

**ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE NATIONAL ELECTORAL COMMISSION AFTER THE  
PRESS CONFERENCE HELD ON**

**20.06.2010 AT 2.30 p.m. AT THE NEC'S HEADQUARTERS**

**On 20 June 2010, a press conference on Presidential Election was held at 2.30 p.m. at the headquarters of the National Electoral Commission,**

**The following participated in the conference:**

**Deputy Chair of NEC:        Judge Jan Kacprzak**  
**NEC's Member:             Judge Andrzej Kisielewicz**

**Deputy Chair of the national Electoral Commission, Judge Jan Kacprzak opened another Press conference on the course of the Presidential Election 2010.**

**Judge Jan Kacprzak provided information on the election turnout as at 1.00 p.m. According to the official announcement of NEC, these data are as follows:**

**I. Aggregate information countrywide**

The National Electoral Commission on the basis of data received from **25 502** local electoral commission out of **25 506** local electoral commission appointed countrywide has provided the following information and data reflecting the status as at **1.00** p.m. on 20 June 2010:

1. Number of eligible voters, i.e. persons registered on the lists of electors in individual polling stations from which the information has been received was **30 453 805**.
2. **7 119 745** ballot cards were issued to the eligible voters, which constitutes **23.38%** of the total number of the eligible voters.

**II. Aggregate data broken down by the cities with the population exceeding 250 thousand:**

<i>No.</i>	<i>City</i>	<i>Total no. of polling stations</i>	<i>Number of polling stations submitting the data</i>	<i>Number of voters</i>	<i>Ballot cards issued</i>	<i>% (6:5)</i>
<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>
1.	Białystok	164	164	228 738	66 801	29.20
2.	Bydgoszcz	205	205	286 154	80 519	28.14
3.	Gdańsk	216	216	360 213	95 242	26.44
4.	Katowice	165	165	249 697	57 883	23.18
5.	Kraków	457	457	589 871	142 918	24.23
6.	Lublin	211	211	277 148	71 125	25.66
7.	Łódź	397	397	594 235	151 093	25.43
8.	Poznań	298	298	433 482	122 673	28.30
9.	Szczecin	200	200	318 864	81 823	25.66
10.	Warszawa	848	845	1 329 385	391 107	29.42
11.	Wrocław	298	298	503 505	128 625	25.55

**III. In comparison with the total number of the eligible voters in a particular area, the highest**

turnout has been noted in the borough (city) of Rewal, Gryfice district, Zachodniopomorskie Province, i.e. 56.02% .

**Judge Jan Kacprzak mentioned the question of certificates and documents necessary to vote. According to the Judge, there were reports from electors registered on the lists of electors that they had had difficulties obtaining ballot cards if they had used documents other than the official ID card. Judge Kacprzak said that the electoral commission's refusal to issue ballot cards in these situations was incorrect and that the ballot card could have been obtained on the basis of any document including a picture and full name of the person registered on the list of electors if the local electoral commission had been satisfied that the elector is the person identified in the ID document.**

**The Deputy Chair also mentioned situations where electors not registered on the local lists of electors, unable to confirm their voting right with the relevant certificate, appeared at the poll to vote. In such situations, an ID card only is not sufficient for the Commission's issuing of the ballot card.**

**NEC's Deputy Chair also informed the journalists of the situations where an elector while signing the list of electors noticed a name of a deceased neighbour. Judge Kacprzak reminded that such notification on the election days is ineffective. Instead, an election protest may be filed. All election protests may be filed after conclusion of election and announcement of official results and will be considered by the Supreme Court.**

**Next, the issues related to the vote outside the territory of Poland were discussed. Judge Kacprzak pointed out that the number of rolling stations abroad increased especially in the United Kingdom, Ireland, and Germany. A new polling station was established in Alaska. Judge Jan Kacprzak reminded the journalists that in the United States, due to time lag, the vote has ended. The vote has not ended, however, for the Poles staying in European countries.**

**During the conference, Judge Jan Kacprzak explained that persons who lost their ID cards during the flooding and who did not manage to obtain any document enabling their identification have no formal possibilities of obtaining ballot cards. According to the Election Order, in order to vote, an elector must present an ID card enabling his/her identification. The National Electoral Commission cannot issue other regulation or guidance in this respect. However, there may situations where a local electoral commission confirms a person's identity**

without an ID card because they know that the elector is a permanent resident in a particular area and that he is registered on the local list of electors. It has to be pointed out, however, that such decision of the local electoral commission may give rise to an election protest.

Deputy Chair J. Kacprzak emphasised that only few cases of refusal to issue ballots cards were noted in the total of ca. 26 thousand local polling stations.

As regards the violation of the election silence, the Deputy Chair admitted that the situation during this election is better than during the previous election. There have been incidents related to the theft of the banners, flags, placement of the candidate leaflets in mailboxes, or removal of the information board showing the way to the Local Electoral Commission.

Deputy Chair Jan Kacprzak also made reference to the publishing of the photos of two candidates in the weekend edition of Gazeta Wyborcza. The NEC believes that the publishing of pictures of the two candidates without any comment does not have to be regarded as a violation of the election silence. The candidates are presented in TV programmes today (also live) as they vote. The NEC believes that it would be better not to publish the pictures at all, or publish the picture of all 10 candidates. It is up to the prosecution to decide whether or not the publishing constitutes a violation of the election silence.

Next, the issues related to the transport of the disabled to the polling stations were discussed. According to Judge Kacprzak, no problems have been reported – the NEC has not received any information in this regard. Where possible, the disabled were supported in reaching the polling stations.

The Deputy Chair emphasised that the election silence prevails in Poland. Yet, Judge Kacprzak pointed out that until the conclusion of the election, no information on the results of the vote abroad can be published.