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Georgia's Parliamentary Elections: Official Preliminary Outcomes in Comparison w/Parallel Vote Tabulations, Opinion Polling & Exit Polls

I. OVERVIEW

On May 23, 2008, the Central Election Commission released the official preliminary proportional system results of the May 21 parliamentary elections in Georgia. These results are presented below, side-by-side with the outcomes of several other surveys, including: two parallel vote tabulations (PVT) organized by independent NGOs; an exit poll sponsored by a consortium of four Georgian TV stations and organized by a respected academic institution and leading think-tanks; and an opinion poll conducted by Greenberg Quinlan Rosner, a distinguished international consultancy.

II. PROPORTIONAL SYSTEM ELECTION RESULTS IN COMPARATIVE PERSPECTIVE

	Preliminary Results (CEC)	PVT (NGO ISFED)	PVT (NGO nGnI)	Exit Poll	Opinion Poll
United National Movement	59.31%	59.4%	58.53%	63.1%	55%
United Opposition	17.61%	17.7%	18.31%	14.2%	17%
Christian Democratic Movement	8.57%	8.6%	8.43%	9.5%	11%
Labour Party	7.49%	7.4%	7.33%	5.7%	7%
Republican Party	3.78%	3.7%	3.9%	3.6%	3%

III. FURTHER DETAILS ON THE RESULTS & ON GROUPS CONDUCTING THE SURVEYS

Official Results: The preliminary official results of the May 21, 2008 parliamentary elections can be accessed at the Central Electoral Commission's web-site www.results.cec.gov.ge; the site includes scans of the official protocols from precincts.

Parallel Vote Tabulation (ISFED): Conducted by the NGO International Society for Fair Elections and Democracy. Full results are at <http://www.civil.ge/eng/category.php?id=32&result=proportional&by=3>.

Parallel Vote Tabulation (nGnI): Conducted by the NGO New Generation-New Initiative; full survey results and details are at <http://www.civil.ge/eng/category.php?id=32&result=proportional&by=4>.

Exit Poll: Commissioned by four television stations and conducted by Ilia Chavchavadze State University, the Caucasus Institute for Peace, Democracy and Development, the Georgian Institute of Public Affairs, and the Georgian Foundation for Strategic and International Studies, in cooperation with US, Estonian, and Ukrainian experts. The non-response rate is 29%. Full results can be found at www.archevnebi.ge.

Opinion Poll: Conducted by Greenberg Quinlan Rosner on behalf of United National Movement's campaign; the figures above reflect the results of polling work conducted from April 29- May 2. More information on GQR, which has worked on behalf of progressive parties and candidates worldwide (including Bill Clinton, Tony Blair, and Nelson Mandela), is at www.greenbergresearch.com.