EDITORIAL

Reflections from the new Secretary-General

Since taking up the position as International IDEA’s Secretary-General in June, I have started to see international politics and developments through the democracy support perspective of the institute, and a number of things have struck me.

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By Yves Leterme, Secretary-General

FOCUS: POST-2015 AGENDA

The post-2015 agenda: the need for a democratic governance perspective

Posted: September 12, 2014

As UN Member States focus on the post-2015 development agenda, they could do no better than to reflect on the results of a recent UN conducted survey in which millions of people throughout the world listed honest and responsive government as one of their top priorities. As a recent meeting in New York shows, there is still some way to go before such aims are translated into action.

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The citizen-led approach: a framework for the post-2015 development agenda

Posted: September 10, 2014

How to entrench democracy and good governance is shaping up as a key issue for the post-2015 development framework. In recent years, Mongolia has demonstrated how using IDEA’s citizen-led democracy assessment methodology can play a part in achieving this goal.

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OTHER NEWS

Strengthening the debate on integrity of elections and quality of democracy in Latin America
The progress made in Latin America over the past 35 years in terms of free and fair elections, strength and respect of human rights, and democratization, is significant. However, its democracies still exhibit deficiencies and symptoms of fragility that need to be tackled.

Constitutional expert visits Nepal

Learning from comparative experience is one of IDEA’s fundamental operating principles – and this applies equally to constitutional development. Recent reflections on Norway’s constitution provided food for thought in Nepal, which is undergoing a further attempt at constitutional development.

Women and democracy in Latin America: time for parties to make a difference

Latin America has made considerable progress increasing the political representation of women during its ‘wave of democracy’ over the past 35 years. Different countries have adopted different means of achieving the same goal, yet women’s representation still lags behind other parts of the world.

Mapping electoral risk in Tunisia

International IDEA’s Electoral Risk Management Tool has now been tested and used in a number of different countries in the lead up to elections to assist authorities mitigate against electoral violence. Now it is Tunisia’s turn.

Engaging youth on democracy

How to engage the youth of the world in politics has become a pressing issue. On the one hand, many see politics as irrelevant, yet the rise of social media has given youth a powerful means to express themselves.