



Engaging the Electorate:

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Initiatives to Promote Voter Turnout

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From Around the World

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*Including voter turnout data  
from national elections worldwide  
1945–2006*

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**Engaging the Electorate:  
Initiatives to Promote Voter Turnout from Around the World**

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Graphic design by: Trydells Form, Sweden  
Photo front cover: Reproduced by kind permission of Association Civisme et Démocratie  
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Printed by: Trydells Tryckeri AB, Sweden  
ISBN: 91-85391-91-3

## Contents

<b>Foreword</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Preface</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Acronyms and Abbreviations</b>	<b>7</b>

---

### **Section I. Introduction** **10**

---

The Structure of This Book	11
1. Theories of Democracy	11
2. Why Voter Turnout Varies	12
2a. Contextual and Systemic Factors	12
2b. Individual and Social Factors	13
3. The Issue of Young Voters	15
4. Practical Concerns for Government	16

### **Section II. Initiatives and Activities** **20**

---

1. Information Campaigns (' <i>how</i> ')	20
2. Advertising Campaigns (' <i>why</i> ')	21
3. Grass-roots Movements	21
4. School/Mock Elections and Other Special-purpose Educational Programmes	22
5. Entertainment	23
6. Inducements	23

### **Section III. Case Studies** **27**

---

#### **1. Information Campaigns**

Making the Electoral Process as Easy as Possible: Elections New Zealand <i>Erin Thiessen</i>	28
Educating the Voter about the Electoral Process: The Swedish Election Authority <i>Kristina Lemón and Maria Gratschew</i>	32
Making Democracy Accessible for Everyone: The National Office of Electoral Processes, Peru <i>Laura Chrabolowsky</i>	36

#### **2. Advertising Campaigns**

Convincing Voters that Their Vote is Important: The Association Civisme Démocratique (CIDEM) in France <i>David McGrane</i>	40
Making Politics Relevant: The Electoral Commission, United Kingdom <i>Erin Thiessen</i>	42

### **3. Grass-roots Movements**

- Identifying and Engaging the Under-represented: The Minnesota Participation Project  
in the USA 44  
*Erin Thiessen*
- Teaching Citizens to Protect Their Democratic Rights: Pora in Ukraine and  
Similar Organizations in Central and Eastern Europe 46  
*Svitozar Omelko*

### **4. School/Mock Elections and Other Special-purpose Educational Programmes**

- Educating Young People Through Participation in the Voting Process: Student Vote in Canada 50  
*Erin Thiessen*
- Informing Young People of the Need for Conscientious Voting: Eleitor do Futuro  
(Voter of the Future) in Brazil 52  
*Sean W. Burges*

### **5. Entertainment**

- Teaching Political Participation Through Theatre:  
The Réseau de communication d'information et de formation des femmes dans les  
organisations non-gouvernementaux (RECIF/ONG) in Burkina Faso 54  
*David McGrane*
- Rock Volieb and the 1998 Parliamentary Elections in Slovakia: Rocking the Vote Slovak Style 56  
*Juraj Hocman*

### **6. Inducements**

- The 1995 Municipal Elections Lottery in Norway 58  
*Maria Gratschew*
- The 2005 Parliamentary Election Lottery in Bulgaria 60  
*Ivo Balinov*

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## **Section IV. Conclusions 64**

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## **References and Further Reading 68**

- Annex A. Matrix of Types of Initiative, with Problems Addressed and Methods Used 70
- Annex B. Inventory of Selected Organizations Involved in Promoting Voter Turnout,  
with Contact Information 72
- Annex C. Voter Turnout Statistics from around the World in National-level Elections,  
1945–2006 107
- Annex D. About the Contributors 136
- Annex E. About International IDEA 138

## Foreword

Concern about declining participation in elections has been growing worldwide for well over ten years, even leading some people to question the health of democracy. International IDEA has worked in the field of voter turnout almost since its foundation in 1995, initially to identify the facts. The IDEA voter turnout database has become known and widely respected by researchers and practitioners as the source of worldwide data in the field, and an updated version is included in this book.

Such research is of most value when it is used to provide policy advice and tools which will be of practical assistance to governments, electoral management bodies and other stakeholders engaged in designing and building their democracies. A first task, which this book addresses, is to identify initiatives within existing frameworks which may promote electoral participation and which are easy to implement. Some have been effective, some less so; some are controversial, some less so.

This book seeks to inspire those who believe that strong participation in elections and referendums helps to build confidence in democratic institutions

to engage in networking and information sharing. It surveys initiatives and campaigns from round the world to encourage electoral participation and presents a selection of case studies, an inventory of experiences and some suggestions as to good practice.

IDEA's work on participation will continue far beyond this book. Many of the longer-term issues regarding voter turnout raise deep issues of policy, for example relating to institutional and electoral framework design or the utility and effectiveness of different approaches to civic education. Others remain research questions: is it true that an increasing number of citizens are engaging in alternative methods of participation, or are these active citizens also voters?

IDEA, with its mandate to provoke action for effective policy change, will continue to promote cutting-edge work, challenging the research community and seeking to develop clear and user-friendly messages for the policy-making community about what does and does not assist in encouraging participation and building the credibility and ownership of democracies.



*Vidar Helgesen*  
Secretary-General  
International IDEA

## Preface

This book is a response to the desire of and the demand expressed by people involved in the design and implementation of electoral processes to know more about voter turnout and to seek practical ideas. It has been put together by International IDEA working together with experts from Carleton University, Ottawa, Canada and from many other parts of the world. On behalf of International IDEA, I would like to thank my fellow authors and contributors to this book, and also to extend our thanks to the huge number of people worldwide who have motivated and participated in the initiatives to encourage participation and turnout which are brought together in this book.

Our thanks go in particular to the following people: Helena Catt at the Electoral Commission, New Zealand; Iryna Chupryna at Pora, Ukraine; the Civics and Democracy Association (Association Civisme et Démocratie), France; Stein Gaute Endal, former councillor of the Municipality of Evenes, Norway; Mark Franklin, Trinity College, Connecticut, USA and European University Institute, Florence, Italy; Taylor Gunn at Student Vote, Canada; Michael

Hanmer, Department of Government, Georgetown University, USA; Sheridan Hortness; Asbjorn Johansen, Municipality of Evenes, Norway; Samuel Jones, former intern at International IDEA; Stina Larsrud, International IDEA; Hanna Berheim, International IDEA; Johan Lindroth, International IDEA; Lindsay Mazzucco at Student Vote, Canada; Nina Morris at the Electoral Commission, UK; Alan Wall; the Network of Communication of Information and Training of Women in Non-governmental Organizations (Réseau de communication d'information et de formation des femmes dans les organisations non-gouvernementaux), Burkina Faso; Richard G. Niemi, University of Rochester, USA; Valerie Pereboom, Carleton University, Ottawa, Canada; Murray Print, University of Sydney, Australia; Amy Stoks at the Chief Electoral Office, New Zealand; Murray Wicks at the Electoral Enrolment Centre, New Zealand; Josh Schenck Winters at the Minnesota Participation Project, USA; Zoe Mills, International IDEA and Daniel Zovatto, International IDEA.



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International IDEA

## Acronyms and Abbreviations

CEO	Chief Electoral Office (New Zealand)
CIDEM	Association Civisme et Démocratie (Civics and Democracy Association) (France)
DRC	Democratic Republic of the Congo
EC	Electoral Commission (New Zealand, United Kingdom)
EEC	Electoral Enrolment Centre (New Zealand)
EMB	Electoral Management Body
EUR	Euro
GOTV	Get-out-the-vote (programmes)
IDEA	International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance
IVO	Inštitút pre verejné otázky (Institute for Public Affairs) (Slovakia)
MMP	Mixed Member Proportional
MPP	Minnesota Participation Project (USA)
NGO	Non-governmental Organization
ONPE	Oficina Nacional de Procesos Electorales (National Office of Electoral Processes) (Peru)
RC	Representation Commission (New Zealand)
RECIF/ONG	Réseau de communication d'information et de formation des femmes dans les organisations non-gouvernementaux (Network of Communication of Information and Training of Women in Non-governmental Organizations) (Burkina Faso)
UK	United Kingdom
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
USD	US dollar







## Section I: Introduction

*Democracy should be a celebration of an involved public. Democracy requires an active citizenry because it is through discussion, popular interest, and involvement in politics that societal goals should be defined and carried out. Without public involvement in the process, democracy lacks both its legitimacy and its guiding force.<sup>1</sup>*

The past several decades have witnessed a general decline in voter turnout throughout the world, and, while there is little agreement as to what specifically constitutes a good level of turnout, recent declines in many countries have raised concern among governments, electoral management bodies (EMBs), non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and citizens. It is widely acknowledged that global voter turnout has dropped slowly but consistently in recent years.

Figure 1 plots average voter turnout, as a percentage of registered voters, in each year from 1945 to 30 June 2006. This figure uses data from elections in the 214 countries and territories in the IDEA database, and includes both parliamentary and presidential elections. It takes no account of the circumstances of individual elections. It includes all regions of the world. The figure therefore contains a certain amount of fluctuation from year to year because of

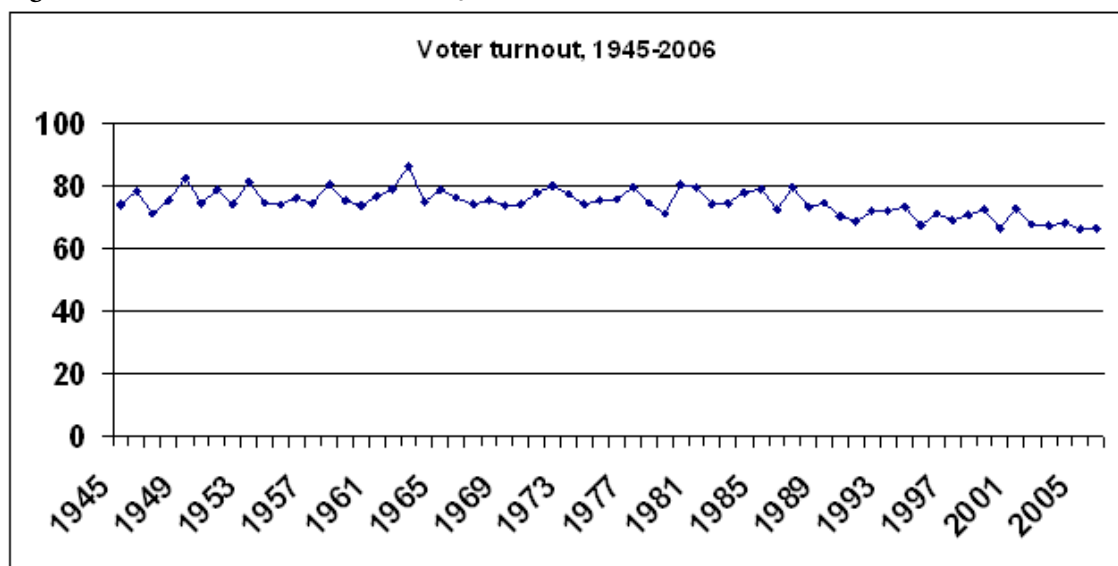
the particular elections included in that year's total. Nevertheless, it provides a good illustration of the situation of declining turnout which has occasioned many of the programmes described in this book.

Elections in the years prior to the late 1980s show an average turnout which generally fluctuates in the mid-to-higher 70 per cent range. From 1945 to 1960, the average turnout was 76.4 per cent. This increased slightly in the period 1961–75, to 77.1 per cent, but then declined somewhat, to 74.8 per cent, in the period 1976–90. Then, from 1990 to 2006, the average turnout declined substantially, to 69.7 per cent. In the decade to 2006, it was less than 69 per cent. Furthermore, the standard deviation in these numbers has also declined, from over 3 per cent in the earlier time periods to about 2.5 per cent now. These numbers show not only that the overall world turnout rate has declined, but that country turnout rates are now more uniform, with less variation between the highs and the lows.

This book will examine some of the efforts made throughout the world to stem and/or reverse the decline in voter turnout, and to encourage turnout at electoral events of all types, including elections, referendums and citizens' initiatives.

All electoral events involve many factors operating

**Figure 1. Voter Turnout Worldwide, 1945–June 2006**



1945	74.4	1956	76.3	1967	74.2	1978	74.7	1989	74.8	2000	66.7
1946	78.5	1957	74.9	1968	75.5	1979	71.3	1990	70.3	2001	73.2
1947	71.2	1958	80.7	1969	73.8	1980	80.4	1991	68.9	2002	67.9
1948	75.6	1959	75.6	1970	74.3	1981	79.7	1992	72.0	2003	67.5
1949	82.8	1960	73.7	1971	78.0	1982	74.2	1993	72.2	2004	68.4
1950	74.6	1961	76.8	1972	80.1	1983	74.7	1994	73.6	2005	66.3
1951	79.1	1962	79.2	1973	77.5	1984	78.0	1995	67.3	2006	66.5
1952	74.4	1963	86.5	1974	74.1	1985	79.2	1996	71.4		
1953	81.2	1964	74.9	1975	75.7	1986	72.8	1997	69.0		
1954	74.6	1965	79.0	1976	76.0	1987	79.6	1998	70.9		
1955	74.1	1966	76.3	1977	79.8	1988	73.4	1999	72.7		

Figures are percentages of registered electors who cast a vote.

at different levels, which have varying effects on voter turnout. Some factors are not easy to change, as they would require alterations to a country's institutional framework or electoral laws or are even the result of massive social transformation. Other elements, however, are more malleable, and it is at this practical level that this book presents a selection of ideas used throughout the world that may work to encourage voter turnout in suitable contexts.

