Four countries on the western rim of the former Soviet Union have almost simultaneous elections this fall: Georgia (October 1), Ukraine (October 28), Belarus (September 23), Lithuania (October 14, 28). These countries share a legacy as former republics of the USSR and ongoing tension between democratic impulses and authoritarianism. Our two-part event will present comparative discussion of the significance of the multiple elections followed by eye-witness reports by election monitors in two of the countries.

**Time:** Wednesday December 5, 5-8 PM  
**Place:** 707 International Affairs Building, Columbia University  
420 West 118th Street, New York  
(http://www.columbia.edu/about_columbia/map/international_affairs.html)

**Part I: Analyzing the Elections (5:00 PM)**
- Alan Timberlake (ECEC) Opening Remarks  
- Lincoln Mitchell (Harriman Institute) The Elections in General and in Georgia in Particular  
- Ambassador Valery P. Kuchinsky (former Permanent Representative of Ukraine to the United Nations) Interpreting the Election in Ukraine  
- Fredrik Sjoberg (Harriman Institute) Interpreting Monitoring Comparatively

**Part II: Witnessing the Elections (roundtable) (6:30 PM)**
Monitors from Ukraine and Belarus: Tatsiana Chulitskaya (European Humanities University, Vilnius), Marija Sliaptsova and Karyna Bobryk (European Humanities University, Vilnius), Juozas Kazlas (Short-term Observer, OSCE/ODIHR Election Observation Mission in Ukraine)

Sponsored by:  
European Humanities University (Vilnius, Lithuania)  
Ukrainian Studies Program (Columbia University, New York, NY)
East Central European Center (Columbia University, New York, NY)
Harriman Institute (Columbia University, New York, NY)