

FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION



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SOVIETS INVITE FEC-IFES FOR SECOND VISIT TO USSR

WASHINGTON -- A 10-person delegation, including six from the Federal Election Commission and election officials from three states, will go to the Soviet Union on March 16 to continue an exchange program of election-related information. The invitation was extended by Chairman Vladimir P. Orlov of the Central Electoral Commission for Election of People's Deputies of the USSR on behalf of the Supreme Soviet.

The American delegation will include FEC Chairman Lee Ann Elliott, Vice Chairman John Warren McGarry, Commissioner Danny Lee McDonald, Vermont Secretary of State James H. Douglas, Rhode Island Secretary of State Kathleen S. Connell, Illinois State Board of Election Executive Director Ronald D. Michaelson, Josh Dorosin of the International Foundation for Electoral Systems, William C. Kimberling of the FEC's National Clearinghouse on Election Administration, and Executive Assistants Craig M. Engle and Frances N. Glendening.

Funding the trip is the International Foundation for Electoral Systems through a grant from the Charles Stewart Mott Foundation.

Areas included in the visit are Moscow, Tallin, capital of Estonia, and Alma-Ata, capital of Kazakhstan. Discussions will be held with Soviet election officials at all levels of government. Estonia and Kazakhstan will be holding the equivalent of U.S. state and local elections during this period.

This will be third in a series of exchange visits between U.S. and Soviet election officials. A 12-member FEC delegation visited the Soviet Union this past June. In November, members of the Central Electoral Commission came to the United States where they talked with Federal, state and local election officials in Washington, Virginia, Maryland and New York.

Each of these exchanges has been funded by the IFES through grants from the Mott Foundation.

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