## The Structure of This Book

This introductory section addresses some of the theoretical and practical concerns associated with declining political participation in general, with a focus on voting in particular. Next, in order to categorize the activities of a variety of governmental organizations and NGOs working to maximize voter turnout, section II of this book presents a broad framework. Six basic forms of activity are identified:

1. information campaigns that address the question of how to register (if applicable) and vote;
2. advertising campaigns that address why electors should participate;
3. grass-roots movements to mobilize citizens;
4. school/mock elections and other special purpose educational programmes;
5. entertainment; and
6. inducements designed to make voting more enticing.

Section III presents case studies for each of these types of activity drawn from the inventory of involved or-

ganizations (see annex B), which has been compiled from various international sources. It is clear that there has been some successful transplanting of ideas and approaches from country to country and even continent to continent. Section IV presents some preliminary conclusions and recommendations that may be drawn from this compilation.

## 1. Theories of Democracy

Democracy, as a theoretical concept, has long been the subject of deliberation, debate and dreams. The way in which democracy is defined speaks not only of the nature of government, elections and power, but also of the nature of society, community and humanity. In the political philosophy of more recent centuries, the concept of democracy has evolved through many incarnations. It has been used as the basis for a utopian society, a means to protect citizens from government, a tool for the advancement of human development, a form of free-market politics, and a way to ensure stability in a pluralist society. Democratic theory has envisioned humankind as a project, as consumers, and as a danger to peace and good order. Ongoing theoretical thought and the efforts of various democratizing groups continue to keep the long-standing questions of the very nature of democracy and politics at the forefront of the debate.

Viewed strictly as a tool or mechanism, representative democracy is defined only as a system of government in which people vote in order to select those who will determine policy and act as their political leaders. The act of voting provides all citizens with a direct interest in the actions of their government, an opportunity to participate and also to inform themselves and others. The results of the vote give those elected the entitlement to govern—or to oppose and oversee those who govern—until the next election, and the responsibility to decide political issues on

the behalf of their constituents. Voting becomes the key form of interaction between those elected and the ordinary citizens, it provides the fundamental foundation for the operation of the rest of the democratic system, and it provides great symbolic value. If voting turnout declines, the primary link between the citizen and the system is diminished, government actions are less likely to correspond with the desires of the citizens, and, on a larger scale, the legitimacy of the democratic system may be undermined.

Some theorists, however, contend that this common form of late-20th century democracy has emerged as something of a paradox—universal suffrage ensuring political equality within a system of society that emphasizes individual rights and an economy that retains very real inequalities of class, opportunity and affluence.<sup>2</sup> This form of democracy, they contend, is the very cause of the crisis exposed by widespread voter alienation and falling voter turnout.

Some writers and some participants in democracy-building processes contend that, rather than just being an instrument of control or influence, politics must be viewed as a way of living and social decision making. Democracy thus becomes a moral concept—a way of life. Political participation also needs to be expressive, allowing a citizen to feel a part of the process. In this view, democratic participation is conceived of as a vehicle to build both citizenship and community. Substantial citizen participation in government decision making—or rather a form of direct democracy—is necessary in order to achieve a more equitable and humane society.<sup>3</sup>

Despite their differences, all theories of democracy maintain a place for voting as a fundamental component. Elections remain the primary basis of public influence within representative democracy, provide a form of collective decision making as to who manages the affairs of government and who oversees them doing so, and provide some degree of popular control over elected politicians. Referendums and citizens' initiatives enable direct involvement in popular decision making, with both advantages and disadvantages, and depend on the participation of citizens through voting as elections do. As a form of political participation, voting generally remains the easiest and the one that most commonly engages majorities of citizens.<sup>4</sup> Given this, the reasons why people appear to be increasingly willing to abstain from voting remain far from totally explained. Many potential factors have been put forward as partial explanations.

## 2. Why Voter Turnout Varies

Over time, there has been much deliberation as to why people do or do not vote. Various factors have emerged which scholars and theorists have shown to affect levels of voter turnout throughout the world. Here, these factors will be briefly considered under the categories of contextual and systemic considerations, and individual and social factors, both of which appear to contribute to turnout levels.<sup>5</sup>

### 2a. Contextual and Systemic Factors

As voter turnout varies, not only from country to country but also from one election to the next, **contextual and systemic considerations** are instrumental in determining political participation, particularly as they can affect the way an electoral event is viewed by the voters.

The context at national level can vary, sometimes greatly, from one election to the next. **Contextual** factors combine to make participation in an electoral event more or less attractive. Examples of such factors include:

- *perceptions of the effectiveness of political competition*—the degree to which citizens believe that different election outcomes lead to significant differences in the direction and impact of government;
- *the competitiveness and salience of the electoral event* at both national and local levels: if the electoral contest is believed to be close, voters may view the event as having greater importance, while the expected margin of victory may partially determine the perceived weight of a vote and may also factor into the electorate's expectations of governmental responsiveness;
- *the nature of the party system*. The degree of fragmentation may provide more varied options for the voters—although strong fragmentation may have the reverse effect, with voters confused or unclear as to the effect that their vote may have;
- *campaign spending*, which may raise the profile of an election and lead to a wider distribution of political information;
- *voting traditions in different communities*. The emergence of 'safe' seats may depress voter turnout, or specific communities may be a particularly profitable target for various interest groups or political parties;
- *strategic voting*. Voters may be more willing to

turn out to prevent an undesired outcome;

- *length of time between elections.* When elections are held with great frequency, it has generally been found that voter turnout suffers, although there are many theories as to why this is so;
- *weather* may be a more important factor in some climates than others; extreme weather conditions may work to hamper turnout levels; and
- *the nature of the electoral event itself.* Turnout in referendums and citizens' initiative voting is usually lower than it is in national elections, but there are exceptions (such as the Norwegian referendum on membership of the European Union or the Quebec sovereignty referendums) where this is not the case. Elections other than national elections, such as European Parliament elections or municipal elections, often see lower turnouts—as do elections to the legislature in presidential systems where they do not synchronize with presidential elections.

**Systemic** or institutional elements are generally more stable and often require considerable legislative and administrative effort to change. Many of these factors can be viewed best in terms of facilitation, or as things that make participation more or less troublesome. Examples of systemic considerations are:

- *electoral system choice.* Almost all electoral systems can generally be categorized as plurality/majority, proportional representation (PR), or mixed systems. It has been found that the more responsive the electoral system is in representing the choices made by the electorate, the higher voter turnout will be. Turnout in PR systems is often higher than in plurality/majority systems;
- *voter registration as a state or individual responsibility;*
- *compulsory versus voluntary voting.* Cross-national studies have generally found that countries with institutionalized compulsory voting experience high turnout, as long as the compulsion is backed by effective sanctions for non-voting;
- *single versus multiple polling days;*
- *elections taking place on a workday or a rest day,* the argument being that holding elections on holidays or weekends makes participation more convenient. Studies have reached differing conclu-

sions as to whether this is true in practice;

- *the availability of alternative voting procedures* (advance voting, proxy voting, postal voting etc.) allows voters who may be unable to participate on election day still to cast a ballot;
- *physical access to the polls.* If access is difficult, some would-be voters may be deterred from participating; and
- *the use of new technologies,* such as electronic voting, to complement conventional processes; some assessments of pilot projects, however, indicate that these may be more effective in providing more convenient channels for regular voters than in engaging new voters.

Neither of these lists should be considered comprehensive for all voting environments. Many of these factors may be well beyond the immediate reach of electoral administrators or government agencies, and still further from that of citizen groups and civil society organizations. Such factors fall outside the realm of this book: the impact of electoral context and law, for example, is discussed in *Electoral System Design: The New International IDEA Handbook*.<sup>6</sup>

## **2b. Individual and Social Factors**

In terms of **individual characteristics**, **age** is the most important factor, and is found to have the most substantial relationship to turnout. Recent studies have consistently shown that the younger members of a voting population are less likely to vote. Age is often used as a measure of social connectedness based on the idea that as a person ages he or she gains more experience, becomes more rooted, and recognizes more of what is at stake in the future of his or her community and country. This is discussed further in part 3 of this introduction below. Marital status, residential mobility, and religious involvement are other variables often used to measure social connectedness whereby those who are married, are less apt to move frequently, and observe a religious lifestyle are also more likely to vote.

The other consistently important **social-demographic variable** in predicting turnout is **education**, although the extent of its impact tends to vary from country to country, and establishing equivalent measures across education systems in different countries can be difficult. A positive relationship generally exists in much of the world: those with higher levels of education tend to be more likely to vote. It is of-

ten pointed out that those who are better educated may have the resources, opportunities and means to participate in politics which those with less education lack. It should be noted, however, that this relationship does not hold everywhere. Some research has shown that the effect is the opposite, that higher levels of education are linked to a lower likelihood to vote (e.g. in India), and high levels of education are not necessarily linked with high turnout levels (witness Switzerland and the United States). Other dynamics may thus be at work, with the relationship between education and voting not being one of cause and effect.<sup>7</sup> Despite these exceptions, it should be noted that literacy has been found to be an important factor in transitional democracies.<sup>8</sup> Other factors frequently associated with education are income, occupation and social class.

Other common social–demographic variables relating to voter turnout have been considered in studies throughout the world. They include gender, regionalism, urban/rural divisions, and the impact of immigration and immigrant communities. Some of these factors produce opposite effects in different countries, and others are simply not applicable in certain national contexts. Some may involve other, wider societal issues at a given time in a given place. Changes in some factors may take many years for their full impact to be felt: countries where women gained the vote earlier tend to have higher turnout than those that made this reform more recently.<sup>9</sup>

In general, social–demographic characteristics may be considered in order to seek out kinds of people who are less likely to vote and may need encouragement. This is certainly a common practice, as the inventory of active vote-maximizing groups (annex B) shows. However, the impact of social–demographic factors on their own in explaining voter turnout and political behaviour is generally moderate, except for age. Other factors must also be considered.

**Attitudinal factors**, which may have psychological and sociological foundations, predispose the individual to participate or not. They include **political interest**, political knowledge, and commitment to politics, all of which can be clearly linked. Simply stated, the more interested a person is in politics, the more likely it is that he or she will participate, whether by gathering knowledge, by voting and/or by taking part in other political activities. This relationship also tends to be reciprocal in that the more one participates, the more interested in politics one will be. It may be that a particular election or political event demands an individual's attention, or that a person

will vote simply in order to express his or her beliefs or loyalties. In this respect, political systems where strong party loyalties are widespread may possess a cushion against turnout decline that is not found in systems where citizens are less attached to parties and are therefore more inclined to judge the parties anew at each election.<sup>10</sup>

Political sophistication, as a form of intelligence or understanding, however, should not be considered as something entirely inborn. A voter needs to use a combination of means (capacity), motive (incentives) and opportunity (availability of information), relying both on his or her own capabilities and on the contextual structure, to become informed and be involved. This may not happen if **clear, plentiful information of good quality** is not available. If the available information is too sparse, is unclear, or comes at too high a price, potential voters may decide that the cost is too high and that voting is simply too great an effort.<sup>11</sup>

**Political efficacy** is another key determinant in voter participation. A sense of efficacy is developed when an individual feels well-informed enough about politics to believe that they can influence the make-up or activities of decision-making bodies. If an election appears to be meaningless or irrelevant, or an individual feels powerless or ineffectual in his or her interactions with the political system, the sense of political efficacy declines and abstention from voting is more likely. In its stronger forms, this can lead to political apathy and alienation.

As individuals do not exist in a social vacuum, social context is also a factor. Involvement in **social networks**, group activities, political organizations or parties can also promote political activity such as voting, and provide cues to individuals as to how, why and when to vote (and perhaps who to vote for). More fundamentally, social organization builds community and its accompanying norms of reciprocity, trust and cooperation among its members. The expectation is that individuals will make decisions considering the needs of the collectivity and not simply their own self-interest. A process of **socialization** of new members of a society, especially young people, thus takes place, and it is in this context that ideas of social capital,<sup>12</sup> collective action and civic duty emerge. Social pressure can work to encourage political participation in activities such as voting so that an individual can be held in high esteem by his or her peers, and wider conceptions of **civic duty** may further result in participation becoming a moral obligation apart from any cost–benefit analysis. Civic duty

arguments care not for whom an individual votes, but only that he or she casts a ballot. The idea of civic duty is deeply ingrained, present among certain groups and in certain countries more than others, but nonetheless a widespread phenomenon throughout the world.<sup>13</sup>

### 3. *The Issue of Young Voters*

While concerns over lower levels of turnout among younger people are not new, the degree of non-participation is becoming increasingly troubling. In countries, particularly developing countries, where young people form a substantial percentage of the overall population and poor youth voter turnout has a pronounced impact on overall turnout figures, non-participation by this demographic group may become an even greater threat to democratic legitimacy.

