



Supporting democracy worldwide

We advance democracy worldwide, as a universal human aspiration and an enabler of sustainable development, through support to the building, strengthening and safeguarding of democratic political institutions and processes at all levels.

Globally, we provide impartial expertise, support and training based on the latest research to countries, governments, political parties, civil society and citizens. There is no one-size fits all solution and democracy is a constant work in progress.

What we do

We work upon invitation to provide in-country support based on our global comparative knowledge. We facilitate dialogue on issues of democracy and publish comparative data and knowledge for anyone to use to improve their democracy. We analyse this data and produce several tools that can be used to strengthen democratic institutions.

Topics we cover

Conflict and security

Constitution-building

Democratic accountability

Elections

Gender and democracy

ICT, elections and democracy

Migration and democracy

Money in politics

Parliaments

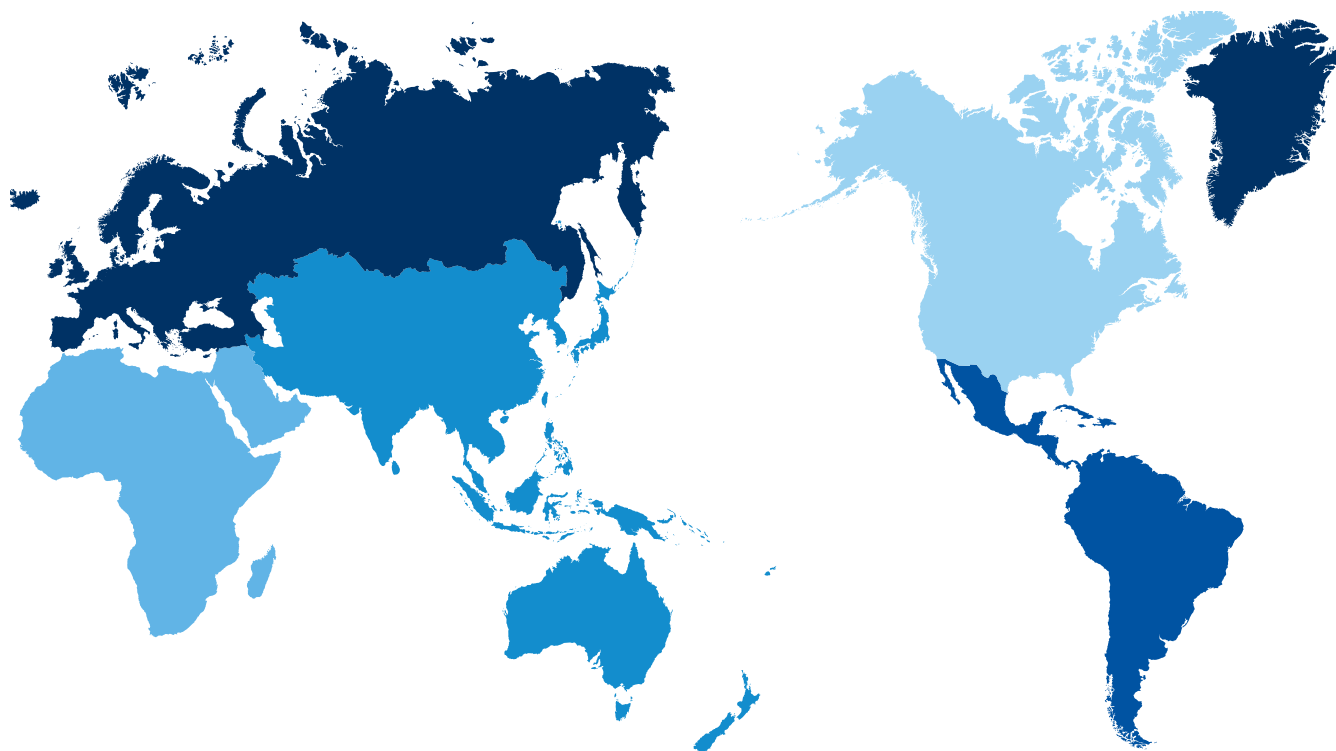
Political parties

Regional organizations

State of democracy assessment

What we offer

- Free knowledge resources in various languages on our website.
- Impartial information on how democracies work to help you participate in the political process of your country.
- In-depth data on voter turnout, electoral systems and gender quotas.
- Tools that you can use such as the Electoral Risk Management Tool and the Global State of Democracy Indices.



■ ■ ■ ■ ■ International IDEA Regions

Africa and West Asia

We work on constitutionalism, inter-party dialogue, electoral integrity, natural resource governance, youth participation and women's representation.

Asia and the Pacific

We focus on electoral and parliamentary support, constitution-building, money in politics, electoral observation support and citizen engagement.

Latin America and the Caribbean

We provide technical assistance to countries on the issues of accountability, money in politics and a democracy that delivers on public services.

Europe

We work closely with the European Union institutions and contribute to enhanced partnerships with the EU and democracy actors.

Permanent Observer to the United Nations

Our UN Observer Mission develops knowledge resources, engages with UN member states and cultivates networks of practitioners to advocate democracy perspectives in UN policies, including the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.



How we support democracy

International IDEA continues to inspire change and achieve results through our work with numerous partners on knowledge products, analysis and policy recommendations and training tools.

Learn more by reading our [outcome stories](#).



2018 highlights from our databases



Elections

57 countries had presidential or national legislative elections.

782,289,682 people voted in national elections.

The global average voter turnout is **65.30%**.



Voting system

24% of all countries do not allow out-of-country voting.

21% of countries across the globe use electronic voting in elections. Two countries, Democratic Republic of Congo and Bangladesh, introduced electronic voting in national elections in 2018.

55% of countries across the globe process election results by electronic tabulation systems.



Voter register

Electoral management bodies in **55** countries use biometric technology for voter registration.

In **52%** of countries voter register is compiled by electoral management bodies.

In **32%** of countries voter register is extracted from civil registry.

14% of countries use combined method.



Electoral management

In **62%** of countries elections are administered by independent electoral management bodies.

In **21%** of countries elections are run by governmental electoral management bodies.

14% of countries use the mixed model of electoral management.

Source: [International IDEA databases](#)

Member States

International IDEA's Member States are democracies and provide both political and financial support to the work of the organization.

They are Australia, Barbados, Belgium, Benin, Botswana, Brazil, Canada, Cabo Verde, Chile, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Finland, Germany, Ghana, India, Indonesia, Luxembourg, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Namibia, Netherlands, Norway, Panama, Peru, the Philippines, Portugal, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and Uruguay. Japan has observer status.

Governance

International IDEA is governed by a council composed of its Member States and assisted by a Board of Advisers. Kevin Casas-Zamora is the Secretary-General.

Council of Member States Chair

Belgium and Spain are the co-Chairs of the Council of Member States in 2019. Both countries have been Member States of International IDEA since 1995 and are cooperating with the Institute on several topics to strengthen democratic institutions and processes, including democracy assessments.



International IDEA

Strömsborg
SE-103 34 Stockholm
Sweden
+46 8 698 37 00
info@idea.int
www.idea.int