bizi valeh edir. Bir çox ölkələrdə seçkilərdə kənar təsirlərlə üzlaşırlər. Şadıq ki, Azərbaycanda güclü seçki kampaniyası aparılıb, bu, Azərbaycan xalqının ölkə hakimiyyətinin seçdiyi siyasi kursdan razı qaldığını göstərir."*<sup>204</sup>

202 Aleksandr Terentyev: Növbədən kənar parlament seçkiləri Azərbaycan üçün çox vacib prosesdir, Azerbaijan State News Agency, August 31 (2024), <https://azertag.az/xeber/aleksandr-terentyev-novbedenkenar-parlament-sechkileri-azerbaycan-uchun-chox-vacib-prosesdir-3157582>

203 Alexander Mikhailovich TEREENTYEV, OpenSanctions, <https://www.opensanctions.org/entities/Q99238214/>

204 Dövlət Dumasının deputatı: Azərbaycan xalqının rifahı naminə suveren və müstəqil siyasət aparır, Report İnformasiya Agentliyi, September 2 (2024), <https://report.az/daxili-siyaset/aleksandr-terentyev-azerbaycan-oz-xalqinin-rifahi-namine-suveren-ve-musteqil-siyaset-aparir/>

“While we were at the polling stations, we witnessed a very friendly atmosphere, and from the legal point of view, the elections were successful.”<sup>204</sup>

“Seçki məntəqələrində olarkən biz çox mehriban ab-havanın şahidi olduq ki, hüquqi baxımdan uğurlu seçkilər oldu”<sup>204</sup>

## Anatoly Shirokov (Анатолий Широков)

Location	Observing mission	Affiliation	Earlier election observed
Russian Federation	Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) <sup>206</sup>	Federation Council <sup>205</sup> United Russia <sup>210</sup> party (Единая Россия)	Azerbaijan's February 2024 snap presidential election <sup>207</sup>

Anatoly Shirokov, a member<sup>205</sup> of Russia's Federation Council, observed Azerbaijan's September 2024 snap parliamentary election as a member of the SCO mission<sup>206</sup>. He had already observed Azerbaijan's February 2024 snap presidential election, also for the SCO<sup>207</sup> rather than IPA-CIS. He serves<sup>196</sup> in the Interparliamentary Commission on Cooperation between the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation and the Milli Mejlis (parliament) of the Republic of Azerbaijan.

Anatoly Shirokov observed elections on behalf of the SCO rather than the IPA-CIS since he allegedly resides in Magadan<sup>205</sup> in the Russian Far East, and was appointed<sup>205</sup> to the Federation Council on October 10, 2014 as a representative<sup>205</sup> of this region. From December 2006 to October 2014, Anatoly Shirokov was the rector<sup>209</sup> of the North-Eastern State University in Magadan. Anatoly Shirokov is deputy chairman<sup>205,210</sup> of the Federation Council Committee on Federal Structure, Regional Policy, Local Government and Northern Affairs, and on December 11,

205 Структура > Широков Анатолий Иванович, Совет Федерации Федерального Собрания Российской Федерации, <http://council.gov.ru/structure/persons/1211/>

206 STATEMENT by the Observer Mission of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation Regarding the Monitoring Results of the Preparations for and Holding of Early Elections to the Milli Majlis of the Republic of Azerbaijan on 1 September 2024, The Shanghai cooperation organisation, September 2 (2024), <https://eng.sectscsco.org/20240902/1524686.html>

207 Делегация Совета Федерации приняла участие в мониторинге внеочередных выборов Президента Азербайджанской Республики, Совет Федерации Федерального Собрания Российской Федерации, February 8 (2024), <http://council.gov.ru/events/news/153289/>

2018 he was appointed<sup>208,209</sup> as Plenipotentiary Representative of the Federation Council on Issues of Development of the Far East, the Arctic, and Eastern Siberia.

Before his appointment to the Federation Council, Anatoly Shirokov was First Deputy Chairman of the Magadan Regional Duma<sup>209</sup> and chairman of its Standing Committee on Regional Issues and Local Self-Government<sup>209</sup> from 2010 to 2014. He is a member<sup>210</sup> of the ruling United Russia party and was the secretary<sup>210</sup> of the Regional Political Council of its Magadan Regional Branch in 2010-2012. Pictures featuring Anatoly Shirokov are available in the sources linked in footnotes<sup>207,211,212</sup>.

## Sergey Markov (Сергей Марков)

Country	Observing mission	Affiliation	Earlier election
Russian Federation	Independent <sup>188</sup>	Foreign and Defense Policy Council <sup>214</sup> (Совет по внешней и оборонной политике СВОП) Institute of Political Studies <sup>213</sup>	Azerbaijan's February 2024 snap presidential election <sup>215</sup>

Another prominent observer<sup>213</sup> during Azerbaijan's September 2024 snap parliamentary election was the well-known, hawkish foreign policy and defense analyst Sergey Markov, director<sup>213</sup> of the Institute of Political Studies and member of the influential Foreign and Defense Policy Council, the organizer of the *Valdai Club* meetings<sup>214</sup>. He was seen at many such elections in the past, including Azerbaijan's February

208 Широков, Анатолий Иванович Сенатор РФ, ITAR-TASS, <https://tass.ru/encyclopedia/person/shirokov-anatoliy-ivanovich>

209 Широков Анатолий Иванович биография и пресс-портрет, *Деловой Петербург*, <https://whoiswho.dp.ru/cart/person/1936819>

210 Широков Анатолий Иванович, *Единая Россия*, <https://er.ru/person/b5325359-e615-4a99-a3a9-5097e489361c>

211 Сказано в Сенате. Анатолий Широков. Межпарламентское сотрудничество России и Азербайджана, *ВМЕСТЕ-РФ*, November 28 (2022), [https://vmeste-rtv.tv/programs/skazano-v-senate/skazano-v-senate-anatoliy-shirokov-mezhparlamentskoe-sotrudnichestvo-rossii-i-azerbaydzhana/?sphrase\\_id=225274](https://vmeste-rtv.tv/programs/skazano-v-senate/skazano-v-senate-anatoliy-shirokov-mezhparlamentskoe-sotrudnichestvo-rossii-i-azerbaydzhana/?sphrase_id=225274)

212 Ali Khezarian on X/Twitter, August 31 (2024), [https://x.com/ali\\_khezrian/status/1829996134439219204](https://x.com/ali_khezrian/status/1829996134439219204)

213 Sergey Markov says he saw nothing negative during parliamentary elections in Azerbaijan, Report Informasiya Agentliyi, September 1 (2024), <https://report.az/en/domestic-politics/sergey-markov-says-he-saw-nothing-negative-during-parliamentary-elections-in-azerbaijan/>

214 Wierzę w racjonalny dialog między Rosją a Polską, S. Markov, *Myśl Polska*, <https://web.archive.org/web/20210419004456/http://mysl-polska.pl/2204>

2024 snap presidential election<sup>215</sup>. Pictures featuring Sergey Markov are available in the sources linked in footnotes<sup>213,215</sup>. Azerbaijani media outlets quoted Sergey Markov:

*“The parliamentary elections in Azerbaijan were held in a transparent environment, and we did not record any negative aspects,” a Russian observer, Director of the Center for Political Studies, Sergey Markov told Report. Markov noted that he did not see any negative phenomena while observing the voting process. “Of course, the voter turnout was not the same as in the presidential elections. But this is understandable,” Markov said. The political scientist congratulated the Azerbaijani people on holding parliamentary elections throughout the entire country: “This is an important historic event. I believe that the new parliament will justify the trust.”<sup>213</sup>*

*Azərbaycanda parlament seçkiləri obyektiv şəraitdə keçirildi. Bunu „Report”un əməkdaşına açıqlamasında Azərbaycanada keçirilən parlament seçkilərini müşahidə edən rusiyalı politoloq, Siyasi Araşdırmalar Mərkəzinin direktoru Sergey Markov deyib. O bildirib ki, hansısa neqativ hal görməyib: “Əlbəttə, seçici fəallığı prezident seçkilərində olduğu kimi deyildi. Amma bu, başadüşüləndir. Səbəblər məlumdur”. Politoloq, həmçinin Qarabağda ilk parlament seçkilərinin keçirilməsi münasibətilə Azərbaycan xalqını təbrik edib: “Bu, mühüm tarixi hadisədir. Yeri gəlmişkən, deyim ki, mənim işim seçkilərin nəticəsi ilə bağlı proqnoz vermək deyil. Amma inanıram ki, yeni parlament etimadı doğruldacaq”<sup>216</sup>*

215 Azerbaijan's presidential election passed in strict compliance with electoral law, Trend News Agency, February 8 (2024), <https://en.trend.az/azerbaijan/politics/3859430.html>

216 Sergey Markov: Azərbaycanada parlament seçkiləri obyektiv şəraitdə keçirildi, Report İnformasiya Agentliyi, September 1 (2024), <https://report.az/daxili-siyaset/sergey-markov-azerbaycanda-parlament-seckileri-obyektiv-seraitde-kecirildi/>



## Igor Korotchenko (Игорь Коротченко)

Country	Observing mission	Affiliation	Earlier election
Russian Federation	Independent <sup>188</sup>	Russian intelligence community <sup>218</sup> (not confirmed by sources) Rodina party <sup>219</sup> National Defense magazine <sup>217</sup> (Национальная оборона) Caspian Institute for Strategic Studies <sup>217</sup>	Azerbaijan's February 2024 presidential election <sup>222</sup>

Igor Korotchenko is another analyst close to the Russian regime, general director of the think-tank Caspian Institute for Strategic Studies, and publisher of the magazine National Defense<sup>217,218</sup>. He specializes in defense, security and intelligence issues. In February 2012, Igor Korotchenko was appointed as a member of the Public Council under Russia's Ministry of Defense<sup>218</sup>.