There are several generally accepted explanations for low voter turnout among young people. One is that life-cycle demands require young people to establish themselves and stabilize their education, occupation and relationships before time and motivation can be dedicated to political participation. As these elements stabilize, politics becomes more relevant to life. It is assumed here that a gradual cultural process of political socialization develops over a lifetime. The explanation may, however, relate rather to social embeddedness or lack of anonymity. Franklin contends that young people who reach voting age at a time when they are newly away from the parental home face great challenges in learning the voting process, and are therefore less likely to make the effort. Conversely, those who are known to and are part of a community of voters (e.g. family members in the same household or living in the place where they grew up) are more likely to have an appropriate support group to provide information and advice, which makes learning to vote a less costly and more beneficial process. It is the lack of anonymity that demands a very good excuse not to vote.<sup>14</sup>

Other explanations attribute low youth voter turnout to more immediate factors. Some claim that political parties and leaders fail to attend to, or even address, the concerns of young people—that there is a lack of representation. Others argue that there is a lack of information—that political concerns are not being adequately communicated to young people, leaving young potential voters unaware or misinformed; or, on a more practical level, that navigating the very process of casting a ballot is not being adequately taught. In his work on socializing young Australian voters, Print cites research showing that

civic education programmes in schools—and informal elements, in particular student government elections—can make a difference in the formation of the civic values and participation of students. He goes on to suggest that schools may well provide the best opportunity to teach balanced, non-partisan democratic values, but they need to go beyond the formal curriculum to make civic and political engagement meaningful to young people and thus produce adults who see voting as a consequential activity.<sup>15</sup>

Still other explanations put low turnout among young voters down to general feelings of apathy similar to those afflicting other segments of the population. All these explanations suggest that many young people perceive that the political system fails to attend to their needs and interests, or that the system itself has failed to integrate new voters or to provide them with opportunities to participate. Some researchers do suggest, however, that low youth voter participation actually has less to do with lack of interest than with young people's perceptions regarding the importance of the activity of voting. Zovatto finds that Latin American young people report the highest levels in society of interest in politics, but are more inclined to express their views through 'street democracy' (such as demonstrations) than through the formal political process.<sup>16</sup> The question this raises is whether or not today's young street activists in Latin America will become the voters of ten or 15 years' time.

The limits to the information available mean that it is often difficult or even not yet possible to give rigorous answers to questions of this kind, especially when they relate to newer democracies. EMBs and others may find it helpful to consider what data may assist such research while determining their policies for collection and availability of data.

Where such data do exist, their implications may not be encouraging. For example, the UK Electoral Commission's 2006 study 'An Audit of Political Engagement 3' shows that those in younger age groups and those groups deemed to be socially excluded tend to be the least politically engaged.<sup>17</sup> There is growing evidence that younger age groups are losing or never gaining the habit of voting, and are carrying their lack of interest through into later life. Young people are also the least politically knowledgeable; and those who are already politically involved are for the most part the same people who vote. It would be comforting to believe that those who do not vote participate in other, more directly active, ways, but at least in the United Kingdom this does not appear to be true. The



question is thus how to engage the disaffected and alienated young.

It is not always easy to know in which direction the causal relationships lie. Do young people cite a lack of interest because they lack the necessary information to participate? If attitudes can be changed, will behaviour follow? Alternatively, can behavioural conditioning promote more positive attitudes towards political participation? In any case, apprehension regarding low youth voter turnout levels may be well founded, particularly if it holds true that political participation is a habitual and self-sustaining activity.

It has indeed been suggested that the first three elections for which a voter is qualified are of defining importance, and that if voting does not become a routine event early in a person's life, the potential for that individual to participate consistently may be lost. This in turn suggests that voter turnout will remain relatively stable from one election to the next in the context of a particular country, with variation occurring as a result of the turnout levels of new voters.<sup>18</sup> Some voter mobilization studies have found further evidence to support the idea of voting as habit-forming in that the effects of mobilization seem to endure through subsequent elections.<sup>19</sup>

#### **4. Practical Concerns for Government**

While consideration of local context and culture is always essential, all democratic countries, whether established or establishing, need to ensure the health of their political system and the engagement of their citizens. This may require attempts to reverse recent declines in political participation and the growing scepticism about politicians and political institutions in general. Alternatively, concern may lie more with the fundamental task of educating a population on how elections and voting operate in a democratic forum.

Beyond the immediate preoccupation with democracy as a means of selecting a government and the fundamental exercise of creating credible and legitimate government within a country, there are also other practical motivations that justify debate and action aimed at increased voter participation. For example, the learning of voting behaviour can be seen as part of the process of integrating young people into society at large. The issue of political participation may also merge into other, wider societal concerns such as gender equality, economic change and multiculturalism, allowing representation of various groups and policies. Finally, democracy and its basis of a voting citizenry serve the highly symbolic func-

tion of presenting a face of legitimacy to the rest of the world.

What practical action can governments take? Changes in the contextual and systemic factors affecting elections are likely to have important and lasting effects. Amendments to institutional frameworks are rarely easy, however, especially as changes designed to bring more competitive elections may run directly counter to the natural inclination of existing elected members who may prefer systems which make it easier for them to keep their jobs.

As this introduction shows, there are many areas in which further knowledge is needed and further research is desirable to inform policy debate and recommendations. For example, the targeting of civic education programmes may need to be reconsidered. Considerable resources are being devoted in this area worldwide, some probably much more cost-effectively than others. Closer links between the global electoral community and the global educational community could lead to more detailed analysis of these issues, from which important messages for policy change may emerge.

However, governments and EMBs, citizens' groups, NGOs and other interested groups are not powerless pending institutional framework change or the creation of new knowledge and new tools. Each may take initiatives to encourage turnout which can be relatively easily implemented in the short term and which are likely to be less controversial than deep systemic change. There are limitations to the outcomes of such initiatives, which should not be viewed as cure-all solutions for low or falling turnout or as an alternative to the debate of systemic reforms. They do, however, have the potential to make a positive, if sometimes modest, contribution to turnout levels. The examples, case studies and suggestions in the remainder of this book are intended to contribute to facilitating and increasing engagement in the electoral process, and are presented in order to share ideas and approaches which may assist or inspire governments and other stakeholders seeking to take practical action to contribute to addressing turnout issues.

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II

## Section II: Initiatives and Activities

Campaigns to encourage and maximize voter turnout are run by many different kinds of entity throughout the world—governments, EMBs, political parties, NGOs, citizen groups, youth organizations and so on. Some approaches rely on formal lines of communication through traditional partners, while others attempt to build social networks using non-traditional partners to promote their message of encouraging voters to turn out. The definition of partner organizations as traditional or non-traditional may vary depending on the national context, but traditional partners would include public officials, community organizations, high schools, advocacy groups, youth political groups and campus clubs, while non-traditional partners might include businesses, large employers, trade unions, non-formal education centres, community non-profit groups, youth-focused service organizations, religious groups and media organizations.<sup>1</sup>

There is an enormous range of activity worldwide which can be used as the source for case studies and examples that illustrate effective practice and/or imaginative initiatives. The focus chosen here is on the activities of EMBs and non-partisan, non-profit groups. This definition is not always easy to apply in practice, as ideas of ‘non-partisanship’ in particular are not necessarily alike in all political contexts. The attempt has been made, however, to consider activities designed to encourage turnout and to exclude activities by organizations that are directly affiliated with, or funded by, political parties, which may be better considered as a means to build or mobilize party support. The selection made from a huge range of initiatives is inevitably to some extent arbitrary but is intended to represent the wide range of activities that are taking place.

Activities to encourage voter turnout can be categorized into the framework of the six basic approaches identified in section I:

1. *information campaigns*—campaigns that address the question of how a potential voter is to register (if this is required), outlining the basics of who can vote, and advertising when an election is to be held, where one goes to vote, the hours when polling stations are open, and how the very process of casting a ballot works;
2. *advertising campaigns*—campaigns that address the motivational issue as to why electors should participate in the electoral event;
3. *grass-roots movements*—groups of citizens working to inform, register (if this is required), and mobilize their fellow citizens at election times;
4. *school/mock elections and other special-purpose programmes* within the educational system—campaigns designed to teach the workings of democratic systems and electoral processes. These programmes may be directed to children, adults or particular demographic groups, and may vary greatly in length and intensity;
5. *entertainment*—campaigns that operate on the premise that learning about elections and politics can be more engaging to certain target audiences if it is presented in a lighter atmosphere and accompanied by music and/or spectacle; and
6. *inducements*—programmes designed to make voting more enticing by offering actual or potential compensation.

### **1. Information Campaigns (‘how’)**

Information campaigns generally address the fundamental processes of registering potential voters and the ‘*how, when and where*’ of voting itself. These campaigns are often led by EMBs throughout the world. In addition, in countries where the onus is on the individual rather than the state to ensure registration (either legally or in practice), significant mobilization by non-government groups often takes place to get this basic information across to the public. Examples include Declare Yourself (USA), Freedom of Choice (Ukraine), Pora (Ukraine), Mjaft! (Albania), the Association of Election Officials in Bosnia-Herzegovina, the Emang Basadi Women’s Association (Botswana), Conciencia (Argentina), Freedom of Choice (Ukraine), and the advertising campaigns run by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)’s Burundi Office.

Information campaigns tend to be as inclusive as possible. The primary goals are to register many potential voters, and to ensure that the voting process

is clear and accessible. In addition, both EMBs and non-government groups at times direct particular efforts to specific groups in society that are less likely to vote. These may include immigrant groups, minority groups (e.g. Freedom House in Slovakia), particular geographical areas where voter turnout is low, disabled voters (e.g. the Central Electoral Commission in Bulgaria, the Supreme Electoral Tribunal in Costa Rica, and the National Office of Electoral Processes in Peru), and so on. Information campaigns often tend to be multilingual even in countries with only one official language (e.g. the electoral commissions of Western Australia and Victoria in Australia). In Sweden, the voter information booklet contains material in 15 languages and basic information about elections is available in about 20 languages.

As with any other operation, information campaigns directed to a mass audience need to consider the most effective ways to communicate their message. Common mediums include mail-outs (direct or general), advertising in the print media and on radio and television, leaflets, and posters. Many countries have also embraced new technologies to assist direct communication and voter registration by making use of the Internet to establish information websites (e.g. the South African and Nigerian electoral commissions, the Latvian Central Electoral Commission, and the French Ministry of the Interior), or email, and some EMBs are even employing text messaging (e.g. in New Zealand). Additionally, in order to more directly reach smaller groups of specific potential voters, workshops and seminars are sometimes offered (e.g. by the Electoral Commission in the United Kingdom, the Botswana Electoral Commission, the New Zealand Electoral Commission, the National Democratic Institute in Niger, We The Citizens in Russia, and the Committee of Voters of Ukraine).

## 2. Advertising Campaigns ('why')

Unlike campaigns that provide strictly information, this category includes activities that introduce the motivational question of *why* potential voters should cast a ballot. The answer can be phrased in a variety of ways, but the message is often common across borders.

- '*Your vote is your voice*': if you as a citizen want to have your input into how politics and government work, you need to vote in order to send a message to those in power.
- '*Politics affects you so be involved*': as much of social life, from the mundane to the spectacular, relies on the decisions and administration of govern-

ment bodies, your interests will not necessarily be attended to if you do not make the effort to be a part of the process.

- '*Your vote matters*': every vote cast plays a role in determining who will win and form the government, or which way a referendum issue is resolved.
- '*It is a citizen's right and duty to vote*': as part of a civic body, every citizen is granted political and legal rights of which voting is one. At the same time, every citizen in a democratic society is morally required to participate in order to ensure lawful, responsible and legitimate government.
- '*Voting is a "cool" thing to do*': the idea that voting is both an enjoyable activity, and even more so, an activity that is an attractive and desirable part of one's lifestyle.

In some national government settings, these 'pushes to encourage voting' are run by the same EMBs that provide the information campaigns described above, while in others responsibility is allocated to a complementary organization (an example is Sweden's division between the Central Election Authority (information) and the Ministry of Justice (motivation)). In many countries, however, the loudest messages regarding the importance of voting come from non-government groups, citizens' organizations and young people's organizations.

As with information campaigns, motivational advertising campaigns are often wide-ranging in their targets and scope. They try to send messages that are intended to resonate with as many potential voters as possible, but also often include pleas to specific groups. Campaigns targeting young people in particular are common, as low turnout among young voters is a concern in many countries. Campaigns to motivate young people are often part of wider attempts to reach young people, some of which are described below.

Advertising is often done by way of television, radio and print advertisements, billboards, leaflets and the Internet.

## 3. Grass-roots Movements

Grass-roots movements do not involve formal government bodies or EMBs. Rather they are on-the-ground campaigns that rely on ordinary people to mobilize their peers to vote. They come in many forms, for many purposes, and often with specific target groups in mind. They may appear for a specific electoral

event, or they may emerge from social groups that decide that there is a need to pursue voter mobilization in their neighbourhood or their country as a whole.

