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## KYRGYZ FM MEETS WITH HEAD OF OSCE / ODIHR MISSION

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Minister of Foreign Affairs of Kyrgyzstan Ruslan Kazakbaev met with Head of the OSCE / ODIHR Presidential Election Observation Mission Tamas Meszerics, the press service of the country's foreign ministry reported.

During the meeting, the results of the presidential elections in the Kyrgyz Republic and the preliminary conclusions of the OSCE / ODIHR EOM were discussed.

In particular, the Kyrgyz minister expressed gratitude to the mission for their participation in monitoring the past elections, as well as for the traditional support from the OSCE in promoting democratic processes in Kyrgyzstan.

Noting that Kyrgyzstan has been cooperating with the OSCE / ODIHR for the observation of elections and referendums for 29 years, the head of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Kyrgyz Republic noted the objectivity of the preliminary conclusions of the mission and the importance for Kyrgyzstan of the ODIHR's recommendations in order to improve electoral legislation.

Kazakbaev expressed satisfaction that, through joint efforts with international observers, Kyrgyzstan was able to hold this most important event for the country, and then it is necessary to jointly prepare for the next, no less important, transitional stages: constitutional reform and parliamentary elections.

In turn, Tamas Meszerics thanked the Kyrgyz side for the full support of the mission and its members in their activities during the difficult quarantine period.

Meszerics stressed that the elections and the referendum were well organized and in general there were no obvious violations. He expressed confidence that the ODIHR will continue to support democratic processes in Kyrgyzstan.

The Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR) is one of the main institutions of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE). ODIHR's activities are aimed at ensuring respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms, strengthening and protecting democratic institutions, and respecting the principle of the rule of law. The Kyrgyz Republic has been an OSCE member state since January 30, 1992.

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