



COMMUNITY
OF DEMOCRACIES

The Community of Democracies Parliamentary Forum

High Level Democracy Meeting
“The Road to Democracy:
Role of the Community of Democracies Parliamentary Forum”
Vilnius, 30 June 2011

**RESOLUTION
On the Situation in Belarus**

We, the participants of the High Level Democracy Meeting “The Road to Democracy: Role of the Community of Democracies Parliamentary Forum” held in Vilnius on 30 June 2011, express our deep concern over the situation in Belarus after the events of 19 December 2010. We believe that the verdicts pronounced in connection with the peaceful protest actions on 19 December 2010 in Minsk are lawless and politically motivated. The absence of free and fair elections and harassment of political opponents have caused deterioration of relations between Belarus and the democratic world.

For the sake of justice and for the return of Belarus to the path of democratic development, we demand an end to all criminal cases, removal of all restrictions imposed by the court and removal from criminal record of the former candidates for the presidency at the elections on 19 December 2010 - Mikalai Statkevich, Dzmitry Us, Andrei Sannikau, Uladzimir Niakliayeu, Vital Rymasheuski as well as members of their teams and protesters on 19 December like Irina Halip, Zmicer Bandarenka, Natalia Radina, Alexander Otroshchenkov and others.

We demand the immediate release of all political prisoners in Belarus and urge the Belarusian authorities to follow international standards on freedom of the press, freedom of assembly, freedom of political parties and public associations, and freedom of conscience.