Depending on the national context and their own capacity, grass-roots groups may carry out different functions. Many focus on facilitating voter registration and/or election-day get-out-the-vote (GOTV) activities, and with this as an overarching purpose seek to convey civic education messages regarding the 'how' and 'why' of voting, and combating lack of interest and negativity. Many grass-roots groups have particular target audiences in mind when establishing their activities—young people (e.g. Get Your Vote On in Canada, the New Voters Project in the USA, Pora in Ukraine, Rock Volieb in Slovakia, Mlodzi Demokraci in Poland, Malady Front in Belarus, and the Centro de Voluntariado de Rio Claro in Brazil); minority groups (e.g. the National Association of Latino Elected and Appointed Officials (NALEO) Educational Fund in the case of the Latino vote in the USA, and Black Youth Vote in the USA); low-income groups (e.g. Project Vote in the USA); and women (e.g. Emang Basadi in Botswana, the Women's Alliance for Development in Bulgaria, and the Sector de Mujeres Campaña Por Voto Consciente in Guatemala)—or even smaller objectives such as workplace or client voter mobilization.

The methods employed by these groups can vary widely depending, once again, on context, capacity and resources. Grass-roots methods are often people-intensive, as the greatest success has often been found to come through good-quality, personal, and preferably face-to-face, contact.<sup>2</sup> This may be accomplished by actually knocking on doors and providing information or motivation to people in their homes, by setting up tables or kiosks in public places to speak to passers-by, by scheduling events or public forums, by getting friends, family, or acquaintances to promise to vote, or by use of telephone banks. Less personal direct contact methods may include leafleting, direct mailings and email, and more generally directed efforts can take the form of media support, posters and graffiti. Grass-roots organizations sometimes also provide small inducements to participants such as give-aways or souvenirs, or services to make voting easier such as transport to the polls on election day.

Although this inventory does not consider activities by political parties and political groups, it may be worth noting that the methods employed by grass-roots movements are often common to partisan and non-partisan groups alike—it is the message that varies. Some studies have suggested that both

are equally effective at boosting turnout in general.<sup>3</sup> Party campaigns, however, tend to only target likely voters. This often leaves traditionally low-turnout groups, such as young people and minorities, out of the reach of their campaigns: if asked to vote, some of these potential electors would be likely to do so.<sup>4</sup>

#### **4. School/Mock Elections and Other Special-purpose Educational Programmes**

Many organizations, governmental and non-governmental alike, dedicate time and resources to setting up civics programmes on electoral matters for primary and secondary schools that fulfil the educational guidelines of their region or country and try to encourage their distribution and use (e.g. the New Zealand Election Commission's Hands Up!, the Hansard Society's Heads Up in the UK, the Victoria Electoral Commission's Your Opinion Counts in Victoria, Australia, Kids Voting USA's Civics Alive!, the Department of Education of the French Community of Belgium's Democracy or Barbarism (Démocratie ou barbarie), and the National Electoral Court in Peru). Other organizations provide less structured resources and online forums to be used as an accompaniment to civics classes. Many of these emphasize in particular that civics education can be made more enjoyable when 'hands-on' activities are provided, allowing students to 'do politics' rather than simply providing reading or lectures (e.g. the UK Electoral Commission, Elections Canada, the Western Australian Electoral Commission's Electoral Education Centre, the Australian Capital Territory Electoral Commission, and the Federal Electoral Institute of Mexico).

Expanding the idea of teaching through doing, there are also many organizations that provide the opportunity for students to experience an electoral event. Different organizations have done this in different ways. One method has been to run mock elections or referendums on various (political and non-political) topics with students playing all the roles—party candidates, speech-writers, canvassers and voters (examples are the Y Vote mock elections run by the Hansard Society in the UK, and the programmes of the Western Australian Electoral Commission and the Australian Capital Territory Electoral Commission, PBS Kids in the USA, and the Regional Federation of the Houses of Youth and Culture of Rhône-Alpes in France). Another method is to provide the information to apply the structure of official national elections to school-based elections or student parliaments (e.g. Elections Canada, and the

Intenda Foundation in Slovakia). The method that provides the most realism in this experience is probably that of running a mock election parallel to an actual ongoing campaign.

As a hands-on approach to learning how political processes work, students follow a formal electoral campaign and ‘vote’ in their own assigned polling stations according to proper electoral law and voting procedures (e.g. Kids Voting in the USA, Student Vote in Canada, and the Committee of Voters of Ukraine). In addition to providing an interesting teaching method, a further objective is that, if children are interested and wanting to exercise their ‘right to vote’, or at least to see how voting works in actuality, their parents may take the opportunity to vote as well. Building on this connection between parents and their children, campaigns have also emerged such as Take Your Kids to Vote and PBS Kids in the USA, which encourage children to get their grown-ups out to vote.

## 5. Entertainment

Rock the Vote (USA) was established in 1990 as a response to concerns that freedom of speech and artistic expression were under attack. Its highly visible approach—to involve and empower young people by using popular culture and trends to make political education and participation more appealing—has been widely adopted by other groups throughout the world.

Organizations that use entertainment to spread their message contend that providing events that appeal to certain groups based on age (particularly young voters) or interest offers an opening to combat the negativity and lack of interest that many feel towards the political process, provide information and voter registration services, and generally make voting ‘cool’. The entertainment element can have many faces: music concerts are commonly used, but so are sporting events, theatre, comedy, cultural events and so on.

Different groups present events on different scales: some work continuously as political projects while others appear only in the context of a particular electoral event. While the entertainment is the key draw, events often also incorporate face-to-face contact with peers or politicians, give-aways and souvenirs, or contests. Larger campaigns also often involve media support, launching advertising or public service announcements.

## 6. Inducements

In any electoral event, there will be those who will not be persuaded to vote by arguments of civic duty, civic education or emotion. These potential abstainers may be more likely to consider participation if they feel they will receive a direct benefit by voting. In Colombia, for example, a series of institutional–administrative incentives to vote have been put into place. In this case, so long as one is an active voter, one may qualify for preference in admission to higher education, or access to government employment, scholarships and home loans; receive reduced tuition fees, consular service fees, airport tax, and costs for some government documents; and receive reductions in the term of required military service.<sup>5</sup>

While it is perhaps a logical counterpart to compulsory voting—the carrot rather than the stick—the very idea of offering more obvious inducements to vote tends to stir up controversy. Such proposals may engage a fierce debate of principle about what is and is not acceptable in promoting democratic participation. However, despite the uproar these initiatives frequently inspire when they do achieve an executable form, ideas in this category are not in short supply. Offerings such as lottery tickets or small gifts (provided by the EMBs, not from particular political parties), hoping to lure more people to the polls, have been tried in both local and national elections (e.g. in Norway and Bulgaria). An attempt to introduce the concept of voter inducement has been initiated in the US state of Arizona. Proposals to be voted on by the public on 7 November 2006, alongside congressional and other elections, include a measure called the Arizona Voter Reward Act. If successful, this initiative will result in the establishment of a lottery whereby 1 million US dollars (USD) will be awarded to one randomly-selected voter after each primary and general election held in that state. The money to fund this is to come from unclaimed state lottery prize money, private donations, and state money if needed. The express purpose of this proposal is to raise voter turnout. The organizers have adopted the slogan ‘Who Wants to Be a Millionaire? Vote!’. They argue that this device should be viewed as a means to encourage people to become both more interested in and better informed about politics, and that better representation will result if more people vote. Opponents, on the other hand, dismiss the proposal as a commercial ‘bribery’ attempt that might draw electors who have not studied the candidates or the issues. They argue that the measure is simply a superficial response to a real problem, and that the idea that more voters will automatically pro-



duce a better outcome is flawed. In mid-2006, there is also some question as to whether or not Arizona's lottery initiative will contravene state and federal law regarding the exchange of votes for money.<sup>6</sup>

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# III

## Section III : Case Studies

### 1. Information Campaigns

Making the Electoral Process as Easy as Possible:  
Elections New Zealand

Educating the Voter about the Electoral Process:  
The Swedish Election Authority

Making Democracy Accessible for Everyone:  
The National Office of Electoral Processes, Peru

### 2. Advertising Campaigns

Convincing Voters that Their Vote is Important:  
The Association Civisme Démocratie (CIDEM)  
in France

Making Politics Relevant: The Electoral Commission,  
United Kingdom

### 3. Grass-roots Movements

Identifying and Engaging the Under-represented:  
The Minnesota Participation Project in the USA

Teaching Citizens to Protect Their Democratic  
Rights: Pora in Ukraine and Similar Organizations  
in Central and Eastern Europe

### 4. School/Mock Elections and Other Special-purpose Educational Programmes

Educating Young People Through Participation  
in the Voting Process: Student Vote in Canada

Informing Young People of the Need  
for Conscientious Voting:  
Eleitor do Futuro (Voter of the Future) in Brazil

### 5. Entertainment

Teaching Political Participation Through Theatre:  
The Réseau de communication d'information  
et de formation des femmes dans les organisations  
non-gouvernementaux (RECIF/ONG) in  
Burkina Faso

Rock Volieb and the 1998 Parliamentary Elections  
in Slovakia: Rocking the Vote Slovak Style

### 6. Inducements

The 1995 Municipal Elections Lottery in Norway

The 2005 Parliamentary Election Lottery in Bulgaria

# Making the Electoral Process as Easy as Possible: Elections New Zealand

ERIN THIESSEN

The public face of electoral administration in New Zealand is the entity known collectively as Elections New Zealand. The well-coordinated and seamless presentation is achieved through careful cooperation between the four agencies responsible for electoral administration in the country—the Electoral Enrolment Centre (EEC), the Chief Electoral Office (CEO), the Electoral Commission (EC) and the Representation Commission (RC).

The division of responsibilities into separate agencies occurred over time in response to a variety of changes in the electoral environment. The CEO, part of the ministry of Justice, was the sole electoral administration body until 1975, when it was decided to move the local work on electoral enrolment to the Post Office (now NZ Post). In 1980, the EEC was established as a division of the state-owned NZ Post, under contract to the Ministry of Justice, to undertake overall administration for the electoral registers as NZ Post's nationwide network of point-of-sale, address and change-of-address data provided a logical support system. The next major change was the establishment of the EC, in 1994, to administer the registration of political parties and provide public education following the adoption of a Mixed Member Proportional (MMP) electoral system in a 1993 referendum. The RC is responsible for the redrawing of electoral district boundaries (for both the general and the Maori electoral districts) every five years after the population census and Maori Electoral Option have been completed. The first three of these agencies (the EEC, the CEO and the EC) conduct public information campaigns, separately and in conjunction, directed at all New Zealand electors, at various times during the election cycle. Their individual efforts are presented here first, followed by their coordinated approach.

## ***The Electoral Enrolment Centre***

To fully grasp the importance of the EEC in New Zealand, it is important to know that, while voting is not compulsory, enrolling to vote is. Since 2002, New Zealand has maintained a system of continuous enrolment, meaning that the electoral rolls are updated on a daily basis. It is also a system of common enrolment, ensuring that each voter needs to register in only one

place for everything from local council to general elections. The EEC maintains several routes to achieve enrolment at any time as forms can be obtained or requested from the Elections New Zealand website (they can be downloaded or completed online), a toll-free 0800 number, PostShop locations, or Freetext messaging. It is the voter's responsibility to provide an update if he or she moves or if their details change.

The EEC maintains about 80 full-time staff as well as numerous casual staff. Up to 100 contractors are hired additionally at certain points in the three-year electoral cycle as larger enrolment update campaigns are held prior to major electoral events. At these times, the EEC undertakes exhaustive advertising and publicity campaigns that include everything from television/radio/press/online advertising to point-of-sale displays at PostShops to presentations and directed mailouts to billboard/bus shelter/train interior/street poster advertising to placing information in a virtual community (Smile City) to concerts and so on. The EEC contends that a mix of communication channels is necessary to appeal to individual preferences. Messages are deliberately kept simple, focusing on a single idea, and calling on voters to react and respond. The EEC further undertakes face-to-face and door-knocking encouragement to target groups that are traditionally difficult to enrol, particularly young people, Maori, and Pacific and other ethnic groups. It has found that the most successful approach in this regard has been to provide representatives of similar ethnicity and background to present their message and answer questions.

Campaigns are tested and evaluated carefully before production phase starts in order to ensure that communication is both effective and cost-efficient. On-air advertisements are monitored to ensure that the public response is as expected and independent research is conducted at various stages before and throughout the campaign to establish whether communication is having the desired effect. Campaigns are similar from one electoral event to the next, but each is refined drawing on the lessons of the past, and the EEC remains open to trying innovative technologies where appropriate.

The EEC is also responsible for the Maori Electoral Option, occurring every five years. This is the

only time when a Maori elector has the option to review and/or alter their decision whether to vote on the general electoral roll (voting for candidates in the general electoral districts) or on the Maori electoral roll (voting for representatives to the Maori electoral districts). The EEC runs another information campaign at this time.