Russia's Foreign Intelligence Service (SVR) awarded Igor Korotchenko with a Certificate "For great personal contribution to strengthening and developing cooperation with the Foreign Intelligence Service of Russia"<sup>218</sup>. Igor Korotchenko is a member<sup>219</sup> of the hardline Russian nationalist Rodina party and was listed as its Chairperson of the Party Council on National Security<sup>219</sup> and a member of the Presidium of the Political Council<sup>219</sup>. Pictures featuring Igor Korotchenko are available in the sources linked in footnotes<sup>132, 219, 220, 221, 222</sup>. Azerbaijani media outlets quoted Igor Korotchenko:

217 Игорь Коротченко: выборы Милли Меджлиса – фактор устойчивости Азербайджана, Vestnik Kavkaza, September 1 (2024), <https://vestnikavkaza.ru/news/igor-korotcenko-vybo-ry-milli-medzhlisa-faktor-ustojcivosti-azerbajdzana.html>

218 Игорь Юрьевич Коротченко, Национальная оборона, November (2020), <https://2009-2020.oborona.ru/pages/mainpage/korotchenko/index.shtml>

219 Коротченко, Игорь Юрьевич, Wikipedia, [https://ru.wikipedia.org/wiki/Коротченко,\\_Игорь\\_Юрьевич](https://ru.wikipedia.org/wiki/Коротченко,_Игорь_Юрьевич)

220 Вошел в федеральную „десятку“ кандидатов в депутаты Госдумы от партии „Родина“, Игорь Юрьевич Коротченко blog, July 3 (2016), <https://i-korotchenko.livejournal.com/1225347.html>

221 Korotchenko: Stability of political system is basis for Azerbaijan's confident development, Report Informasiya Agentliyi, September 1 (2024), <https://report.az/en/domestic-politics/korotchenko-stability-of-political-system-is-basis-for-azerbaijan-s-confident-development/>

222 None of EU countries can boast same voter turnout as in Azerbaijan, Vestnik Kavkaza, February 8 (2024), <https://en.trend.az/azerbaijan/politics/3859442.html>

*Korotchenko noted that the election results will demonstrate Azerbaijan's high democratic standards to Western powers.<sup>221</sup>*

*"The West, in particular countries like France, which is particularly zealous in criticizing Azerbaijan, have much to learn from the Azerbaijani electoral system. The modern political system of France is totalitarian and committed to neocolonial policies, setting an example of injustice, while modern Azerbaijan sets standards of justice for the West," he said.<sup>221</sup>*

*The expert [Korotchenko] stressed that Azerbaijan would continue to confidently move forward together with friendly countries, including the Russian Federation.<sup>221</sup>*

*İ.Korotçenko qeyd edib ki, seçkilərin nəticələri Qərb dövlətlərinə Azərbaycanın yüksək demokratik standartlarını nümayiş etdirəcək.<sup>223</sup>*

*"Qərbin, xüsusən də Azərbaycanı çox qızğın şəkildə tənqid edən Fransa kimi ölkələrin Azərbaycanın seçki sistemindən öyrənməli olduğu çox şey var. Fransanın müasir siyasi sistemi totalitardır və neokolonial siyasətə sadıqdır, müasir Azərbaycan isə Qərbə ədalət standartlarını nümayiş etdirir", – o qeyd edib.<sup>223</sup>*

*Ekspert [Korotchenko] vurğulayıb ki, Azərbaycan bundan sonra da dost ölkələr, o cümlədən Rusiya Federasiyası ilə birlikdə inamla irəliləyəcək.<sup>223</sup>*

223 Korotçenko: Bugünkü seçkilər Azərbaycanın siyasi sabitliyini təsdiqləyir, Report İnformasiya Agentliyi, September 1 (2024), <https://report.az/daxili-siyaset/korotcenko-bugunku-seckiler-azerbaycanin-siyasi-sabitliyini-tesdiqleyir/>



*“Having visited about 15 polling stations in Baku and the suburbs yesterday, we as a group of independent Russian observers can note the clear organization of the election process, the high level of training of the members of the election commission, the impeccable organization of the voting process, which was honest, fair, legitimate and met all the criteria of existing norms of election technologies in the world,” he noted.*<sup>224</sup>

*Korotchenko emphasized that in this regard, Azerbaijan once again demonstrated the perfection of its political system and its stability. “In today’s turbulent world, Azerbaijan is an island of stability, prosperity and confident movement forward. This is primarily ensured, I repeat, by the political system of Azerbaijan, which responds to existing challenges and is the foundation for the forward movement of the Azerbaijani people under the leadership of the president,” the expert said.*<sup>224</sup>

*“Dünən Bakı və onun ətraf rayonlarında 15-ə yaxın seçki məntəqəsində olduq və rusiyalı müşahidəçiləri qrupu olaraq seçki prosesinin dəqiq təşkilini, seçki komissiyası üzvlərinin yüksək hazırlıq səviyyəsini, dürüst, ədalətli, legitim olan və dünyada mövcud seçki texnologiyaları normalarının bütün meyarlarına cavab verən səsvermə prosesinin qüsursuz təşkilini qeyd edə bilərik”, – o bildirib.*<sup>225</sup>

*İ.Korotçenko vurğulayıb ki, bu baxımdan Azərbaycan öz siyasi sisteminin mükəmməlliyini və sabitliyini bir daha nümayiş etdirib. “Bir çox dövlətlərin sarsıldığı indiki təlatümlü dünyada Azərbaycan sabitlik, firavanlıq və irəliyə doğru inamlı hərəkət adasıdır. Bunu bir daha təkrar edirəm, mövcud çağırışlara cavab verən və Prezidentin rəhbərliyi altında xalqın irəliyə doğru addımlamasının əsasını Azərbaycanın siyasi sistemi təşkil edir”, – ekspert bildirib.*<sup>225</sup>

- 224 Korotchenko on elections: Azerbaijan once again demonstrated perfection of its political system, sustainability, Report İnformasiya Agentliyi, September 2 (2024), <https://report.az/en/domestic-politics/korotchenko-talks-on-elections-azerbaijan-once-again-demonstrated-perfection-of-its-political-system-sustainability/>
- 225 Korotçenko: Azərbaycan siyasi sisteminin mükəmməlliyini və sabitliyini bir daha nümayiş etdirdi, Report İnformasiya Agentliyi, September 2 (2024), <https://report.az/daxili-siyaset/korotchenko-azerbaycan-oz-siyasi-sisteminin-mukemmelliyini-ve-sabitliyini-bir-daha-numayis-etdirdi/>

## Pavel Andreyev (Павел Андреев)

Country	Observing mission	Affiliation
Russian Federation	Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) <sup>169</sup>	Russian Central Election Commission <sup>226</sup>

Pavel Andreyev is a member of the Russian Central Election Commission<sup>226</sup>, however he observed Azerbaijan's September 2024 snap parliamentary election as a member of<sup>169</sup> the CIS mission. A picture featuring Pavel Andreyev is available in the source linked in footnote<sup>169</sup>.

## Maxim Leskov (Максим Лесков)

Country	Observing mission	Affiliation
Russian Federation	Russian Foundation for Free Elections <sup>227</sup> within the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) mission	Russian Foundation for Free Elections <sup>227</sup> Russian Central Election Commission <sup>227</sup>

Maxim Leskov is a former intelligence officer specializing in social engineering and runs the Russian Foundation for Free Elections<sup>227</sup>. This is not an autonomous organization but a GONGO: a government-organized non-governmental organization. The Russian Foundation for Free Elections was created and is directly controlled<sup>227</sup> by the Central Electoral Commission, headed by Ella Panfilova. Leskov is also an expert for IPA-CIS<sup>227</sup>. Leskov's Russian Foundation for Free Elections legitimizes the rigged electoral system in Russia by pretending it is free, organizing knowledge competitions for the youth, and other propaganda activities. Leskov came to Baku for Azerbaijan's September 2024 snap parliamentary election with a group of six other observers, young members of his organization. Pictures featuring Maxim Leskov are available in the sources linked in footnotes<sup>227,228</sup>.

226 Rusiya MSK-nın üzvü: Azərbaycanlı həmkarlar seçkilərdə konstruktiv əhvali-ruhiyyə yarada bildilər, Report İnformasiya Agentliyi, September 2 (2024), <https://report.az/daxili-siyaset/rf-msk-uzvu-azerbaycanli-hemkarlar-seckilerde-konstruktiv-ehval-ruhiyye-yarada-bildiler/>

227 Russian Foundation for Free Elections website, <https://rfsv.ru/page/o-fonde>

228 Russian Foundation for Free Elections on VK, [https://vk.com/wall-152199379\\_17414](https://vk.com/wall-152199379_17414)

## Lidiya Smirnova (Лидия Смирнова)

Country	Observing mission	Affiliation
Russian Federation	Russian Foundation for Free Elections within <sup>227</sup> the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) mission	Youth Electoral Commission of the Nizhny Novgorod Oblast <sup>229</sup> Russian Foundation for Free Elections

Lidia Smirnova from the Russian Foundation for Free Elections is the chairperson of the Youth Electoral Commission of the Nizhny Novgorod Oblast<sup>229</sup>. Pictures featuring Lidia Smirnova are available in the sources linked in footnotes<sup>230</sup>. Azerbaijani media outlets quoted Lidia Smirnova:



*“This is my first time in Azerbaijan as part of the observer mission. We have been at this 47th polling station since its opening. I want to say that the atmosphere is very friendly. We saw many voters, got acquainted with the features of your electoral system and the features of the voting procedure. I can say that all electoral rights of citizens are fully realized in accordance with the requirements of the law,” Smirnova noted.*<sup>230</sup>

*O qeyd edib ki, Şuşadakı 124 sayılı seçki dairəsinin 47 sayılı məntəqəsində səsvermə prosesində seçicilərin yüksək fəallığı müşahidə olunur: “İlk dəfədir ki, Azərbaycanda müşahidəçi missiyasının tərkibindəyəm. Bu məntəqədə atmosfer çox mehribandır. Biz çoxlu sayda seçici gördük, sizin seçki sisteminizin, səsvermə prosedurunun xüsusiyyətləri ilə tanış olduq. Deyə bilərəm ki, vətəndaşların bütün seçki hüquqları qanunun tələblərinə uyğun olaraq tam şəkildə həyata keçirilir.”<sup>231</sup>*

229 Председатель молодежного избиркома Нижегородской области Лидия Смирнова получила спецприз ЦИК России на конкурсе «Учимся выбирать», Государственный интернет-канал Россия, April 11 (2023), <https://vestinn.ru/news/society/216439/>

230 CIS observers: All electoral rights of Azerbaijani citizens fully realized, Report İnformasiya Agentliyi, September 1 (2024), <https://report.az/en/domestic-politics/cis-observers-all-electoral-rights-of-azerbaijani-citizens-fully-realized/>

231 MDB-dən olan müşahidəçilər: Azərbaycan vətəndaşlarının bütün seçki hüquqları tam şəkildə həyata keçirilir, Report İnformasiya Agentliyi, September 1 (2024), <https://report.az/daxili-siya-set/mdb-den-olan-musahideciler-azerbaycan-vetendaslarinin-butun-secki-huquqlari-tam-sekilde-heyata-kecirilir/>

