

requests of these groups. In other words the Government listens what people have to say. Third thing is free media which really have a lot of power. The concept of the CBC as a public broadcasting sponsored by the Government and at the same time CBC has a right to criticize that same Government is again strong prove of an open and transparent system.

Advan Repak, Sarajevo, BiH

Political leaders in Canada are continuously in touch with potential voters unlike in BiH. National Institutions are open for people, government employees visit schools, admit people to their offices. Representatives of the ruling party must give answers on the questions raised by the opposition three or four times per week. That is unimaginable in BiH.

Natalija Bukovac SDP -Karlovac, Croatia

We met Mr. Daniel Turp, a member of the Bloc Québécois. Mr. Turp tried to explain us the Quebecers' wish to separate from Canada. Namely, they plan to go on with referendums until they get 50% + 1 vote when Quebec will be separated from Canada. After the separation they plan to keep certain connections (economic) with Canada. I believe that all of us understood what Quebecers want and why they want it, but we also know the price we had to pay in order to have independent states. So I think we were competent to give some advice to Mr. Turp before he wins needed number of votes at the referendum.

I was deeply impressed with was Elections Canada, a governmental, non-partisan institution which is financed from the state budget. This organization can get financial resources without approval of the Government which enables Elections Canada to conduct all election related activities in an independent and neutral way. I was fascinated by Elections Canada because of its neutrality from any political party and the will of the Government. That is something we'll have to wait for in Croatia for a long time, same as independent media.

Mladen Popović, Sarajevo, BiH

The things learnt in Canada are too opulent to be put in this report. All the answers represent experiences, which could be applied in BiH in order to raise the political life and democracy in general.

For example, Canada is trying to resolve the Quebec issue by implementing the election results in such a way as no one can be put in jepody and an armed conflict can be prevented.

There are no political parties in Canada based on ethnic or religious grounds and I think this is important. All political parties are civil orientated with programs aimed towards improvement of human rights and social and material well being of citizens.