With regard to young people, the EEC runs a programme of provisional enrolment of under-age voters. Enrolment facilities are provided on location during school presentations. Students of 16 years are asked for their details so that an enrolment form can be sent to them on their 17th birthday. At age 17, a New Zealand voter can be provisionally enrolled and their details automatically transferred to the electoral roll when they turn 18.

No one has ever been prosecuted for not enrolling as the EEC prefers instead to encourage voters to have their say and in turn works to make the enrolment process as easy as possible. Nonetheless, the EEC achieved an enrolment rate of 95.2 per cent in the 2005 general election, giving New Zealand one of the highest voter registration rates in the world.

### ***The Chief Electoral Office***

The primary responsibility of the CEO is to conduct general elections, by-elections and referendums, and, among its other tasks, to provide information to voters regarding who is eligible to vote, and when, how and where to cast a ballot. Consisting of a small core of 13 permanent staff at the National Office, the CEO's staff increases at various points in the electoral cycle to include five regional managers, whose purpose is to distribute information about voting at a community level, and 69 returning officers. Close to election times, returning officers also source staff for their headquarters, and polling place staff (15,000 for the 2005 general election) to work on election day. The permanent staff work continuously preparing for the next election: the previous campaign is reviewed and, based on this review, projects and improvements are set for the next electoral cycle. By the end of the second year of the cycle, all systems and processes have been built, tested and frozen, ready to be rolled out at any point during year three. The CEO runs only one information campaign per cycle and this is presented during the lead-up to an election.

In 2005, the CEO's information campaign employed television, radio, press and some online advertising to promote advance voting, the EasyVote Pack (see below), using the EasyVote card, and voting close to home. The same key messages were pre-

sented to all audiences, but were available in different languages where appropriate. Some advertising placements proved more effective than others and the CEO will build on this. Encouraging voters to use their EasyVote cards has proved quite successful, however, as market research shows that 84 per cent of voters used their cards on election day. The CEO commissioned market research from both the advertising agency it employs and an independent agency to ensure that the campaign achieved its goals.

### ***The Electoral Commission***

The EC is an independent Crown entity that has as one of its responsibilities encouraging and conducting public education on electoral matters. Particular attention is paid to ensuring that electors understand the workings of the MMP electoral system and the meaning of each of the two votes cast by every voter. With a small staff of only four full-time personnel, the EC focuses much of its between-election efforts on building linkages, capacity and interest with others who can spread their message more widely. This includes such people as teachers, journalists, academics, and those in political parties. The EC provides lectures and presentations, publications, teacher resources, and various awards for excellence in different areas of work relating to electoral matters.

At election time, the EC runs an information campaign targeted at all eligible electors. Campaigns include advertising on radio, on television, in the print media, in community newspapers and online. Groups known to have lower levels of understanding and/or participation, such as young people, Maori, and other ethnic minorities, are given additional focus. Surveys are conducted before and after the campaign to measure levels of understanding regarding the electoral system, intention to vote, political efficacy, information sources and so on, and to ensure that the necessary information is provided to make good any deficiencies. It has been found that public understanding of the MMP system tends to rise and fall during the electoral cycle. The EC is also currently commissioning research-based work on Maori voter participation, as little is available at present, in order to develop a more effective communication and education strategy.

### ***Elections New Zealand***

The responsibilities of all three electoral agencies are clearly laid out in the Electoral Act, and each administration body is solely accountable for making its own arrangements to meet its objectives. This said, the

campaigns for the EEC, the CEO and the EC are carefully crafted by the same advertising agency to make use of a common 'brand' for all electoral advertising: the orange Elector character was introduced in 2002, for example. Given the thorough testing campaigns undergo, they are often reused from one event to the next. This is part of the reason why Elections New Zealand has moved to animation that becomes dated less quickly and is gender-, ethnic- and age-neutral. Care is also taken to ensure that, despite the many messages Elections New Zealand has to put across, each point is kept clear and simple. The central advertising agency is also responsible for administering the schedules for each campaign to ensure that appropriate information is being broadcast at the right times, thus effectively increasing the coverage of electoral information and heightening the awareness factor. Elections New Zealand also carries out certain integrated communications activities, and the activities of the three agencies often leverage off each other to ensure that all necessary information is being provided to the public: for example, EEC officials are able to provide information about voting while undertaking their face-to-face campaigns to encourage enrolment.

The two main campaigns that are the direct product of cooperation between the EEC, the CEO and the EC are the EasyVote Pack and the Elections New Zealand website. The EasyVote Pack is a personalized voter information package outlining the elector's registration details and containing an EasyVote card (a one-time-use card that provides simple information to polling place staff regarding a voter's placement on the electoral rolls, which speeds up the process and allows voters more freedom as to their voting location), a list of nearby polling places, the names of the candidates, party lists, information on advance voting, contact details for the returning officer in the constituency, and a brochure on the MMP system and how voting works. So long as an elector is enrolled one month prior to the election, an EasyVote Pack is sent. Otherwise, voters miss being included on the printed rolls and need to cast a special declaration vote, which takes longer. The CEO is responsible for promoting the EasyVote Pack, while the EEC manages the printing and mailing out of the packs and encourages early enrolment to ensure that each voter will receive his or her pack. This programme was run in both the 2002 and the 2005 general elections.

The Elections New Zealand website presents perhaps the most integrated face of electoral administration, providing an abundance of information on all

aspects of elections in the country. Re-launched in April 2005, it was evaluated along with other sites in the New Zealand government sector, and achieved very high ratings. With the website providing such accessible and cost-effective information, a move has been made to emphasize online publication.

Through the website, voters can request information or forms; check their enrolment details; view sample ballot papers; access information on how the electoral system works; and view ongoing advertising campaigns. The website also lists past election results, governors general and prime ministers; rules for candidates, broadcasters, parties and scrutineers; guidelines for expenses; timetables; explanations as to how government operates; and resource materials. Thus, the Elections New Zealand website also acts as a valuable resource for the media, political party personnel and candidates, teachers and academics. Care has been taken to ensure that the website is as accessible as possible for all New Zealand voters, having features to assist those with disabilities (navigating without a mouse) and visual impairments. Information on various topics can further be requested in sign language, audio tracks, captions, Braille, audiocassette and large print, as well as in 14 different languages.

Website: <<http://www.elections.org.nz>>.



# Educating the Voter about the Electoral Process: The Swedish Election Authority

KRISTINA LEMÓN AND MARIA GRATSCHEW

One of the most important objectives for EMBs is to make sure that the voting procedure is well known and understood by all eligible voters, as it is imperative to make sure that abstention is not due to a lack of knowledge.

In Sweden, the central Election Authority (Valmyndigheten) is responsible for many tasks, including informing voters about elections and about how, when and where to vote in general elections every four years. This EMB is an independent state authority, established in 2001, which reports to and receives its funds through the state budget as decided by Parliament. Employing no more than 13 full-time employees and nine consultants, the Election Authority centrally produces information campaigns, and works with other EMBs at the regional and local levels to ensure their distribution. Its information campaigns are becoming increasingly elaborate and include advertising through such media as television and radio spots, cinema spots, newspaper advertisements, the Internet, telephone and email services, films, brochures in different languages and events. Events in particular involve attempts to reach targeted groups at venues such as big concerts, market-places and transport hubs. This initiative has been specially developed to reach immigrant groups, but might well be used to reach young people as well.

Before launching any campaign, an information strategy is first established in order to provide a presentation of the planned campaigns, an explanation for the choices made, and a strategy to measure and evaluate their impact. Budgets are prepared and allocated to reflect the three phases of preparation, implementation and evaluation. The initial strategy further highlights which groups the Election Authority would like to target specifically during a particular campaign and why. For the September 2006 Swedish general election, the following were identified as special groups: immigrants (those who need information in other languages); young people (mainly first-time voters); persons with visual and hearing impairments; expatriates; and some small groups facing special circumstances (the homeless, sailors, etc.).

To improve the effectiveness of voter information for immigrants in Sweden, the Election Authority

conducted research in advance of the forthcoming general election to gather facts about specific target groups and useful channels of communication. To this end, it carried out a survey among five selected language groups to learn more about their knowledge of the Swedish voting procedure, their intention to vote, where they seek or want to find information, and whether or not translated products are desirable. The selected language groups were Persian, Turkish, Somali, Bosnian and Spanish (for migrants of Chilean origin). The survey results showed that a general lack of political engagement, and therefore a very low degree of interest in learning how to vote, were common to the members of all these language groups. Feelings of isolation and of not being heard seemed to be the foremost reasons cited by most members of these groups who chose not to vote, and these were followed closely by statements that there was a need for political party candidates with whom they could identify. It emerged from the Election Authority's inquiry that learning the procedure for voting was a very low priority and perceived as useless, since the people surveyed saw no clear reasons why their votes should matter or have any impact on the system. The Election Authority takes this finding extremely seriously, as it clearly shows the importance of creating the necessary incentives for people to vote. However, the survey results have also proved most useful in providing concrete information about media habits and activities that can be used to communicate better with each group, and have allowed the Election Authority to produce tailor-made information products to meet each group's needs better.

These 2006 results from the language group research reach a conclusion similar to that reached by more generally directed research done earlier—a survey regarding the general public's level of knowledge about the voting procedure, carried out in connection with the European Parliament elections in 2004. This survey consisted of telephone interviews prior to and following the campaign period in which 1,000 people were randomly selected and interviewed. The survey had two main purposes: to determine the level of knowledge about the voting procedure prior to the campaign and whether this level had increased



by the end of the campaign; and to try to pinpoint the specific campaigns/products that most effectively increased the level of knowledge.

The results showed that the level of knowledge clearly increased over the course of the campaign—a result that it was reasonable to expect—but it proved far more difficult to identify the specific products that would have caused this effect, as there were far too many sources of information available to voters. Most importantly, the survey indicated that abstention has other causes than lack of knowledge of voting procedure, as more than 95 per cent of the respondents reportedly knew how to cast a vote.

Thus, despite the Election Authority's best efforts to gauge the effectiveness of its campaigns, it is difficult to determine their impact in any concrete way. In any election period, information inevitably comes from a variety of sources. In order to gain a better understanding of where information comes from and to ensure its accuracy, the Election Authority realizes that it would be an advantage—with regard to both the quality of information being disseminated and cost-effectiveness—to work in cooperation with other actors in the electoral arena. It therefore sees closer cooperation with the Ministry of Justice, the political parties, the media and interest organizations as desirable: fostering partnership could improve strategies, further accentuate the specific messages, and help spread correct information vetted by the Election Authority in fulfilment of its mission.

The language group survey emphasized that there is a strong connection between learning the voting procedure and wanting to cast a ballot, and this has increased the realization in Sweden that technical information about the voting procedure and motivational information about why you should vote should be run in parallel where possible. The Election Authority itself has no responsibility to enhance turnout or to provide reasons why one should vote. This responsibility lies with the political parties and, to a certain extent, the Ministry of Justice. It is thus up to the political parties to create the necessary incentives for people to want to vote and to feel that they are making a difference. During several recent elections, therefore, the Election Authority has cooperated more directly with the Ministry of Justice, and where possible it has also participated in the ministry's projects for enhancing participation. The intention has been to present the Election Authority's information regarding the voting procedure to groups launching campaigns about the importance of electoral participation and thereby provide a wider

platform for voter information.

The Election Authority realizes that information campaigns surrounding specific electoral events do little to ensure that knowledge is maintained at a high level throughout the electoral cycle or that procedures are learnt properly. For this, more recurrent information campaigns are needed. Projects such as annual school elections that could make elections 'come alive' each year are being considered. If all students in, for example, the eighth grade and the second year of high school participated in a school election, the chances of their continuing to vote in 'real life' and to believe that voting is important might increase. Educational material, such as films, games and brochures, might also prove to be effective, as might information packages for immigrants.

In the Swedish electoral administration, voter information has traditionally been the same for all voters, and therefore produced and communicated centrally. The 2006 elections, however, witnessed a new approach with greater input by local authorities who have detailed knowledge about their inhabitants' needs. Given the time and resources required to maintain contacts with all the authorities concerned, the Election Authority decided to use central production of information products to be launched nationwide, while local authorities provided information adapted to local conditions and understanding. However, contact with the local authorities indicates that the level of voter information was likely to vary considerably, first and foremost depending on expected information demand, the number of inhabitants and the finances available.

The Election Authority additionally faces a final challenge in reaching and communicating with certain groups of eligible voters. The methods of finding target groups and communicating with them are not yet sophisticated enough to be satisfactory. Some target groups are reached through interest organizations, while others only want to communicate in person. It is time-consuming and requires expert knowledge—something that the Election Authority does not have itself but must contract out. As there are too few organizations or companies offering such expertise in Sweden, with very little competition and no possibilities to compare skills, it is difficult to judge what expertise the Election Authority is actually buying.

The Election Authority is working continuously towards solutions to these and other challenges. Like many other countries, Sweden suffers from declining voter turnout. If this trend continues, there will be

a fast-growing group of eligible voters who are not interested in voting, and in the long run the Election Authority will face the challenge of trying to teach the voting procedure to a growing number of people who have no experience at all in casting a ballot.