## Maryam Fayzullina (Марьям Файзуллина)

Country	Observing mission	Affiliation
Russian Federation	Russian Foundation for Free Elections within <sup>227</sup> the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) mission	Youth Electoral Commission of the city of Cherepovets <sup>232</sup> Russian Foundation for Free Elections <sup>232</sup>

Maryam Fayzullina is the chairperson<sup>232</sup> of the Youth Electoral Commission of the city of Cherepovets. In the Russian Foundation for Free Elections, where she observed Azerbaijan's September 2024 snap parliamentary election, Maryam Fayzullina organized a knowledge competition on electoral law and the electoral system "Pro Elections"<sup>233</sup>. She is listed<sup>232</sup> as the leader of the Volunteer Corps of the Russian Foundation for Free Elections. Pictures and a video featuring Maryam Fayzullina are available in the sources linked in footnotes<sup>228, 231, 232, 233, 234</sup>. Azerbaijani media outlets quoted Maryam Fayzullina:

*Maryam Fayzulina, an observer from the CIS mission, in turn, said that voting is proceeding as usual at the polling station she observed. "I am an observer from the CIS. Voting is proceeding as usual. All conditions for citizens to vote have been created at the polling station," she added.*<sup>230</sup>

MDB-dən olan missiyasının müşahidəçisi Məryəm Fayzulina da öz növbəsində bildirib ki, müşahidə olunan məntəqədə səsvermə müəyyən olunmuş qaydada keçirilir: "Mən MDB-dən müşahidəçiyəm. Səsvermə müəyyən olunmuş qaydada keçirilir. Məntəqədə vətəndaşların səs verməsi üçün hər cür şərait yaradılıb."<sup>231</sup>

<sup>232</sup> Председатель Молодежной избирательной комиссии города Череповца Вологодской области Марьям Файзуллина стала новым лидером Корпуса добровольцев РФСВ, Russian Foundation for Free Elections, September 10 (2024), <https://rfsv.ru/practice/korpus-dobrovoltsev-rfsv/predsedatel-molodezhnoi-izbiratelnoi-komissii-goroda-cherepovtsa-vologodskoi-oblasti-mariyam-fayzullina-stala-novym-liderom-korpusa-dobrovoltsev-rfsv>

<sup>233</sup> Марьям Файзуллина: «Мы выбираем, как нам жить!», mikf.ru, March 28 (2024) <https://mikrf.ru/news/1998/maryam-fayzullina-my-vybiraem-kak-nam-zhit->

<sup>234</sup> Russian Foundation for Free Elections on VK, [https://vk.com/wall-152199379\\_17407](https://vk.com/wall-152199379_17407)

## Maxim Voronin (Максим Воронин)

Country	Observing mission	Affiliation
Russian Federation	Russian Foundation for Free Elections within <sup>227</sup> the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) mission	Union of Youth Electoral Commissions of Russia <sup>235</sup> Youth Electoral Commission of St. Petersburg <sup>236</sup> Russian Foundation for Free Elections

Maxim Voronin from the Russian Foundation for Free Elections is the chairperson of the Youth Electoral Commission of St. Petersburg<sup>235</sup> and the chairperson of the Union of Youth Electoral Commissions of Russia<sup>236</sup>. Pictures featuring Maxim Voronin are available in the sources linked in footnotes<sup>236,237,238,239,241</sup>.

## Maya Bogdanova (Майя Богданова)

Country	Observing mission	Affiliation
Russian Federation	Russian Foundation for Free Elections within <sup>227</sup> the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) mission	Russian Foundation for Free Elections

Maya Bogdanova is an expert<sup>240</sup> of the Russian Foundation for Free Elections. Pictures featuring Maya Bogdanova are available in the sources linked in footnotes<sup>240,241</sup>.

235 Молодежная избирательная комиссия Петербурга выбрала первого среди равных, [spbnevnik.ru](https://spbnevnik.ru/news/2023-02-15/molodezhnaya-izbiratel'naya-komissiya-peterburga-vybrala-pervogo-sredi-ravnyh), February 15 (2023), <https://spbnevnik.ru/news/2023-02-15/molodezhnaya-izbiratel'naya-komissiya-peterburga-vybrala-pervogo-sredi-ravnyh>

236 Russian Foundation for Free Elections on VK, [https://vk.com/video-152199379\\_456240096](https://vk.com/video-152199379_456240096)

237 Russian Foundation for Free Elections on VK, [https://vk.com/wall-152199379\\_17388?z=photo-152199379\\_457251754%2Falbum-152199379\\_00%2Frev](https://vk.com/wall-152199379_17388?z=photo-152199379_457251754%2Falbum-152199379_00%2Frev)

238 Russian Foundation for Free Elections on VK, [https://vk.com/wall-152199379\\_17423](https://vk.com/wall-152199379_17423)

239 Санкт-Петербургская избирательная комиссия on Telegram, October 7 (2024), <https://t.me/izbircomspb/2432>

240 Определен состав жюри Четвертого Всероссийского конкурса «Учимся выбирать», Russian Foundation for Free Elections, <https://rfsv.ru/practice/proekty-programmy-anonsy/opredelen-sostav-zhiuri-chetvertogo-vsereossiiskogo-konkursa-uchimsia-vybirat>

241 Russian Foundation for Free Elections on VK, [https://vk.com/wall-152199379\\_17388?z=photo-152199379\\_457251753%2Falbum-152199379\\_00%2Frev](https://vk.com/wall-152199379_17388?z=photo-152199379_457251753%2Falbum-152199379_00%2Frev)

## Veronika Fatkhutdinova (Вероника Фатхутдинова)

Country	Observing mission	Affiliation
Russian Federation	Russian Foundation for Free Elections within <sup>227</sup> the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) mission	Youth Parliament of the Tomsk Oblast <sup>243</sup> Russian Foundation for Free Elections

Veronika Fatkhutdinova is the coordinator of the All-Russian competition “My Media Elections – 2024” at the Russian Foundation for Free Elections<sup>242</sup>. She has been a member of the Youth Parliament of the Tomsk Oblast<sup>243</sup> since 2013. Pictures and a video featuring Veronika Fatkhutdinova are available in the sources linked in footnotes<sup>238,244,245</sup>.

## Azat Usmanov (Азат Усманов)

Country	Observing mission	Affiliation
Russian Federation	Russian Foundation for Free Elections within <sup>227</sup> the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) mission	Russian Foundation for Free Elections <sup>227</sup>

During the presidential election in Russia in March 2014, Azat Usmanov worked at the information center of the Central Election Commission<sup>246</sup>. As an urbanist and researcher of urban spaces, he used to be a city activist in his hometown of Ulyanovsk, demanding more green spaces<sup>246</sup>. It is unclear if he has a full-time role at the Russian Foundation for Free Elections. Pictures and a video featuring Azat Usmanov are available in the sources linked in footnotes<sup>238,244,247</sup>.

242 Конкурс «Мои медиавыборы – 2024» в вопросах и ответах, Russian Foundation for Free Elections, <https://rfsv.ru/breaking-news/konkurs-moi-mediavybory-2024-v-voprosakh-i-otvetakh>

243 Фатхутдинова Вероника Зуфаровна, Официальный Сайт Законодательной Думы Томской Области, <http://old.duma.tomsk.ru/page/25593/>

244 Russian Foundation for Free Elections on VK, [https://vk.com/wall-152199379\\_17388](https://vk.com/wall-152199379_17388)

245 Вероника Фатхутдинова о социально ориентированных конкурсах РФСВ, Russian Foundation for Free Elections, May 22 (2024), <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=elfaZlDB2UU>

246 История ульяновского урбаниста, приучившего чиновников к работе над ошибками, Говорит НеМосква, August 2 (2024), <https://nemoskva.net/2024/08/02/azat-zelenyj-kvad-rat-istoriya-ulyanovskogo-urbanista-priuchivshego-chinovnikov-k-rabote-nad-oshibkami/>

247 Russian Foundation for Free Elections on VK, [https://vk.com/wall-152199379\\_17412](https://vk.com/wall-152199379_17412)



## Alexander Orlov (Александр Орлов)

Country	Observing mission	Affiliation
Russian Federation	Independent <sup>188</sup>	Moscow Regional Duma <sup>248</sup>

Alexander Orlov observed Azerbaijan's September 2024 snap parliamentary election without an affiliation to an organized mission<sup>188</sup>. Alexander Orlov is a local politician who serves as the first deputy chairperson of the Moscow Regional Duma Committee on Ecology, Nature Management, and Property Relations<sup>248</sup>. A picture featuring Alexander Orlov is available in the source linked in footnote<sup>248</sup>.

## Igor Khalin (Игорь Халин)

Country	Observing mission	Affiliation
Russian Federation	Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) <sup>249</sup>	Election Commission of the Tyumen region <sup>249</sup>

Igor Khalin serves<sup>249</sup> as chairperson of the Electoral Commission of the Tyumen region of the Russian Federation. He claimed to be<sup>249</sup> a member of the CIS Observing mission. A video featuring Igor Khalin is available in the source linked in footnote<sup>249</sup>.

## Zaur Askenderov (Заур Аскендеров)

Country	Observing mission	Affiliation
Russian Federation	People's Assembly of Dagestan <sup>250</sup>	People's Assembly of Dagestan <sup>250</sup>

248 Александр Орлов: мы поздравляем граждан Азербайджана с успешными выборами Милли Меджлиса, Vestnik Kavkaza, September 2 (2024), <https://vestnikavkaza.ru/news/aleksandr-orlov-my-pozdravlaem-grazhdan-azerbajdzana-s-uspesnymi-vyborami-milli-medzliisa.html>

249 Веунәлхалқ мұһабәдәсі Іғор Халин: Сәңки мәнтәқәләри чох дәқиқ вә мütәшәккил ишләйир, Azerbaijan State News Agency, September 1 (2024), <https://video.azertag.az/video/222810>

Zaur Askenderov is the chairperson<sup>250</sup> of the People's Assembly of Dagestan, a North Caucasus republic of Russia bordering Azerbaijan and similar in size. He led an observation mission to Azerbaijan on behalf of the Assembly. Zaur Askenderov is subject to sanctions related to the war on Ukraine<sup>251</sup>. Pictures featuring Zaur Askenderov are available in the source linked in footnote<sup>250</sup>.

## Nyusret Omarov (Нюсрет Омаров)

Country	Observing mission	Affiliation
Russian Federation	People's Assembly of Dagestan <sup>250</sup>	People's Assembly of Dagestan <sup>250</sup>

Nyusret Omarov is the authorized representative of the head of the Republic of Dagestan Sergey Melikov<sup>252</sup> in the People's Assembly of Dagestan<sup>250</sup>. Pictures featuring Nyusret Omarov are available in the source linked in footnote<sup>250</sup>.

