Supporting democracy worldwide

Who we are

We are an intergovernmental organization, founded in 1995 with a mandate to support sustainable democracy worldwide. We have status as UN Permanent Observers.

Our Four Ways of Working

Knowledge
Capacity Building
Convening of Dialogues
Advocacy

What we do

We develop policy-friendly research and analysis related to elections, parliaments, constitutions, digitalization, climate change, inclusion, and political representation, all under the umbrella of the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

We assess the performance of democracies through our unique Global State of Democracy Indices and the Democracy Tracker.

We provide capacity development and expert advice to democratic actors including governments, parliaments, election officials and civil society.

We develop tools and publish databases, books, and primers in several languages on topics ranging from voter turnout to gender quotas.

We bring states and non-state actors together for dialogues and lesson sharing.

We stand up and speak out to promote and protect democracy worldwide.
Our expertise

**Democracy Assessment**
Our Global State of Democracy reports and indices provide accurate, detailed, and timely information on democratic performance across the world. Our Democracy Tracker continually monitors trends in 173 nations.

**Electoral Processes**
Our wide-ranging expertise stretches from risk management in elections to special voting arrangements and the future of electoral assistance. This knowledge enables us to support electoral management bodies and election officials all over the world.

**Constitution-Building**
We develop cutting edge comparative knowledge and provide expert advice on constitutional design and constitution building processes, in fragile as well as more consolidated democracies.

**Political Participation and Representation**
We support political parties, parliaments and women and youth with knowledge and capacity development, with an increasing focus on new forms of political participation and representation.

**Climate Change**
Our work is currently expanding to address issues related to climate change and democracy with the aim of developing research and tools that can help democracies tackle the climate crisis.

**Gender and Inclusion, Conflict and Environment**
Gender equality and inclusion, conflict sensitivity and environmental protection are mainstreamed in all areas of our work, from project planning to implementation.

**Digitalization**
We support institutions in reaping the benefits of digital innovation as well as countering digital threats and ensuring the protection of fundamental human rights.

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