

March 1, 2011

Dr. Walter Kemp  
Director, Europe and Central Asia  
International Peace Institute  
Freyung 3  
1010 Vienna  
Austria

Dear Dr. Kemp:

I am very disappointed and deeply insulted by your comments in the IPI Issue Brief of October 2010, regarding the role of parliamentarians in election observations. It seems to me your remarks may have been influenced by opinions of others and that you have not personally researched this issue, which, under the circumstances, I find irresponsible.

If the comments reflect your opinion, this would indicate a serious lack of understanding of a complex matter and calls into question your reputation as a fair and knowledgeable person.

Having participated in a number of election observation missions, including Ukraine, Serbia, Georgia, Albania, Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, and Kyrgyzstan, the latter two as Special Coordinator on behalf of the Chairman in Office, I have some knowledge of this issue. I would be pleased to share my opinions with you, the good, the bad, and the ugly – none of which would support your conclusions.

Respectfully,

Senator Consiglio Di Nino  
Government Whip in the Senate  
Head of the Canadian Delegation to the OSCE PA

c.c. Fredericka Gregory  
Spencer Oliver