## Kamil Davdiyev (Камил Давдиев)

Country	Observing mission	Affiliation
Russian Federation	People's Assembly of Dagestan <sup>250</sup>	People's Assembly of Dagestan <sup>250</sup>

Kamil Davdiyev is the deputy chairperson of the People's Assembly of Dagestan<sup>250</sup>. Pictures featuring Kamil Davdiyev are available in the sources linked in footnotes<sup>250,253</sup>.

250 Заур Аскендеров высоко оценил организацию выборов в Азербайджане, РИА Дагестан, [https://riadagestan.ru/news/the\\_people\\_s\\_assembly/zaur\\_askenderov\\_vysoko\\_otseuil\\_organizatsiyu\\_vyborov\\_v\\_azerbaydzhanе/](https://riadagestan.ru/news/the_people_s_assembly/zaur_askenderov_vysoko_otseuil_organizatsiyu_vyborov_v_azerbaydzhanе/)

251 Askenderov Zaur Aseovich, OpenSanctions, <https://www.opensanctions.org/entities/Q21091702/>

252 Putin appoints General Melikov head of Dagestan, Mediamax.am, October 6 (2020), <https://mediamax.am/en/news/foreignpolicy/39915/>

253 «Террористические акты, совершенные в Махачкале и Дербенте, направлены против нашей республики, против всех дагестанцев», РИА Дагестан, [https://riadagestan.ru/news/the\\_people\\_s\\_assembly/kamil\\_davdiyev\\_terroristicheskie\\_aktivy\\_sovershennyye\\_v\\_makhachkale\\_i\\_derbente\\_napravleny\\_protiv\\_nashey\\_respubliki\\_protiv\\_vsekh\\_dagestantsev/](https://riadagestan.ru/news/the_people_s_assembly/kamil_davdiyev_terroristicheskie_aktivy_sovershennyye_v_makhachkale_i_derbente_napravleny_protiv_nashey_respubliki_protiv_vsekh_dagestantsev/)

## Firudin Radzhabov (Фирудин Раджабов)

Country	Observing mission	Affiliation
Russian Federation	People's Assembly of Dagestan <sup>250</sup>	People's Assembly of Dagestan <sup>250</sup>

Firudin Radzhabov is the chairperson of the People's Assembly of Dagestan Committee on National Policy, Public and Religious Associations, and Interparliamentary Relations<sup>250</sup>. A picture featuring Firudin Radzhabov is available in the source linked in footnote<sup>254</sup>. Azerbaijani media outlets quoted Firudin Radzhabov:



*He said that the election process was perfectly organized everywhere: "Everything is in order. A very normal election is taking place. Local observers report that there are no violations. Everyone votes for the candidate they want."<sup>254</sup>*

*O, hər yerdə seçki prosesinin mükəmməl təşkil edildiyini deyib: "Hər şey qaydasındadır. Çox normal seçki keçir. Yerli müşahidəçilər də hər hansı qayda pozuntusu olmadığını bildirirlər. Hər kəs istədiyi namizədə səs verir."<sup>254</sup>*

## Pakistan

### Sikandar Sultan Raja

Country	Observing mission	Affiliation
Pakistan	n/a	Pakistan Electoral Commission <sup>255</sup>

Sikandar Sultan Raja is the chairperson of Pakistan's Electoral Commission<sup>255</sup>. A video featuring Sikandar Sultan Raja is available in the source linked in footnote<sup>95</sup>.

254 MDB PA müşahidəçisi: Seçki prosesi mükəmməl təşkil edilib, Azeri-Press Agency (APA), September 1 (2024), <https://apa.az/secki-2024/mdb-pa-musahidecisi-secki-prosesi-mukemmel-teskil-edilib-863420>

255 Pakistani Election Commission delegation visits Azerbaijan's Central Election Commission, Azerbaijan State News Agency, August 30 (2024), [https://azertag.az/en/xeber/pakistani-election\\_commission\\_delegation\\_visits\\_azerbaijans\\_central\\_election\\_commission-3156306?utm\\_source=dlyr:it&utm\\_medium=twitter](https://azertag.az/en/xeber/pakistani-election_commission_delegation_visits_azerbaijans_central_election_commission-3156306?utm_source=dlyr:it&utm_medium=twitter)

## Sitara Ayaz

Country	Observing mission	Affiliation	Earlier election
Pakistan	International Parliamentarians Congress (IPC) <sup>31</sup>	Awami National Party <sup>256</sup>	Russia's February 2024 presidential election <sup>257</sup>

Sitara Ayaz observed Azerbaijan's September 2024 snap parliamentary election as a member of<sup>31</sup> the mission of the IPC, where she serves as secretary general. Sitara Ayaz is a member of<sup>256</sup> the Awami National Party in Pakistan and has been a member of the Senate of Pakistan<sup>256</sup> from March 2015 to March 2021, representing the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province<sup>256</sup>. While other representatives of the IPC observed and praised Azerbaijan's February 2024 snap presidential election<sup>260</sup>, Sitara Ayaz herself observed<sup>257</sup> the presidential election in Russia in March 2024. Pictures featuring Sitara Ayaz are available in the sources linked in footnotes<sup>30,31,257</sup>. Azerbaijani media outlets quoted Sitara Ayaz:

*Azerbaijan has demonstrated its commitment to democratic principles and institutions, the Secretary General of the International Parliamentarians Congress (IPC) Sitara Ayaz said, commenting on the snap parliamentary elections in Azerbaijan, Report informs.<sup>258</sup>*

*Azərbaycan demokratik prinsiplərə və təsisatlara sadiqliyini nümayiş etdirib. „Report“ xəbər verir ki, bunu Beynəlxalq Parlamentarilər Konqresinin (International Parliamentarians Congress, IPC) baş katibi Sitara Ayaz Azərbaycanda keçirilən növbədənənar parlament seçkilərini şərh edərkən deyib.<sup>259</sup>*

256 Sitara Ayaz, Senate of Pakistan, <https://www.senate.gov.pk/en/profile.php?uid=867&-catid=261&subcatid=2&cattitle=Members%20of%20Senate>

257 International Parliamentarians Congress (IPC) Observes Russian Presidential Elections 2024, International Parliamentarians Congress, March 2024, <https://ipcongress.org/international-parliamentarians-congress-ipc-observes-russian-presidential-elections-2024/#>

258 IPC: Azerbaijan demonstrated commitment to democratic principles, Report İnformasiya Agentliyi, September 1 (2024), <https://report.az/en/domestic-politics/ipc-azerbaijan-demonstrated-commitment-to-democratic-principles/>

259 IPC-nin baş katibi: Azərbaycan demokratik prinsiplərə sadiqliyini nümayiş etdirib, Report İnformasiya Agentliyi, September 1 (2024), <https://report.az/daxili-siyaset/ipc-nin-bas-katibi-azerbaycan-demokratik-prinsiplere-sadiqliyini-numayis-etdirib/>



*“We visited about ten polling stations, and we would like to note the good preparation and complete transparency of the elections,” she said.<sup>258</sup>*

*“Biz ona yaxın seçki məntəqəsində olduq və seçkilərə yaxşı hazırlıq səviyyəsini və tam şəffaflığı qeyd etmək istəyirik”, – o bildirib.<sup>259</sup>*

*“We observed the activity of Baku residents during the voting process,” the Secretary General said, noting that the elections were held without any coercion or pressure. Candidates from all parties were transparently represented at the elections.<sup>33</sup>*

*«Мы наблюдали активность бакинцев в процессе голосования», – сказала генеральный секретарь, отметив, что выборы прошли без какого-либо принуждения и давления. На выборах были прозрачно представлены кандидаты от всех партий.<sup>33</sup>*

*“Democratic parliamentarians will continue to support fair and transparent electoral processes around the world. We will continue to expand our cooperative relations with Azerbaijan.”<sup>33</sup>*

*«Парламентарии-демократы будут продолжать поддерживать справедливые и прозрачные избирательные процессы во всем мире. Мы продолжим расширять отношения сотрудничества с Азербайджаном»<sup>33</sup>*

## Mehk Butt

Country	Observing mission	Affiliation	Earlier election
Pakistan	International Parliamentarians Congress (IPC) <sup>31</sup>	IPC <sup>31</sup>	Azerbaijan’s February 2024 snap presidential election <sup>260</sup>

Mehk Butt observed Azerbaijan’s September 2024 snap parliamentary election as a member of<sup>31</sup> the mission of the IPC, in which she serves as communication manager<sup>260</sup>. Previously, Mehk Butt was in a group of IPC observers during Azerbaijan’s February 2024 snap presidential election<sup>260</sup>. Pictures featuring Mehk Butt are available in the sources linked in footnotes<sup>30,31,260</sup>.

<sup>260</sup> International Parliamentarians Congress (IPC) Election Observation Mission to Azerbaijan: February 2024, International Parliamentarians Congress, <https://ipcongress.org/international-parliamentarians-congress-ipc-election-observation-mission-to-azerbaijan-february-2024/>

## Malik Fida Hussain

Country	Observing mission	Affiliation
Pakistan	International Parliamentarians Congress (IPC) <sup>31</sup>	IPC <sup>31</sup>

Malik Fida Hussain observed Azerbaijan's September 2024 snap parliamentary election as a member of<sup>31</sup> the mission of the IPC. On IPC's website<sup>261</sup>, Malik Fida Hussain is listed as a Special Advisor at the Global Think Tank on Climate Change and SDGs. Pictures featuring Malik Fida Hussain are available in the sources linked in footnotes<sup>30,31,262</sup>. Azerbaijani media outlets quoted Malik Fida Hussain:

*Malik Fida Hussain, an observer from Pakistan, noted the good level of preparation and organization in polling stations and in the voting process in general during the extraordinary parliamentary elections held in Azerbaijan [...] The observer noted that the polling stations have all the necessary infrastructure, voters did not experience any problems in voting. "Special conditions were created for people with disabilities in several polling stations I observed," he noted.<sup>262</sup>*

*Pakistandan olan müşahidəçi Malik Fida Hüseyn Azərbaycanda keçirilən növbədənənar parlament seçkiləri zamanı seçki məntəqələrində və ümumilikdə səsvermə prosesində hazırlıq və təşkilatçılığın yaxşı səviyyədə olduğunu qeyd edib [...] Müşahidəçi seçki məntəqələrində bütün lazımi infrastrukturun olduğunu, seçicilərin səsvermədə heç bir problem yaşamadığını qeyd edib. "Müşahidə apardığım bir neçə seçki məntəqəsində əlilliyi olan şəxslər üçün xüsusi şərait yaradılmışdı", – o qeyd edib.<sup>262</sup>*