Website: <<http://www.val.se>>.



# Making Democracy Accessible for Everyone: The National Office of Electoral Processes, Peru

Laura Chrabolowsky

The National Office of Electoral Processes (Oficina Nacional de Procesos Electorales, ONPE) of Peru is an autonomous government organization. It is in charge of the organization and conduct of all electoral processes including referendums and other types of popular consultation. Given that voting is compulsory in Peru, rather than increasing voting turnout in itself, the ONPE is responsible for improving the understanding and the awareness of all citizens, as well as ensuring respect for the popular will once the electoral event is over. However, it is important to note that, even though compulsory voting is in place, there are certain under-represented and marginal sectors of the population that do not participate in elections for reasons such as geographical isolation, language barriers, illiteracy, lack of documentation and so on.

In line with its mission, the ONPE promotes awareness and understanding of electoral processes, but also organizes and supports a series of campaigns to raise voter turnout for under-represented sections of the population, particularly of those in isolated rural areas. During the past decade, the rate of abstention has decreased from 26.5 per cent in the presidential elections of 1995 to 11.3 per cent in those of 2006. Additionally, the ONPE works with other national and international organizations (NGOs and intergovernmental organizations) in developing and implementing programmes directed towards students at the elementary and secondary levels and designed to teach the importance of electoral participation in developing responsible and active citizenship. Several examples of these varied projects and initiatives follow.

## **Women's Suffrage**

In 2002, with the assistance of the US Agency for International Development (USAID), the ONPE introduced a project designed to increase women's non-participation in elections by integrating gender analysis in the work of the ONPE and its regional offices; providing training and capacity building for different women's organizations; producing educational materials (booklets, posters, etc.); and organizing mass media education campaigns (through newspapers, community radio, etc.).

In 2005, the ONPE developed a second ambitious project, with financial support from the European Union, with the goal to reduce women's non-participation in elections by 12 per cent in the 2006 general elections (as compared to the 2001 turnout results). The project involved the training of 2,000 female volunteers to educate and inform approximately 500,000 women in different regions of the country and to promote women's electoral participation. This initiative also involved workshops on gendered electoral education for 1,200 journalists, 4,000 members of political parties, and 480 municipal employees. Electoral education and advertising material was created and distributed during the seminars as well as in mass media campaigns throughout the country. Joint events with women's and electoral NGOs were also organized, and a final report and evaluation of the project is to be published. It was expected that by the end of the project at least 50 per cent of the undocumented women reached by the campaign would have the proper documentation needed to allow their electoral participation.

## **Persons with Disabilities**

In 2002, USAID assisted the ONPE with a project to promote the participation of citizens with disabilities, successfully reaching 14 districts of the coastal, mountain and forest regions of Peru. The project aimed to introduce mechanisms that would make it physically easier for persons with disabilities to vote, as well as to build an extensive database for use in future electoral events. Even though this project was officially completed in December 2002, the ONPE continues to use this database, and has further developed special materials and procedures to reach persons with disabilities, making it easier for them to participate as well as providing specialized training for those responsible for organizing and conducting the electoral process. For example, during the 2006 elections, persons with disabilities could contact their respective ONPE regional offices to request that voting stations be situated in accessible places for those with reduced mobility.

## **Multilingual Information and Education for Rural Indigenous Populations**

One of the most important factors regarding electoral exclusion in the Andean region is the diversity of indigenous languages and the lack of educational materials to address this diversity. The ONPE brings multilingual electoral material and workshops to indigenous populations through the work of its regional, decentralized offices.

For the 2006 presidential election, the Directorate of Electoral Training designed special programmes adapted to the local languages and community traditions of Peru. Drawing on extensive experience with adult education and literacy work, community leaders and educators delivered these workshops and organized outreach campaigns. Seminars were complemented by the mass distribution of posters and brochures, and community radio programmes provided more in-depth information to the population about the voting process. A preliminary analysis of the results shows that approximately 480,000 rural citizens were reached by the programme in the following native languages: Quechua, Aymara, Ashaninka, Notmashiguenga, Aguaruna, Jacaru and Machiguenga.

### **Electoral Information Kiosks**

The main objectives of the ONPE's electoral kiosks are to advise, raise awareness, and encourage citizens to cast an informed vote when they go to the polls, thereby helping promote the development of a democratic voting culture. When used in the period August–December 2002, these electoral kiosks were able to reach more than 75,000 voters. The kiosks were strategically situated in places such as public squares, parks, sports fields, fairs and so on and were meant to reinforce the importance of voting by under-represented sectors of the population such as women in marginal urban zones and citizens with disabilities. The stands continue to be an important element in the dissemination of electoral information during election campaigns, and rely on highly trained ONPE personnel and volunteers to offer customized information to voters and distribute electoral materials.

### **Mock Election National Consultation: 'Say Yes For Children'**

As a key part for the Global Movement for Children, run by the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the Say Yes For Children campaign invited people around the globe to sign a sample pledge form to show their support in offering a better world

for children. The Say Yes campaign in Peru was driven by 30 private and public institutions that formed a National Commission, which in turn integrated with 17 local commissions nationwide working for the rights of children and adolescents. Say Yes organizers, together with the ONPE and the Ministry of Education, organized a unique mini-election in connection with the campaign. On 25 August 2001, over 800,000 children in 18 of 24 provinces used specially prepared voting sheets and voter IDs to voice their concerns on issues affecting Peruvian children. A national team of educators and specialists explained the campaign and guided children through the voting process. Aiding in the implementation of the campaign, the ONPE signed a cooperation agreement with UNICEF to provide the following support:

- the design of an instructional manual on the voting procedures;
- the design of voting materials for each school, including a register of electors, voting certificates and voting sheets;
- the design and development of a facilitator's guide and other training materials;
- the printing of the electoral materials, including 800,000 voting certificates, 20,000 registration forms, 10,000 voting sheets, and 16,000 guides for facilitators;
- the organization of a one-day training workshop for 50 specialists;
- a training seminar for 30 child organizers (who would go on to train others);
- training of the personnel from the Ministry of Education; and
- the organization of press conferences.

### **Student Council Elections**

The National Program of School Councils/Associations seeks to develop and institutionalize a model of 'Opinion, Participation and Organization' for children in primary and secondary schools. Students are encouraged to develop activities to benefit themselves, their schools and their communities. The programme is intended to provide a learning space for the development of citizenship and democratic values.

As part of this, Student Council elections are organized for each school every year in mid-November through the efforts of Action for the Children, an

NGO, and the Ministry of Education. The ONPE has supported this project since April 2000 by providing training, logistical support, and direction regarding election procedures. This includes training for representatives of the Electoral Committee; supplies of indelible ink, stamps, ballot boxes and voting certificates; records for electoral officials; and election observation and monitoring. Additionally, since 1999 workshops and seminars have been provided to more than 1,500 students between 11 and 18 years of age who were put in charge of the election process for approximately 1,000,000 student voters within schools across Peru.

Websites: <<http://www.onpe.gob.pe/>> and <<http://www.accionporlosninos.org.pe/index.htm>>.



# Convincing Voters that Their Vote is Important: The Association Civisme et Démocratie (CIDEM) in France

DAVID McGRANE

The Civics and Democracy Association (Association Civisme et Démocratie (CIDEM)) was founded in 1984 by the League of Human Rights (Ligue des Droits de l'Homme) and the League of Teaching (Ligue de l'Enseignement), two well-established NGOs involved with popular education and the protection of human rights. Since then it has expanded to encompass 11 member associations, including the Scouts and several other French youth organizations. It boasts that its member associations have a total of more than 4 million members and 50,000 local groups. CIDEM itself has ten permanent staff including a director, administrative staff, and several *chargés de mission* who each look after one of CIDEM's main functions. It also hires people on short-term contracts for various tasks.

CIDEM is an independent, neutral and non-partisan organization that works by entering into partnerships with government and other civil society organizations at various levels. While it is an NGO, it does receive a significant amount of its funding for its media campaigns from government agencies such as the Ministry of the Interior, the European Parliament, and municipal governments, as well as low-cost air time from public and private broadcasters. It is the only organization in France that receives funding from the French Government for the purpose of running campaigns to encourage people to vote. This gives it a quasi-monopoly over initiatives to improve voter turnout in France. In addition, CIDEM receives some funding from private-sector foundations and charitable organizations, but tries to limit the financing it receives from large corporations in order to maintain its neutrality and independence.

In tandem with municipal, regional, European Parliament, presidential and parliamentary elections, as well as the recent referendum on the European Constitution, CIDEM runs television and radio advertisements encouraging French citizens to register and to vote. Its advertising campaigns have been extended to include spots in cinemas before films, visual advertising in underground stations and on buses, flyers placed on parked cars, and a caravan sent to community events around the country. CIDEM also tries to garner media attention to its activities by

sending out press releases and having its director take part in televised debates concerning declining voter turnout. It uses its network of member associations to distribute its materials. In an average campaign it will hire an additional 20 campaign organizers on short-term contracts. These people organize the volunteers of the member associations towards coherent action and ensure the proper diffusion of CIDEM's message.

CIDEM's advertisements are aimed primarily at voters between the ages of 18 and 34. The theme of the majority of its campaigns is that by not voting you let others make your decisions for you. For instance, during the 2002 presidential and parliamentary elections, CIDEM ran a commercial in which a young couple have just had a baby and the doctors, nurses and other patients decide what the baby's name is to be, much to the amazement of the new parents. The scene is followed by the tag line 'Ne laisse personne décider pour vous . . . votez!' (Don't let someone else decide for you . . . vote!). Another main theme of CIDEM's campaigns encourages citizens to use a proxy vote if they are planning to be away or on vacation on the day of the vote.

Before the European Parliament elections of June 2004, CIDEM ran over 500 radio advertisements on all national radio stations during the 12 days prior to the vote. It estimated that more than 17 million French citizens aged 20–49 heard these advertisements roughly five times. In addition, working together with the Ministry of the Interior and the Association of French Mayors, CIDEM provided 50,000 posters throughout the 36,000 municipalities in France. In collaboration with the Information Office for France of the European Parliament (Bureau d'Information pour la France du Parlement européen), CIDEM also ran an advertising campaign in 286 university restaurants encouraging students to vote in the European Parliament elections. The campaign consisted of distributing posters, brochures and napkins within the restaurants and setting up kiosks at the restaurant exits.

While CIDEM does not have a formal mechanism by which to evaluate the effectiveness of its campaigns, it does an informal evaluation in regard



to the increase/decrease in voter turnout, comments by its partners and association members, and the estimated number of people who saw its advertisements. Its two most recent campaigns coincided with the referendum on the European Constitution and the 2004 European Parliament election. The strong turnout of 70 per cent in the referendum may have been partly attributable to the activities of CIDEM. On the other hand, the European Parliament elections saw a 4 per cent drop in the French turnout, from 46.8 per cent to 42.8 per cent. CIDEM maintains that this decrease would have been worse if its campaign had not existed.

CIDEM has not considered activities outside its advertising campaigns in the effort to create higher voter turnout because advertising is the purpose for which it was set up and is the function for which it receives funding from the French Government. By mid-2006, CIDEM had not yet decided on the structure of its campaign for the presidential and parliamentary elections to be held in 2007. As with every election, it must first negotiate its contracts with the government and other partners to determine what form the 2007 campaign will take.

Website: <<http://www.cidem.org>>.

# Making Politics Relevant: The Electoral Commission, United Kingdom

ERIN THIESSEN

The Electoral Commission (EC) in the United Kingdom (UK) is an independent body that was established by Parliament in 2000. Among other things, its functions include reporting on elections and referendums, reviewing and advising on electoral matters, and expressly promoting public education. It builds public participation in local, national, and European democratic processes by running public awareness campaigns. It also performs outreach work surrounding different electoral events in order to provide independent election information that is designed to increase public knowledge of how democracy works, and to motivate voters to participate actively by casting a ballot. The EC also provides grants to external projects doing similar work.

In order to fund its work, the commission receives an annual budget from the Speaker's Committee of Parliament. It employs approximately 140 staff. Three people are dedicated to the campaigns team specifically, although media work is supported by other internal departments (e.g. the press team, electoral administration) and external agencies. All of the EC's public awareness work is carefully researched in order to ensure effective messaging, taking into consideration public opinion about politics and voting, and reasons for non-participation. Efforts are also made to target specific groups, and work is often tailored to particular audiences. Since its founding, the EC has run media campaigns such as Don't Distance Yourself, Votes Are Power, Don't Know Doesn't Count and 'Don't Do Politics'. The EC's focus group research in 2003 had shown that people felt disconnected from the political process itself, and were therefore 'switching off' from that process. Politics was widely viewed as dull or irrelevant, and the term itself was viewed as a 'dirty word'; but, despite this widespread sentiment, people still felt passionately about political issues.

