

The President

H.E. Mr. Boris Gryzlov
Chairman of the State Duma
Federal Assembly
Russian Federation

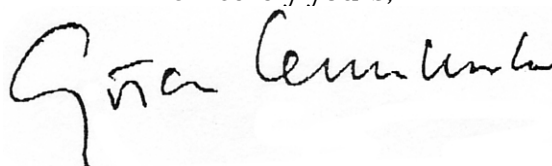
Copenhagen, 7 February 2008

Dear Mr. Speaker, dear Mr. Chairman, dear Colleague,

I have received your invitation to send observers to the Presidential election in Russia to be held on March 2, 2008. As you know, the Parliamentary Assembly did not send observers to the Presidential election in Russia four years ago. For the same reasons that we did not send observers in 2004, as well as due to other conditions and circumstances, we unfortunately cannot accept your invitation to send a limited number of observers to Russia for the Presidential election taking place on March 2.

Thank you very much for inviting the Parliamentary Assembly to observe the Presidential election. Under the circumstances, however, we will be unable to accept the invitation. I look forward to continuing to work with you and the Russian delegation to the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly.

Sincerely yours,



Göran Lennmarker