## Khan Jam Saifullah

Country	Observing mission	Affiliation
Pakistan	n/a	Senate of Pakistan <sup>263</sup>

261 Team IPC, International Parliamentarians Congress, <https://ipcongress.org/ipc-team/#>

262 Pakistanlı müşahidəçi: Azərbaycanda seçicilər üçün bütün lazımi şərait yaradılıb, Report İnformasiya Agentliyi, September 2 (2024), <https://report.az/daxili-siyaset/pakistanli-musahideci-azerbaycanda-secciciler-ucun-butun-lazimi-serait-yaradilib/>

Khan Jam Saifullah observed Azerbaijan's September 2024 snap parliamentary election as a member of the Senate of Pakistan<sup>263</sup>. A picture featuring Khan Jam Saifullah is available in the source linked in footnote<sup>263</sup>. Azerbaijani media outlets quoted Khan Jam Saifullah:



*"We came here from Pakistan as friends of Azerbaijan to observe the elections. Until now, we have observed that the elections were very free and fair. We will go to other polling stations and observe the election process there. In general, everything is in order."*<sup>263</sup>

*"Seçkiləri müşahidə etmək məqsədilə Pakistandan buraya Azərbaycanın dostları kimi gəlmişik. Bu dəqiqələrə qədər, biz seçkilərin çox azad və qərəzsiz keçdiyini müşahidə etdik. Başqa məntəqələrə gedib oradakı seçki prosesini də müşahidə edəcəyik. Ümumilikdə hər şey qaydasındadır."*<sup>263</sup>

## Afnan Ullah Khan

Country	Observing mission	Affiliation
Pakistan	Senate of Pakistan <sup>264</sup>	Senate of Pakistan <sup>264</sup>

Afnan Ullah Khan observed Azerbaijan's September 2024 snap parliamentary election as a member of the Senate of Pakistan<sup>264</sup>. A picture featuring Afnan Ullah Khan is available in the source linked in footnote<sup>264</sup>. Azerbaijani media outlets quoted Afnan Ullah Khan:

<sup>263</sup> Pakistan Senatının üzvü: Seçkilərin azad və qərəzsiz keçdiyini müşahidə edirik, Azerbaijan State News Agency, September 1 (2024), [https://azertag.az/xeber/pakistan\\_senatinin\\_uzvu\\_sechkilere\\_in\\_azad\\_ve\\_qerezsiz\\_kechdiyini\\_musahide\\_edirik-3158494](https://azertag.az/xeber/pakistan_senatinin_uzvu_sechkilere_in_azad_ve_qerezsiz_kechdiyini_musahide_edirik-3158494)

<sup>264</sup> İnsanların sərbəst səs verdiyinin şahidi olduq, Azeri-Press Agency (APA), September 2 (2024), <https://apa.az/secki-2024/pakistan-senatinin-uzvu-insanlarin-serbest-ses-verdiyinin-sahidi-olduq-863539>

“We visited 3 polling stations. We analyzed the whole process until the end. We witnessed that people voted freely. It is very important that the people of Azerbaijan participate more actively in the election process. The election process is well organized. At the same time, we will have a small recommendation. It would be very good to have representatives of political parties and candidates in the stations.”<sup>264</sup>

“3 seçki məntəqəsində olduq. Bütün prosesi sonadək təhlil etdik. İnsanların sərbəst səs verdiyinin şahidi olduq. Azərbaycan xalqının seçki prosesində daha fəal iştirak etməsi çox vacibdir. Seçki prosesi yaxşı təşkil edilmişdi. Eyni zamanda, kiçik bir tövsiyəmiz də olacaq. Siyasi partiya və namizədlərin məntəqələrdə nümayəndələrinin olması çox yaxşı olardı.”<sup>264</sup>

## Syed Waseem Hussain

Country	Observing mission	Affiliation
Pakistan	Economic Cooperation Organization Parliamentary Assembly (PAECO) <sup>265</sup>	PAECO <sup>265</sup>

Syed Waseem Hussain observed Azerbaijan's September 2024 snap parliamentary election as a member of<sup>265</sup> the mission of the PAECO. A picture featuring Syed Waseem Hussain is available in the source linked in footnote<sup>265</sup>.

## Iran

### Ali Asghar Muhammadi Sijani

Country	Observing mission	Affiliation	Earlier election
Iran	Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) <sup>266</sup>	OIC <sup>266</sup> Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran <sup>268</sup>	Azerbaijan's February 2024 snap presidential election <sup>267</sup>

<sup>265</sup> Член ПАОЭС: Выборы проходят очень справедливо, Media.az, September 1 (2024), <https://media.az/politika/chlen-paoes-vybory-prohodyat-ochen-spravedlivo>



Ali Asghar Muhammadi Sijanij observed Azerbaijan's September 2024 snap parliamentary election as a member of<sup>266</sup> the delegation of the OIC. Earlier, Ali Asghar Muhammadi Sijanij headed the observation mission of the OIC during Azerbaijan's February 2024 presidential election<sup>267</sup>. In 2008, Ali Asghar Muhammadi Sijanij became deputy secretary general<sup>268</sup> of the OIC Member States Parliamentary Union. Before that, he was an important figure at the Iranian Ministry of Foreign Affairs<sup>268</sup>:

- 1982-1984: chargé d'affaires of the Iranian Embassy in Jeddah
- 1985-1986: acting consul general of the Iranian Consulate in Jeddah and representative of Iran in the OIC;
- 1987-1988: chargé d'affaires of the Iranian Embassy in Beirut (during the Lebanese Civil War);
- 1990-1991: director of the Department of North Africa at the Iranian Ministry of Foreign Affairs;
- 1991-1996: head of the Iranian Interest Section in Cairo;
- 1996-1999: director of the Department of Persian Gulf at the Iranian Ministry of Foreign Affairs;
- 2000-2005: researcher of the Iranian Institute for Political and International Studies (IPIS) in Tehran;
- 2005-2008: director General of ME & North Africa's Department at the Iranian Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Pictures featuring Ali Asghar Muhammadi Sijanij are available in the sources linked in footnotes<sup>266,269</sup>. Azerbaijani media outlets quoted Ali Asghar Muhammadi Sijanij:

266 OIC official commends Azerbaijan's transparent snap parliamentary elections, Report İnformasiya Agentliyi, September 2 (2024), <https://report.az/en/domestic-politics/oic-official-commends-azerbaijan-s-transparent-snap-parliamentary-elections/>

267 Presidential election becomes great democratic holiday for Azerbaijan, Trend News Agency, February 8 (2024), <https://en.trend.az/azerbaijan/politics/3859419.html>

268 Deputy Secretary General, Parliamentary Union of the OIC Member States, <https://en.puic.org/news/678>

269 İƏT Pİ Baş katibinin müavini: Seçkilər çox şəffaf keçirildi, September 1 (2024), <https://apa.az/secki-2024/jet-pi-bas-katibinin-muavini-seckiler-cox-seffaf-kecirildi-863554>

“*[Ali Asghar Muhammadi Sijani] emphasized that the election was very transparent, and they did not observe any negative situation: “This is a great democracy, so I congratulate the people of Azerbaijan.” The Deputy General Secretary of the OIC PI also said that the persons performing the control function at the polling stations worked very responsibly: “All the rights of the people were ensured.” He said that Islamic morality was followed in the elections.*<sup>269</sup>

*There was no problem. A very transparent and regulated election process took place. AZERTAC reports that this statement was made by Ali Asgar Mohammad Sijani, Deputy Secretary General of the Parliamentary Union of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation.*<sup>270</sup>

*“Also, the election supervisors in the precincts conducted their work very neatly. Ballot boxes were transparent. I congratulate the people of Azerbaijan on the successful and transparent election process. This is an important step for a great democracy”, said Ali Asgar Mohammad Sijani.*<sup>270</sup>

*[Ali Asghar Muhammadi Sijani], seçkinin çox şəffaf keçdiyini və heç bir neqativ hal müşahidə etmədiklərini vurğulayıb: “Bu, böyük demokratiyadır, buna görə Azərbaycan xalqını təbrik edirəm”. İOT PI Baş katibinin müavini onu da bildirib ki, seçki məntəqələrində nəzarət funksiyası yerinə yetirən şəxslər çox məsuliyyətlə çalışıblar: „İnsanların bütün hüquqları təmin edilirdi”. O, seçkilərdə həm də islam əxlaqına riayət edildiyini bildirib.*<sup>269</sup>

*Heç bir problem yox idi. Çox şəffaf və tənzimlənmiş bir seçki prosesi keçdi. AZƏRTAC xəbər verir ki, bu barədə İslam Əməkdaşlıq Təşkilatı Parlament İttifaqının Baş katibinin müavini Əli Əsgər Məhəmməd Sijani deyib.*<sup>270</sup>

*“Həmçinin məntəqələrdə seçki nəzarətçiləri işlərini çox səliqəli aparırdılar. Səsvermə qutuları şəffaf idi. Azərbaycan xalqını uğurlu və şəffaf seçkilər prosesi münasibətilə təbrik edirəm. Bu, böyük demokratiya üçün önəmli addımdır”, - deyə Əli Əsgər Məhəmməd Sijani bildirib.*<sup>270</sup>

270 İslam Əməkdaşlıq Təşkilatı Parlament İttifaqı Azərbaycanda keçirilən seçkiləri şəffaf və tənzimlənmiş adlandırıb, Azerbaijan State News Agency, September 2 (2024), [https://azertag.az/xeber/islam\\_emekdasliq\\_teskilati\\_parlament\\_ittifaqi\\_azerbaycanda\\_kechirilen\\_sechkileri\\_seffaf\\_ve\\_tenzimlenmis\\_adlandirib-3160050](https://azertag.az/xeber/islam_emekdasliq_teskilati_parlament_ittifaqi_azerbaycanda_kechirilen_sechkileri_seffaf_ve_tenzimlenmis_adlandirib-3160050)

## Mohammad Reza Majidi

Country	Observing mission	Affiliation	Earlier election
Iran <sup>271</sup>	Asian Parliamentary Assembly (APA) <sup>120</sup>	APA <sup>271</sup>	Azerbaijan's February 2024 snap presidential election <sup>273</sup>