The 'Don't Do Politics' campaign was developed for the 2004 European Parliament, local and London elections as the EC's first fully UK-wide multimedia voter campaign, and was then expanded for the 2005 general election. Its main goal was to reframe politics as relevant and personal by presenting express linkages between politics and day-to-day issues that mat-

ter to ordinary people. The commission felt that if it were possible to show how politics impacted on daily life, where virtually every aspect is touched in some way by a political decision, it would challenge feelings of passivity and people would be more inclined to engage in the process.

The campaign involved television, radio and press advertising, outdoor (including big screens in commuter train stations to target those going to and from work) and online media, information leaflets distributed via a variety of outlets, a national outreach tour targeting young people, a national telephone helpline and a website (<<http://www.aboutmyvote.co.uk>>) for people to access with their questions. All elements of the campaign shared the same idea in order to maximize the impact of the EC's message, and the tag line ran, 'If you don't do politics, there's not much you do do'.

The television advertisements used two animated friends named Mike and Tom in various everyday scenarios. Mike repeatedly tries to engage Tom in discussion regarding things that matter to him, only to be put off by Tom's insistence that he 'doesn't do politics'. In the end, Tom raises an issue that he feels strongly about only to have Mike remind him that he cannot have an opinion on the matter as he doesn't 'do politics'. Similarly, the radio advertisements surrounded a fictional radio talk-show called Radio Chit-Chat wherein callers were forbidden to phone in on any topic that might have political ramifications—resulting in a complete lack of topics. The press advertisements covered the ways in which everyday things are affected by decisions of a political nature and were available in Bengali, Chinese, Gujarati, Punjabi and Urdu as well as English and Welsh. The commission also used its website to provide posters, press advertisements, press releases and templates to be used by local authorities in their own efforts to provide publicity materials to their areas.

The EC commissioned the survey firm Ipsos Mori to conduct face-to-face interviews with 830 people following the election. The results indicated that the campaign had been very well received by the public. A full 76 per cent of those surveyed were aware of at least one element of the campaign, and 79 per cent

of those aged 18–35 years recognized the television advertising in particular. The message that politics affects a person's everyday life resonated with 57 per cent of respondents, with 88 per cent reporting that the campaign made it obvious that voting was an important thing to do. The clearest impact of the campaign, though, may be that 36 per cent of respondents said that the campaign had prompted them to discuss politics with friends, family or colleagues, 37 per cent said that the campaign made them feel good about voting, and 43 per cent said that they had decided to vote as a result of seeing the advertising. Additionally, 20,000 people telephoned the helpline, the website registered 200,000 hits, and 46,000 electoral registration forms were downloaded.

Website: <<http://www.electoralcommission.org.uk/>>.

# Identifying and Engaging the Under-represented: The Minnesota Participation Project in the USA

ERIN THIESSEN

The Minnesota Participation Project (MPP), an initiative of the Minnesota Council of Nonprofits, is a long-term voter mobilization project, established in 2004. As the US electoral calendar is always hectic and there is almost always an election in progress for some position or other, MPP targets elections from the level of school district to Congress, and places particular emphasis on state-level elections.

Run by three full-time paid staff, and funded through various foundational grants, MPP has filled an important niche in electoral mobilization in Minnesota. In its overall promotion of get-out-the-vote (GOTV) activities, MPP acts as an umbrella, information source, and facilitator for a growing statewide network of over 210 diverse non-profit organizations. MPP's stated goals are to facilitate cooperation between different voter mobilization organizations; to provide resources and technical support to active groups; to encourage the establishment of new mobilization groups and provide them with the necessary tools for their work; and to build the internal capacity of all groups to execute successful voter mobilization programmes.

Considered a pioneering enterprise in the USA, MPP is building on a state culture that has traditionally been politically engaged, and one that also has in place a healthy non-profit sector. The impetus for the establishment of MPP emerged with the realization that non-profit organizations could be the 'sleeping giants' of Minnesota politics. Uniquely positioned in having already established trusting relationships with the clients and communities they serve, non-profit organizations were an obvious vehicle for the message that voting is important, and that by voting issues can be addressed to produce better policy outcomes that improve life for everyone.

Recognizing that many chronically under-represented members of society are often working with non-profit organizations, MPP has seized the opportunity to bring the information voters need directly to those who are less likely to vote of their own inclination. Its network is made up of a wide variety of groups consisting of everything from social services (such as early childhood centres, battered women's shelters and shelters for the homeless) to community

groups (such as immigrant services, community centres and faith-based groups) to the more traditional voter mobilization groups trying to increase civic advancement and promote citizenship. MPP is continuously seeking to expand participation by bringing in as many different groups from as many different non-profit sectors as possible, and has been growing both by word of mouth and through an active campaign to reach out and engage new non-profits in voter mobilization work. For many of these groups, involvement in MPP represents a new foray into the political sphere. The overarching feature that all these groups share is their dedication to voter mobilization using non-partisan methods.

Just as its members are diverse, so are the techniques and approaches employed by MPP. Attempts are made to provide strategies, tools and support that complement each group's capacity and growth.

Information exchange works to identify existing voter mobilization efforts, and to connect groups where sensible. It also provides a forum to communicate news and volunteer opportunities throughout the non-profit community, and to allow groups to exchange ideas and methods.

Education and training methods incorporate the development and distribution of easy-to-understand materials and step-by-step guides ('toolboxes', available online) that can be used to expand existing mobilization efforts or even establish new campaigns. These guides provide information on how to undertake voter registration activities such as tabling, office registration, and door-to-door canvassing; voter education activities; and GOTV activities to remind people to vote and ensure that they get to the polls. MPP's materials were initially developed with the aid of a consulting firm, Grassroots Solutions, which has provided continued assistance as needed. As it has become more experienced, MPP has undertaken to do its own writing and develop its own training presentations. Seen as part of an ongoing learning process, its materials are constantly updated in response to the information needs of the member groups and the feedback MPP receives.

MPP also offers travelling clinics using a 'train-the-trainer' model whereby an MPP trainer provides

instruction at the request of member groups or other organizations on permissible non-partisan activities, including voter registration, voter education, and GOTV, so that they may then go on to train others. This gives MPP a more efficient means of spreading information, and helps build the capacity of other groups. To do this, MPP has a pool of 30–70 trainers available, and aims to provide an appropriate messenger to each group they encounter. Trainers are paid 125 USD for each session they lead. There is no fee for these training sessions as MPP is most interested in spreading its message as widely as possible.

Organizationally, MPP provides information, training, planning and publicity, and runs a Mini-Grant programme (up to 250 USD per event) to help groups organize candidate forums—events attended by candidates to meet the public and discuss election issues, both those of general importance and those specific to the work of the organizing non-profit group. MPP's involvement in these adds to the recognition factor for both candidates and voters, and its name is seen to lend legitimacy to the enterprise. MPP also provides groups with expanded capacity to organize support and volunteers at critical times (for GOTV activities, for example). Their own volunteer drives have involved anywhere from 50 to 700 people.

MPP's work also goes beyond the logistics of education and organization, as it participates in lobbying efforts to reduce systemic barriers in the voting process and deploys its own GOTV teams. It employs the same GOTV methods as it teaches—establish a clear plan, as the details in pursuing grass-roots activities (i.e. door-to-door canvassing or phone banks) can be overwhelming, and consider the capacity of the group. In the 2004 election cycle, MPP provided a unifying voter mobilization campaign lead in low-turnout neighbourhoods in the Minneapolis-St Paul area. With an initial goal to recruit 500 volunteer canvassers through its non-profit network, MPP was astonished to find such overwhelming support that it was able to establish three hubs with a total of 700 volunteers going from door to door. MPP events (training, clinics, meetings) during this election reached 2,988 people, and the GOTV push contacted 29,065 voters at their doors or by telephone on election day alone.

Door-knocking is an extremely people-intensive method, but MPP very much emphasizes the need for contact in person to achieve voter turnout results. MPP canvassers have employed both voter registration lists to focus their activities and cold-knocking

(without a list). Using a list allows MPP to track specific people and determine whether those contacted are more likely to vote, but aggregate analysis of particular neighbourhoods is also possible, comparing the number of votes cast to previous results from similar elections. In either case, MPP's focus is on all potential voters: the canvasser will talk to whoever is there and available.

At the door, its non-partisan approach allows MPP to discuss issues and policies rather than endorsing candidates and party platforms. It has found that emphasizing issues tends to garner the best response. It is also willing to discuss why voting matters, but finds that this often fails to get results as the message is one that voters have heard many times over. It therefore encourages potential voters to consider what is important to them and to determine how politics affects their own lives: if your vote is your voice, you need to educate yourself and vote.

MPP has found that the non-partisan approach is well received as many of those contacted are surprised that it is not attempting to sell a particular political position. Its GOTV work is made easier by the state laws that allow election-day voter registration, ensuring that citizens can vote even without being registered ahead of time.

MPP makes ongoing efforts to determine the effectiveness of its programmes. Its training clinic clients are always asked to provide qualitative and quantitative evaluation of presentations and materials. Newsletters are produced on a regular basis to keep member organizations engaged, and both positive and negative feedback from groups is used to constantly upgrade and produce new needed information materials. MPP also runs quantitative analyses of its GOTV efforts where it is possible to do so. For example, analysis of its 2004 GOTV efforts in Minneapolis-St Paul found that turnout in the targeted precincts improved by 33–59 per cent. MPP's projects are continuing to expand as it finds broadening support for its efforts, and are considered a sound investment by its foundational supporters.

Website: <<http://www.mncn.org/mpp/gotv.htm>>.

# Teaching Citizens to Protect Their Democratic Rights: Pora in Ukraine and Similar Organizations in Central and Eastern Europe

SVITOZAR OMELKO

## ***Pora (Ukraine)***

Pora (the word means 'high time!') was a self-governing, all-Ukrainian, civic campaign, independent from all political structures, commercial entities and the state administration. Its aim was to ensure democratic elections and to promote increased popular participation in the political and electoral processes. Initiated in March 2004 by the leaders of the student movements of the early 1990s, the campaign was active in several political and electoral events throughout 2004. However, its main goals were the mobilization of voters for the presidential election in the autumn of 2004, and the prevention of electoral fraud in that contest. The Pora organization consisted of around 35,000 permanent members who participated exclusively on an unpaid, volunteer basis, and it also attracted supporters in numbers that far exceeded the official membership.

The centrepiece of Pora's work during the 2004 presidential election was a complex nationwide information and mobilization campaign. Pora's strategies and planning were inspired by the successful activities of volunteer networks in Serbia (Otpor!, 2000), the Slovak Republic (O.K. '98), and Georgia (Kmara, 2003). Under the conditions of far-reaching censorship, and given the absence of independent media that prevailed in Ukraine until late 2004, the main idea behind Pora was the creation of alternative 'mass media', in which volunteers would deliver election-related information from hand to hand and from door to door directly to citizens throughout Ukraine. During the 2004 presidential election campaign, Pora played a crucial role in mobilizing citizens to engage in civic action and to become actively involved in the political and electoral process.

Pora's activities were conducted in two stages. The first consisted of various information and education activities aimed at increasing voter turnout, counteracting censorship, and supplying voters with information about the election campaign, the platforms of individual candidates, voters' rights and the need to guard these rights in the event of electoral fraud. The second stage consisted of the dramatic staging of mass protests in response to the falsified election results. For the purposes of this book, only the first stage of the Pora campaign will be considered.

The main tasks of the campaign, as stated by Pora itself, were:

- to provide alternative mechanisms for delivering objective information about the course of the election campaign and the positions of individual contenders for the presidency directly to citizens in all regions of Ukraine;
- to increase voter turnout among those electoral groups supporting democratic development, national priorities, and Euro-Atlantic integration;
- to form a powerful network of volunteers to disseminate the campaign's ideas and to distribute information on a large scale and systematically;
- to attract politically neutral and insufficiently well-informed citizens to join the democratic forces; and
- to mobilize society to protect their democratic rights and freedoms should these be at risk through the falsification of election results or other illegitimate action by the authorities.

Pora's activities to educate and disseminate information took many forms. A key element of the overall campaign, however, was the use of a single style, established through the use of banners, tee-shirts, badges and printed products, and above all, famously, the use of the colour orange. Graffiti were also found to be an important tool to reach and actively involve young people, and this significantly popularized the Pora style. This style has become widely recognizable and is now commonly associated with Pora.

The acute problems with public access to information and 'freedom of speech' in Ukraine meant that the dissemination of clear and unbiased information directly to citizens was fundamental. This was delivered in the form of direct communication with voters, the distribution of printed products and visual information, and educational events. Examples included printed products (leaflets, brochures, stickers, small souvenirs), shows of different kinds, public activities and demonstrations, visual presentations (billboards, posters, graffiti), media presentations



(clips, interviews) and periodicals. To a great extent the information materials used within the framework of the campaign were designed by Pora's coordination centre or by partner NGOs. The official Pora website became one of the main channels for informing the public as well as an important vehicle for Pora activists to exchange information and sample documents, and coordinate activities.

Pora also actively used public intercity and suburban transport as a means to communicate its message and distribute information. As Ukrainians use public transport terminals on an average of 35 times per year (excluding municipal transport), Pora decided to take advantage of this and tailor its programmes accordingly.