Mohammad Reza Majidi from Iran is the secretary general of the APA, headquartered in Teheran<sup>271</sup>, while the chairperson of the executive council is Abdulkadir Emin Önen from Turkey. They have formed their own observation mission for the September 2024 snap parliamentary election<sup>120</sup>. Mohammad Reza Majidi had already observed Azerbaijan's February 2024 snap presidential election, also as the head of an APA mission formed with Turkish politicians<sup>273</sup>. Pictures featuring Mohammad Reza Majidi are available in the sources linked in footnotes<sup>272,273,274</sup>. Azerbaijani media outlets quoted Mohammad Reza Majidi:



*Mohammad Reza Majidi also added that the Central Election Commission had taken all measures to ensure transparency and ensure the security of ballot papers: "September 1 parliamentary elections demonstrated progress in the electoral process."<sup>272</sup>*

*Məhəmməd Rza Məcidi həmçinin əlavə edib ki, Mərkəzi Seçki Komissiyası şəffaflığı təmin etmək və seçki bülletenlərinin təhlükəsizliyini təmin etmək üçün bütün tədbirləri görmüşdü: "1 sentyabr parlament seçkiləri seçki prosesində irəliləyiş olduğunu nümayiş etdirdi."<sup>272</sup>*

271 Asian Parliamentary Assembly, <https://www.asianparliament.org/>

272 Seçki prosesi zamanı seçici fəallığını müşahidə etdik, Azeri-Press Agency (APA), September 2 (2024), <https://apa.az/secki-2024/asiya-parlament-assambleyasinin-bas-katibi-secki-prosesi-zamani-seccici-fealligini-musahide-etdik-863552>

273 Secretary General of APA congratulates Azerbaijan on successful presidential election, Trend News Agency, February 8 (2024), <https://en.trend.az/azerbaijan/politics/3859333.html>

274 I believe that our cooperation with Azerbaijan would be continuous, says Mohammad Reza Majidi, Azerbaijan State News Agency, February 21 (2024), <https://azertag.az/en/xeber/i-believe-that-our-cooperation-with-azerbaijan-would-be-continuous-says-mohammad-reza-majidi-2929883>

“*[Mohammad Reza Majidi] said that the purpose of observing the elections was to monitor the impartial, free and democratic principles of the process. All conditions were created for the full implementation of the voting process.*<sup>121</sup>

*“During the election process, we observed voter activity in the polling stations. When we visited various polling stations, we witnessed voters coming to the polling stations regularly and casting their votes. CEC has taken necessary measures to ensure transparency and protect the confidentiality of ballots. These parliamentary elections showed how much the electoral process has developed in Azerbaijan,” the Secretary General pointed out.*<sup>121</sup>

*[Mohammad Reza Majidi] bildirib ki, seçkiləri müşahidə etməkdə məqsəd prosesin qərəzsiz, azad və demokratik prinsiplərə uyğun keçirilməsini izləməkdən ibarət idi. Səsvermə prosesinin tam şəkildə həyata keçirilməsi üçün bütün şərait yaradılmışdı.*<sup>121</sup>

*“Seçki prosesi zamanı məntəqələrdə seçici fəallığını müşahidə etdik. Müxtəlif seçki məntəqələrini ziyarət etdiyimiz zaman seçicilərin məntəqələrə nizamlı şəkildə gələrək səs verməsinin şahidi olduq. MSK şəffaflığı təmin etmək və seçki bülletenlərinin məxfiliyini qorumaq üçün lazımi tədbirləri görmüşdü. Bu parlament seçkiləri Azərbaycanda seçki prosesinin nə qədər inkişaf etdiyini göstərdi”, - deyə Baş katib diqqətə çatdırıb.*<sup>121</sup>

## Maldives

### Ali Nashaath

Country	Observing mission	Affiliation
Maldives	Election Commission of the Republic of Maldives <sup>275</sup>	Election Commission of the Republic of Maldives <sup>275</sup>

Ali Nashaath observed Azerbaijan's September 2024 snap parliamentary election as a member of the mission of the Election Commission of the Republic of Maldives, of which he is the vice chairperson<sup>275</sup>. Pictures

<sup>275</sup> Election Commission Members, Election Commission of the Republic of Maldives, <https://www.elections.gov.mv/en/members>

and a video featuring Ali Nashaath are available in the sources linked in footnotes<sup>95,276,277</sup>.

## Hassan Zakariyya

Country	Observing mission	Affiliation
Maldives	Election Commission of the Republic of Maldives <sup>275</sup>	Election Commission of the Republic of Maldives <sup>275</sup>

Hassan Zakariyya observed Azerbaijan's September 2024 snap parliamentary election as a member of the mission of the Election Commission of the Republic of Maldives, of which he is a member<sup>275</sup>. Pictures and a video featuring Hassan Zakariyya are available in the sources linked in footnotes<sup>95,277</sup>.

## Fiji

### Ioane Tupou Nawaikula

Country	Observing mission	Affiliation
Fiji	Non-Aligned Movement Youth Organization (NAMYO) <sup>278</sup>	n/a

Ioane Tupou Nawaikula from Fiji observed Azerbaijan's September 2024 snap parliamentary election as a member of<sup>278</sup> the monitoring mission of the NAMYO, which is headquartered<sup>279</sup> in Baku, Azerbaijan. A picture featuring Ioane Tupou Nawaikula is available in the source linked in footnote<sup>278</sup>.

276 Ali Nashath appointed as a member of Elections Commission, Raajje Television, November 16 (2023), <https://raajje.mv/145129>

277 Parliamentary committee reviews Nashaath for new ECM term, PSM News, May 29 (2023), <https://psmnews.mv/en/121635>

278 Fiji observer: Young people's votes vital in parliamentary elections, Report Informasiya Agentliyi, September 1 (2024), <https://report.az/en/domestic-politics/fiji-observer-young-people-s-votes-vital-in-parliamentary-elections/>

279 NAM Youth, Non-Aligned Movement Youth Organization, <https://namyouth.org/>

## Cambodia

### Sos Mousine

Country	Observing mission	Affiliation	Earlier election
Cambodia	ASEAN Inter Parliamentary Assembly (AIPA) <sup>281</sup>	Cambodian National Assembly <sup>280</sup>	Azerbaijan's February 2024 snap presidential election <sup>282,283</sup>

Sos Mousine is an MP of the Cambodian National Assembly<sup>280</sup> who observed Azerbaijan's September 2024 snap parliamentary election as a member of<sup>281</sup> the mission of the AIPA. We did not identify any other observers from this organization this time, but at least three (including Sos Mousine) had observed Azerbaijan's February 2024 snap presidential election<sup>282,283</sup>. Pictures featuring Sos Mousine are available in the sources linked in footnotes<sup>280,282,283</sup>.

Stating that the organization of the parliamentary elections was at a high level, S. Mousine said that they had met with many local and foreign observers: "People come one by one and take advantage of their rights, vote for the party and candidates they want and support. What we are observing is a clear example of democracy."<sup>280</sup>

Parlament seçkilərində təşkilatçılığın yüksək səviyyədə olduğunu bildirən S.Mauzin bir çox yerli və xarici müşahidəçilərlə görüşdüklerini deyib: "İnsanlar bir-bir gəlib öz hüquqlarından yararlanırlar, istədikləri, dəstəklədikləri, partiyaya, namizədlərə səslərini verirlər. Müşahidə etdiklərimiz demokratiyanın bariz nümunəsidir."<sup>280</sup>

280 Kamboca Milli Assambleyasının üzvü: Müşahidə etdiklərimiz demokratiyanın bariz nümunəsidir, Azerbaijan State News Agency, September 1, (2024), [https://azertag.az/xeber/kamboca\\_milli\\_asambleyasinin\\_uzvu\\_musahide\\_etdiklerimiz\\_demokratiyanin\\_bariz\\_numunesidir-3158682](https://azertag.az/xeber/kamboca_milli_asambleyasinin_uzvu_musahide_etdiklerimiz_demokratiyanin_bariz_numunesidir-3158682)

281 AIPA member: Ballots were counted and documented in accordance with international standards, Azerbaijan Press Agency APA, September 2 (2024), <https://en.apa.az/election-2024/aipa-member-ballots-were-counted-and-documented-in-accordance-with-international-standards-447047>

282 Azerbaijan's presidential poll ran smoothly with highest set-up, Trend News Agency, February 8 (2024), <https://en.trend.az/azerbaijan/politics/3859594.html>

283 Cambodian MP: No interference observed in election process, September 2 (2024), [https://azertag.az/en/xeber/cambodian\\_mp\\_no\\_interference\\_observed\\_in\\_election\\_process\\_vid-eo-2915041](https://azertag.az/en/xeber/cambodian_mp_no_interference_observed_in_election_process_vid-eo-2915041)

## Morocco

### Mohamed ElHejira

Country	Observing mission	Affiliation	Earlier election
Morocco	Moroccan Parliament <sup>284</sup>	Moroccan Parliament <sup>284</sup> Authenticité et Modernité <sup>285</sup>	Azerbaijan's February 2024 snap presidential election <sup>286</sup>

Mohamed ElHejira, a Moroccan MP, is the chairperson of the finance and control committee of the Moroccan Parliament<sup>284</sup> and is a member of<sup>285</sup> the Authenticité et Modernité party. Earlier, he had already<sup>286</sup> observed the February 2024 presidential election in Azerbaijan. Between June 29 and July 2, 2022, Mohamed ElHejira was in Baku to attend a meeting of the Parliamentary Network of the Non-Aligned Movement<sup>285</sup>. Pictures featuring Mohamed ElHejira are available in the sources linked in footnotes<sup>284,286</sup>. Azerbaijani media outlets quoted Mohamed ElHejira:



*“Conditions were created for each voter to vote secretly and transparently. These elections were held in accordance with international standards.”<sup>287</sup>*

*“Hər bir seçicinin gizli və sərbəst şəkildə səsverməsi üçün şərait yaradılmışdı. Bu seçkilər beynəlxalq meyarlara uyğun keçirilib.”<sup>284</sup>*

284 Mərakeş parlamentinin komitə sədri: Hər bir seçicinin şəffaf səs verməsi üçün şərait yaradılmışdı, Report İnformasiya Agentliyi, September 2 (2024), <https://report.az/xarici-siyaset/merakes-parlamentinin-komite-sedri-her-bir-seccinin-seffaf-ses-vermesi-ucun-serait-yaradilmisdi/>

285 Le Président de la Chambre des Représentants participe, à la tête d'une délégation parlementaire de haut niveau, aux travaux de la première conférence du Réseau parlementaire du Mouvement des non-alignés en Azerbaïdjan, Chambre des Représentants du Maroc, June 30 (2022), <https://www.chambredesrepresentants.ma/fr/actualites/le-president-de-la-chambre-des-representants-participe-la-tete-dune-delegation>

286 Hər hansı ciddi pozuntuya şahid olmadıq, Metbuat.az, February 2 (2024), <https://metbuat.az/news/1492021/her-hansi-ciddi-pozuntuya-sahid-olmadiq.html>

287 Moroccan MP: Conditions were created for each voter to vote transparently, Report İnformasiya Agentliyi, September 2 (2024), <https://report.az/en/foreign-politics/moroccan-mp-conditions-were-created-for-each-voter-to-vote-transparently/>

## Mohamed Sabbari

Country	Observing mission	Affiliation
Morocco	Moroccan Parliament <sup>284</sup>	Moroccan Parliament <sup>284</sup>

Mohamed Sabbari took part in the observation of Azerbaijan's September 2024 snap parliamentary election as a member of<sup>284</sup> the mission of the Moroccan Parliament, where he serves as the first deputy chairperson<sup>288</sup>. Pictures featuring Mohamed Sabbari are available in the sources linked in footnotes<sup>284,288</sup>. Azerbaijani media outlets quoted Mohamed Sabbari:

*All regulations, instructions, and rules were followed to ensure the successful conduct of the parliamentary elections in Azerbaijan, according to Mohamed Sabbari, the First Deputy Speaker of the House of Representatives of the Moroccan Parliament, Report informs. Sabbari stated that voter lists containing the names of all eligible voters were prominently displayed at polling stations.*<sup>289</sup>

*Milli Məclisə seçkilərin uğurlu keçirilməsi ilə bağlı bütün tənzimləmələr, təlimatlar və qaydalara əməl edilib. „Report“ xəbər verir ki, bunu Mərakeş parlamentinin Nümayəndələr Palatası sədrinin birinci müavini Mohamed Sabbari deyib. O bildirib ki, həmçinin seçki məntəqələrində bütün seçicilərin adlarının yer aldığı siyahıları asılmış şəkildə görürdük.*<sup>290</sup>

288 La 5ème conférence du Parlement arabe met en avant l'intérêt grandissant que porte le Maroc à la question de la sécurité alimentaire, Marco Hebdo, February 2 (2023), <https://www.maroc-hebdo.press.ma/5-conference-parlement-arabe-maroc-securite-alimentaire>

289 Moroccan observer: All rules were followed in election process, Report İnformasiya Agentliyi, September 2 (2024), <https://report.az/en/domestic-politics/moroccan-observer-all-rules-were-followed-in-election-process/>

290 Mərakeşli müşahidəçi: Seçki prosesində bütün qaydalara əməl edilib, Report İnformasiya Agentliyi, September 2 (2024), <https://report.az/daxili-siyaset/merakesli-musahideci-secki-prosesinde-butun-qaydalara-emel-edilib/>





*“The names of the voters were carefully verified before being accepted. Representatives of the candidates were also allowed to stay in the polling stations. The international observers established contact with their representatives at all polling stations, who reported no violations during the election process. The high voter turnout was also witnessed, showcasing the active participation of Azerbaijani citizens in the democratic process.” Sabbari congratulated the President of Azerbaijan, the people, and the parliament on this democratic celebration, recognizing the country’s efforts in holding free and fair elections.<sup>289</sup>*

*„Seçicilərin adları çox ciddi şəkildə yoxlanılırdı və sonra qəbul edilirdi. Seçki məntəqələrində namizədlərin nümayəndələri də iştirak edə bilirdi. Bütün məntəqələrdəki nümayəndələrimizlə əlaqə yaratdıq. Onlar bizə seçki prosesində heç bir pozuntunun qeydə alınmadığını bildirdilər. Eləcə də seçki fəallığının da şahidi olduq. Bu demokratik bayram münasibəti ilə Azərbaycan Prezidentini, xalqını və parlamentini təbrik edirəm.”<sup>290</sup>*

## Mauretania

### Mohamed ElHafed Maham

Country	Observing mission	Affiliation
Mauretania (residence <sup>292</sup> in Iran)	Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) <sup>292</sup>	OIC <sup>292</sup>

Mohamed ElHafed Maham observed Azerbaijan’s September 2024 snap parliamentary election as a member of<sup>291</sup> the delegation of the OIC. Mohamed ElHafed Maham, from Mauretania, has served as office director<sup>292</sup> of the Parliamentary Union of the OIC Member States (PUIC), headquartered in Tehran, Iran since 2018. Before, he was a director at the Mauritanian State News Agency<sup>292</sup>. Pictures featuring Mohamed

291 İT rəsmisi: Azərbaycan xalqını demokratik şəkildə keçirilən parlament seçkiləri münasibətlə təbrik edirəm, September 2 (2024), <https://report.az/xarici-siyaset/iet-resmisi-azerbaycan-da-kecirilen-parlament-seckilerinde-yasillarin-elillerin-sesvermesi-ucun-serait-yaradilib/>

292 Director of Cabinet, Parliamentary Union of the OIC Member States (PUIC), <https://en.puic.org/news/9802>

ElHafed Maham are available in the sources linked in footnotes<sup>269,291</sup>. Azerbaijani media outlets quoted Mohamed ElHafed Maham:

*"We encountered only positive situations at the polling stations. People came to the polling station very neatly and quietly and voted. We witnessed this transparent process. I congratulate the people of Azerbaijan on the successful conclusion of the democratic elections."*<sup>270</sup>

*"Biz səsvermə məntəqələrində yalnız müsbət hallarla qarşılaşdıq. İnsanlar çox səliqəli və sakit şəkildə seçki məntəqəsinə gəlib səs verirdilər. Bu şəffaf prosesin şahidi olduq. Demokratik seçkilərin uğurla yekunlaşması münasibətilə Azərbaycan xalqını təbrik edirəm."*<sup>270</sup>

## Algeria

### Tarek Ladjal

Country	Observing mission	Affiliation
(probably) Algeria (residence in Saudi Arabia)	Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) <sup>293</sup>	OIC <sup>293</sup>

Tarek Ladjal headed<sup>95</sup> the observation of the mission of the OIC during Azerbaijan's September 2024 snap parliamentary election. He's an officer at the OIC's headquarters in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia<sup>293</sup>. It is unclear where Tarek Ladjal is from, but some hints point to Algeria. A picture and a video featuring Tarek Ladjal are available in the sources linked in footnotes<sup>95,293</sup>.

## Ethiopia

### Ewnete Alene Yalew

Country	Observing mission	Affiliation
Ethiopia	Ethiopian parliament <sup>295</sup>	Ethiopian parliament <sup>295</sup>

293 OIC Explores Scope of Cooperation with the Qatari Diplomatic Institute, Organisation of Islamic Cooperation, November 27 (2022), [https://www.oic-oci.org/topic/?t\\_id=37922&t\\_ref=26044&lan=en](https://www.oic-oci.org/topic/?t_id=37922&t_ref=26044&lan=en)

Ewnete Alene Yalew is a member<sup>294</sup> of Ethiopia’s House of Representatives and, according to the Azerbaijani sources<sup>295</sup>, the chairperson of its committee and a member of the Democratic Reform Committee<sup>296</sup>. He also serves<sup>296</sup> as senior legal advisor at the Ministry of Education, Deputy Commissioner of the Civil Service Commission in the Amhara Regional State, and a board member of the largest bank in Ethiopia – Amhara Bank<sup>296</sup>. Pictures featuring Ewnete Alene Yalew are available in the sources linked in footnotes<sup>294,295,296</sup>. Azerbaijani media outlets quoted Ewnete Alene Yalew:



*“All conditions were created for us to independently observe the elections in Azerbaijan. We did not see representatives of the power structure around the polling stations. The election was peaceful, democratic and free. The elections held in Azerbaijan, it was an example for us of how to hold a democratic election.”<sup>295</sup>*

*The early parliamentary elections in Azerbaijan were held in a free and democratic atmosphere. This statement was made by Ewnete Alene, Chairman of the House of Representatives Committee of the Ethiopian Parliament.<sup>297</sup>*

*“Biz seçki məntəqələrinin ətrafında güc strukturundan nümayəndələr görmədik. Seçki sülh şəraitində keçib, demokratik və azad olub. Azərbaycanca keçirilən seçkilər bizim üçün nümunə oldu ki, necə demokratik seçki keçirmək olar.”<sup>295</sup>*

*Внеочередные парламентские выборы в Азербайджане прошли в свободной и демократичной атмосфере. Об этом заявил председатель комитета Палаты представителей парламента Эфиопии Эбевете Алене.<sup>297</sup>*

294 Hon. Ato EWNETE ALENE YALEW, House of Peoples Representatives, <https://www.hopr.gov.et/en/web/guest/-/hon-ato-ewnete-alene-yalew>

295 Azərbaycanca keçirilən seçkilər bizim üçün nümunə oldu, Azeri-Press Agency (APA), September 2 (2024), <https://apa.az/secki-2024/efiopyali-parlamentari-azerbaycanda-kecirilen-seckiler-bizim-ucun-numune-oldu-863527>

296 Board of Directors Profile, Amhara Bank, <https://www.amharabank.com.et/board-of-directors-profile/>

297 Эфиопский парламентарий: Выборы в Азербайджане прошли в свободной и демократичной атмосфере, Media.AZ, September 2 (2024), <https://media.az/politika/efiopskij-parlamentarij-vybory-v-azerbajdzhane-proshli-v-svobodnoj-i-demokratichnoj-atmosfera>

“ [Evnete Alene Yalew] stressed that no interference in the electoral process was recorded: “The chairmen of the polling stations worked in a calm environment, and voters freely choose their candidates.”<sup>297</sup>

[Эбевете Алене] подчеркнул, что какого-либо вмешательства в избирательный процесс зафиксировано не было: «Председатели избирательных участков работали в спокойной обстановке, а избиратели в свободной форме выбирали своих кандидатов».<sup>297</sup>

## Uganda

### Jacob Eyeru

Country	Observing mission	Affiliation	Earlier election
Uganda	Non-Aligned Movement Youth Organization (NAMYO) <sup>298</sup>	Uganda National Youth Council <sup>299</sup>	Azerbaijan's February 2024 snap presidential election <sup>300</sup>

Jacob Eyeru from Uganda observed Azerbaijan's September 2024 snap parliamentary election as a member of<sup>298</sup> the monitoring mission of the NAMYO, which is headquartered<sup>279</sup> in Baku, Azerbaijan. In Uganda, Jacob Eyeru is the chairperson<sup>299</sup> of the National Youth Council. Earlier, Jacob Eyeru had already<sup>300</sup> observed the February 2024 presidential election in Azerbaijan. A picture and a video featuring Jacob Eyeru are available in the sources linked in footnotes<sup>298,300</sup>.

298 Uqandalı müşahidəçi: Seçki prosesi demokratik norma və qaydalara uyğun keçirilir, Azerbaijan State News Agency, September 1 (2024), <https://video.azertag.az/video/222730>

299 Jacob Eyeru on LinkedIn, <https://www.linkedin.com/in/jacob-eyeru-4600bb254/>

300 Növbədənənar Prezident seçkisinin yekunlarına dair beynəlxalq müşahidəçilərin keçirdiyi mətbuat konfransları, Photostock.az, February 8 (2024), <https://photostock.az/media/65C49ACB96881>



*I was satisfied with the course of the election process. Voting is quite transparent. This statement to AZƏRTAC was made by Jacob Eyeru, an international observer from Uganda and a member of the Youth Organization of the Non-Aligned Movement, who followed the voting process in polling station No. 2 of Sabail electoral district No. 7.<sup>298</sup>*

*Seçki prosesinin gedişindən razı qaldım. Səsvermə kifayət qədər şəffaf keçirilir. Seçki prosesinin gedişindən razı qaldım. Səsvermə kifayət qədər şəffaf keçirilir. Bu sözləri AZƏRTAC-a açıqlamasında 7 sayılı Səbail seçki dairəsinin 2 sayılı seçki məntəqəsində səsvermə prosesini izləyən Uqandadan olan beynəlxalq müşahidəçi, Qoşulmama Hərəkətinin Gənclər Təşkilatının üzvü Yakob Eyeru deyib.<sup>298</sup>*

## Mozambique

### Benedito Machava

Country	Observing mission	Affiliation
Mozambique	Non-Aligned Movement Youth Organization (NAMYO) <sup>301</sup>	National Youth Council of Mozambique <sup>304</sup> (Conselho Nacional da Juventude de Moçambique)

Benedito Machava from Mozambique observed Azerbaijan's September 2024 snap parliamentary election as a member of<sup>301,302,303</sup> the monitoring mission of the NAMYO, which is headquartered<sup>279</sup> in Baku, Azerbaijan. In Mozambique, Benedito Machava is the chairperson<sup>304</sup> of the National Youth Council, however since October 2023, he is employed at the NAMYO headquarters and lives in Baku<sup>305</sup>. Pictures featuring Ben-

301 Mozambikli müşahidəçi: Seçkilərdə iştirak Azərbaycanda demokratik ənənələr üçün vacibdir, Report İnformasiya Agentliyi, September 1 (2024), <https://report.az/daxili-siyaset/mozambikli-musahideci-seckilerde-istirak-azerbaycanda-demokratik-eneneler-ucun-vacibdir/>

302 Mozambique observer: Participation in elections necessary for democratic traditions in Azerbaijan, Report İnformasiya Agentliyi, September 1 (2024), <https://report.az/en/domestic-politics/mozambique-observer-participation-in-elections-is-necessary-for-democratic-traditions-in-azerbaijan/>

303 Peaceful elections observed across all polling stations in Azerbaijan, Report İnformasiya Agentliyi, September 1 (2024), <https://report.az/en/domestic-politics/peaceful-elections-observed-across-all-polling-stations-in-azerbaijan/>

304 Benedito Machava, Global Thinkers Mentors, <https://globalthinkersmentors.org/benedito-machava>

305 Benedito Machava on LinkedIn, <https://www.linkedin.com/in/benedito-machava-b4966a1b7/>

edito Machava are available in the sources linked in footnotes<sup>301,302,306</sup>. Azerbaijani media outlets quoted Benedito Machava:

„So far I believe that the process has been good because I saw the movement of the people, they are interested in going to the polling station, I have to congratulate the Azerbaijani people for that engagement in the process, because it is very important to make our own choice, for who must lead us during the period of the parliamentary administration or during the all political process. I also congratulate the role of the media in covering that process to show to all of those in Azerbaijan or out of Azerbaijan that is important to do and to go forward with our right to choose our leaders and to preserve the democracy in our nation.”<sup>302</sup>

“As invited by the Non-Aligned Movement Youth Organization, it shows to the world that NAM is an organization that gives respective importance to democracy and transparency of the electoral process, because that is the way how we build democracy. Azerbaijani government and Azerbaijani people are in that process.”<sup>302</sup>

“Seçicilər seçki məntəqəsinə gəlməkdə maraqlıdırlar. Mən bu münasibətlə Azərbaycan xalqını təbrik etməliyəm, çünki parlamentdə kimin təmsil olunacağı ilə bağlı öz seçimini etmək çox vacibdir”, – o vurğulayıb. Müşahidəçinin sözlərinə görə, səsvermənin mətbuatda işıqlandırılması həm də Azərbaycanda və ya ondan kənarında olan hər kəsə öz seçimini etməyin və ölkəzində demokratik əməlləri qoruyub saxlamağın vacib olduğunu göstərmək üçün çox vacibdir”<sup>301</sup>

“Qoşulmama Hərəkatının Gənclər Təşkilatının seçkilərə dəvəti dünyaya göstərir ki, Qoşulmama Hərəkatı seçki prosesində şəffaflığa böyük əhəmiyyət verən bir təşkilatdır. Çünki biz demokratiyanı məhz belə qururuq. Azərbaycan hökuməti və xalqı bu prosesin içindədir.”<sup>301</sup>

## Gambia

### Lamin Sanneh

Country	Observing mission	Affiliation
Gambia	Non-Aligned Movement Youth Organization (NAMYO) <sup>306</sup>	The Gambia National Youth Council <sup>307</sup>

Lamin Sanneh from Gambia observed<sup>306,308</sup> Azerbaijan's September 2024 snap parliamentary election as a member<sup>306</sup> of the observers mission of the NAMYO, which is headquartered<sup>279</sup> in Baku, Azerbaijan. In Gambia, Lamin Sanneh is Regional Youth Chairman and Board Member<sup>307</sup> of the National Youth Council, however his Facebook profile<sup>307</sup> shows he spends most of his time in Baku. Pictures featuring Lamin Sanneh are available in the sources linked in footnotes<sup>306,308</sup>. Azerbaijani media outlets quoted Lamin Sanneh:



*"People come to the polling stations and freely exercise their right to vote. As for the organization of the process, I am impressed by what I have seen. It is important to organize the process at the highest level and create all the necessary conditions. After all, today, citizens are deciding who they want to see in parliament."<sup>308</sup>*

*"Seçicilər seçki məntəqələrinə gedir və sərbəst şəkildə səsvermə hüququndan istifadə edirlər. Prosesin təşkilinə gəlincə, gördüklərim məni təsirləndirdi. Prosesin ən yüksək səviyyədə təşkili və bütün lazımı şəraitin yaradılması vacibdir. Bu gün vətəndaşlar parlamentdə kimi görmək istədiklərinə qərar verirlər."<sup>309</sup>*

306 Lamin Sanneh on Facebook, September 3 (2024), <https://www.facebook.com/lamin.sanneh.161/posts/pfbid0pMd44CysvYGRZ52xXnPdwaHYKHMUmA1BUJPMY5a3a6AcEmAPbBf9xM-clZmGn4JwUfI>

307 Lamin Sanneh on Facebook, <https://www.facebook.com/lamin.sanneh.161>

308 Observer from Gambia impressed by seamless voting process in Azerbaijan, Report İnformasiya Agentliyi, September 1 (2024), <https://report.az/en/domestic-politics/observer-from-gambia-impressed-by-seamless-voting-process-in-azerbaijan/>

309 Qambiyalı müşahidəçi: Seçkilərdəki şəffaflıq hökumətin ölkədə demokratiyanı necə möhkəmləndirdiyini göstərir, Report İnformasiya Agentliyi, September 1 (2024), <https://report.az/daxili-siyaset/qambiyali-musahideci-seckilerdeki-seffafliq-hokumetin-olkede-demokratiyani-nece-mohkemlendirdiyini-gosterir/>

# RECOMMENDATIONS FOR DEMOCRATIC SAFEGUARDS

In the context of fake observers coming to legitimize elections in Azerbaijan, EPDE proposes several calls to action to discourage the participation of fake observers, increase transparency, and hold individuals and organizations accountable for undermining democratic processes and discrediting the integrity of the democratic institutions and democratic governments they represent:

1. EPDE calls on international organizations, political parties, and media outlets to regularly check EPDE's list of fake observers at [fakeobservers.org](http://fakeobservers.org). Our database aims to deter participation by those who, for whatever reason or gain – blackmail, financial, or pure naivety – legitimize undemocratic elections.
2. EPDE calls on key democratic institutions, such as the European Union, U.S. Congress, or the Council of Europe, to publicly denounce and condemn participation in fake observation missions as harmful to global democratic standards. EPDE calls on democratic governments and international organizations to strengthen the diplomatic and political pressure on Azerbaijan to ensure they only invite credible and impartial election observers from organizations complying with international standards of election observation, such as OSCE/ODIHR, OSCE PA, or the PACE.
3. The EU and other democratic countries should impose targeted sanctions or legal measures against third-country nationals participating in fake observation missions. Such measures could include travel bans, asset freezes, or bans on representing their countries in bilateral and multilateral engagements. This includes exclusion



from conferences, academic exchanges, and any form of international cooperation based in the EU or other democratic nations.

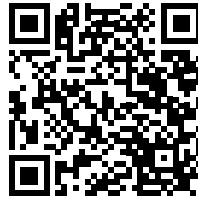
4. EPDE encourages media outlets globally to raise awareness and educate citizens about the dangers of fake election observation and the role certain individuals play in legitimizing fraudulent elections abroad to reduce their credibility and discourage others from participating.
5. EPDE urges election monitoring bodies and domestic election commissions globally to adopt stricter transparency measures. These should include publishing a complete, detailed list of all observers, their affiliations, and their observation experience to simplify the identification and discreditation of election observers.
6. Additionally, EPDE calls on institutions and national and regional parliaments to establish and implement laws and clear ethical guidelines for individuals, particularly elected officials, participating in election observation missions. These guidelines should emphasize impartiality and non-alignment with authoritarian regimes. EPDE stresses that violating these guidelines should lead to exclusion from future international democratic election observation missions.
7. Finally, EPDE calls on democratic countries and institutions to introduce career and financial disincentives for individuals participating in these activities, such as barring them from holding positions in publicly funded democratic organizations, NGOs, or international bodies.







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