It was also determined to ensure that the limited access of rural people, who make up approximately 35 per cent of the total population, to the mass media and relatively low levels of education did not result in their being manipulated by the pro-government forces. Pora targeted this segment of the population by establishing a vast network of volunteers to circulate information and to encourage popular participation. In larger cities, Pora's efforts were marked by mass actions, pickets and demonstrations, and the distribution of information in highly frequented public areas.

In order to attract young people, Pora organized dozens of concerts throughout the pre-election period in various parts of Ukraine, including Lviv, Sumy, Kharkiv and Poltava. Once mass protests had begun, it organized a rock marathon, 'Time for Freedom', which took place near the tent city on Kontraktova Ploshcha in Kyiv over several days. These concerts, as well as other forms of mass events, created occasions when the position and mottos of Pora could be publicized, new volunteers mobilized, and public support strengthened.

In developing all these techniques, Pora managed to respond successfully to the political environment of Ukraine in 2004/2005, and the scale of its work points to its popular appeal. In the course of its 2005 activities, Pora distributed 40 million copies of printed products; involved 35,000 permanent participants and an even larger number of supporters; conducted more than 750 regional pickets and public actions; organized 17 mass rallies with more than 3,000 participants; set up the tent camp in Kyiv's main street, Khreschatyk, with 1,546 tents and more than 15,000 residents; organized 12 other tent camps; created a website which rated fifth among all websites in Ukraine; and carried out the monitoring

of all national electoral registers.

The campaign's initial funding was supplied by Pora's founders. These funds were directed to organizing activities, information support, and the printing of materials. The training of activists was supported by small grants provided by the German Marshall Fund of the United States, Freedom House and the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) (to the overall sum of *c.* 130,000 USD). Entrepreneurs from across Ukraine provided the bulk of resources for Pora activities during the presidential election, mainly through in-kind support such as the free production of publications, communications and transport. It is estimated that the value of this in-kind support exceeded 5 million euros (EUR)—approximately 6 million USD at the exchange rate of the time. In cash terms, Pora spent 1.2 million EUR including the resources used at the regional level. It is also noteworthy that more than 60 per cent of these resources were spent during the Orange Revolution for the organizational needs of tent camps, transport, food and so on. Pora's coordination centre, a special monitoring unit, oversaw the usage of resources by individual parts of the campaign.

As Pora received only limited financial support from the international community, its activities were widely seen as legitimate by fellow Ukrainians. This was not the case with similar groups such as Otpor! in Serbia and Kmara in Georgia, which were largely funded from outside the respective countries' borders and whose activities were seen as highly controversial.

Pora's success was due to several factors. It was able to build on prior experience and knowledge from similar movements in other countries of Central and Eastern Europe, such as Slovakia and Serbia, as well as its own successful experiences with public activities. It was able to draw on experts and new technologies in the planning and management of the campaign, and made active use of modern communication systems. No local and international donors were able to exert political or financial dominance of the movement. Finally, Pora was able to coordinate and run its campaign with a high degree of efficiency.

The campaign ceased to exist in January 2005 upon the final resolution of the disputed election. Since then, it has become a political party which received an official registration certificate from the Ministry of Justice of Ukraine on 1 August 2005.

Website: <<http://www.pora.org.ua>>.

### ***Mjaft! (Albania)***

Unlike Pora and its counterparts in Georgia and Serbia, Mjaft! (the word means 'enough!') is not in declared opposition to the existing government. Instead, its main goals include increasing active citizenship, strengthening of the sense of community, the promotion of responsible governance, and the improvement of the image of Albania in the world. This last goal is to be achieved by encouraging the participation of citizens in decision making by influencing and monitoring policies at both local and national levels; promoting voluntary work and improving cooperation within communities; and regenerating the sense of protest.

Given the substantially different nature of the stated goals of the movement, the activities organized by Mjaft! are also significantly different from those of their counterparts discussed above. They include voter education campaigns, public debates, peaceful protests, direct action-organizing workshops, student orientations, lectures, issue-related concerts, countrywide bus tours, and petitions.





# Educating Young People Through Participation in the Voting Process: Student Vote in Canada

ERIN THIESSEN

Founded in 2003, Student Vote is a parallel election programme designed for students from grade 4 through to the end of secondary school. Its mission is threefold:

- to give students a chance to participate in a non-partisan parallel election during an official provincial or federal election period;
- to promote citizenship and participation; and
- to work with other organizations to engage young people and bring them into civic and community life.

Student Vote builds on the premise that active citizenship is a habit that must be developed, and argues that, if young people are given an opportunity to demonstrate otherwise, the notion that young people are simply not interested in politics may be dispelled. While its initial concern was to address the problem of low voter turnout, Student Vote has since shifted its focus somewhat to concentrate on empowering and involving them in their communities, as well as to attack another common rationale for non-voting behaviour by attempting to instil the idea that every vote matters. Its aim is to accomplish all this in a practical, hands-on manner.

The idea of teaching children about voting in an applied fashion seemed an obvious way to help address Canada's falling voter turnout rates. For this to happen, however, funding partners were required in order to produce the necessary materials, as well as educational partners willing to promote and use the programme in the schools. Student Vote's initial trial programme was launched during the 2003 Ontario provincial election. The effort was a success, thus making it easier to get partners on board. With a staff of three or four full-time employees and up to eight part-time contractors at peak times, Student Vote has also run programmes during two provincial elections (in Alberta in 2004 and in British Columbia in 2005) and two federal elections (in 2004 and 2006).

The Student Vote programme itself consists of two main parts—the education portion, and the parallel election itself. Initially working with teachers and ed-

ucation experts in Ontario, a broad range of flexible activities were developed to complement the learning requirements of the social studies curriculum. Since then, this initial work has been used as a basis for ongoing updates and revisions. Some of the activities offered provide general introductory information on democracy and elections, while others follow or mirror the progress of the actual election campaign in progress, and all provide openings for discussion. Certain activities correspond more particularly to events during the election campaign, such as the televised debates between party leaders. Adaptable to age and language skills, the activities may be used independently of each other, allowing teachers to use as much or as little of the Student Vote programme in their classrooms as they desire. Participating teachers are not required to use the Student Vote materials when taking part in the parallel election, but those new to the subject often take the Student Vote package as a starting point. Student Vote also provides visual materials such as posters and maps of electoral districts.

In a deliberate effort to emphasize that informing yourself is part of responsible citizenship, Student Vote has chosen not to provide students and teachers with party platforms or campaign materials in the Student Vote package. Instead students are encouraged to glean news from a range of sources and to undertake the planning of various activities (e.g. hosting all-candidate meetings, to include candidates from every party vying for the electoral district, having guest speakers, class presentations outlining different parties' platforms, etc.) to educate themselves regarding the issues and personalities in the election.

The second component is 'election day' itself. If possible, it is encouraged that the entire school body participate, even if not all classes take part in the educational component described above. The physical handling of an actual ballot paper is felt to be a strong learning experience even if students are not as well informed as they could be. This parallel election is held a few days prior to the actual election, the results are tabulated according to actual electoral district boundaries, and the results are kept confidential. The Student Vote election results are then announced

at the same time as the official results and are covered by the media. Students are encouraged take on the roles of election officials (i.e. voting officers, voting clerks, and scrutineers or party representatives), and provincial and federal EMBs provide official ballot papers, ballot boxes, and voting screens to make the student experience as ‘real’ as possible.

Schools become involved by registering with Student Vote in order to receive a programme outline, free learning materials, and an election kit consisting of electoral district-specific ballot papers and an election operations manual. Student Vote promotes its programme directly through mailings, emails and faxes to educators, principals, teachers and students, and indirectly through media coverage and advertising.

Student Vote receives support for its work (monetary and in-kind) through a network of educational, community, government, media and financial partners with whom it communicates on a personal, face-to-face level whenever possible. The wide range of partners was established very deliberately in order to reinforce the non-partisan nature of the programme. Student Vote’s relationships with the EMBs involved vary somewhat for each electoral event depending on the capabilities of different offices to provide support. At the federal level, the support of Elections Canada, the federal-level EMB, is key as it helps cover the cost of printing and shipping materials to schools throughout the country.

One of the programme’s primary challenges is the difficulty of long-term planning, as Canada does not have set election dates and the timing of elections can come as a surprise.

Student Vote continually evaluates its programme, using survey data, telephone interviews and election results following each election. Participating students are asked to complete two surveys, one before beginning the programme and one after, to compare levels of knowledge, involvement and political interest. These surveys are formulated differently for elementary and secondary students based on their level of understanding. Teachers and educators are also asked to complete surveys and are given the opportunity to provide significant feedback as to how well the programme and the programme materials worked for them. Some teachers are contacted further as part of a telephone survey conducted after each election.

The results to date have been very encouraging. In the 2004 federal election programme, approximately 1,200 schools participated, representing 267 of Canada’s 308 electoral districts, and over 265,000 stu-

dents voted. The 2006 federal election programme saw approximately 3,100 schools register, more than 2,500 schools participate on ‘election day’, and in excess of 450,000 students cast ballots, in all provinces and territories. The scale of the programme is considerably larger than anything of this nature yet attempted in Canada, and the 2006 federal election programme saw Student Vote’s highest turnout yet.

Post-election surveys consistently report that 85–90 per cent of participants plan to vote in future after having participated in the programme. Furthermore, and just as significant, the figure for students who believe that voting is an important thing to do also falls in the 85–90 per cent range. Initial reports from the 2006 programme have included enthusiastic reviews from teachers across the country who felt that the most recent Student Vote educational materials have been the best to date. Feedback from political candidates, who are invited to student-run events as part of the programme, has also been positive as the programme can provide them with a neutral forum in which to present their platforms and an opportunity to connect better with young people.

In addition to providing a meaningful student experience, Student Vote’s work may also affect voter turnout in the official election. First, in addition to providing a practice ballot, Student Vote works with secondary schools to encourage eligible student voters over the age of 18 to register and vote in the official election as well. Second, there seems to be some trickle-up effect as parents of participating students, by watching and talking with their children, also become more motivated to inform themselves and vote. Certainly some citizens have sent informal congratulations to Student Vote for its efforts after having seen an increase in Canada’s official voter turnout in the last federal election. It is interesting to note that the Student Vote results and the official election results tend to be very similar.

Overall, the programme has been very non-controversial as the non-partisan model it builds on has succeeded in avoiding any bias in its presentation of information. The staff at Student Vote believe that they have worked towards and achieved a winning formula, which they are continuing to fine-tune with every electoral event. Breaking into the school systems tends to be the greatest challenge.

Website: <<http://www.studentvote.ca>>.

# Informing Young People of the Need for Conscientious Voting: Eleitor do Futuro (Voter of the Future) in Brazil

SEAN W. BURGESS

The Eleitor do Futuro (Voter of the Future) programme was launched in 2002 to parallel that year's presidential election. With a primary target of adolescents between 10 and 15 years of age, the programme seeks to implant a sense of civic responsibility that will enhance electoral participation. In the Brazilian case, it is particularly important to address the issue at an early age because voting is optional for young people over 16 years of age and mandatory for all citizens over 18 years of age. Emphasis is thus placed on encouraging engagement with the political process and the teaching of the skills necessary to engage in electoral politics in an astute and informed manner.

During the 2002 parallel election held for young people under the programme, the Federal Electoral Court provided assistance and encouragement to the state electoral courts of Minas Gerais, Matto Grosso, Tocantins, Maranhão and São Paulo, even going so far as to allow use of the same electronic voting (e-voting) equipment as the formal vote. Approximately 20,000 students between 10 and 15 years of age participated in the exercise. At one point or another, all the states in the federation have pursued some form of programme affiliated with the national initiative, but pursuit of the programme appears to be patchy across the different jurisdictions and to be somewhat dependent upon the enthusiasm of the regional electoral court's presiding officers.

In response to the positive reaction that the 2002 mock vote received, and building on a concern that the overall sense of citizenship needed to be strengthened in a generation that had no memory of the military dictatorship that ended in 1985, the Electoral Judiciary School of the Federal Electoral Court took responsibility in 2003 for creating, in cooperation with the state electoral courts, a more detailed programme. The formal objective of the revised Eleitor do Futuro programme can be summarized as preparing Brazilian young people for the responsibility of voting and thereby determining the future of the country. The specifics of how this was to be achieved and exactly which demographic groups would be targeted were left to the discretion of individual state electoral courts. For example, the state of Tocantins focused on young people between 15 and 17 while

most of the other participating states concentrated on young people between 10 and 15.

More detailed descriptions of specific objectives were also left to individual state authorities, but in broad terms the four objectives listed by the state of Rondônia are applicable to the goals of each programme.

- The first was the goal of strengthening the sense of citizenship of children and adolescents between 10 and 14 years of age.
- A second goal was not only to motivate young people to actively engage in the electoral process by voting, but also to instil in the next generation of voters the capacity and desire to conscientiously exercise their right and responsibility to vote.
- An important part of this second goal was the third aim, namely to educate young people about good and bad electoral practices.
- Drawing on this was the fourth goal, which was to alert young people to the sorts of practices and attitudes that damage electoral processes with a view to encouraging an ethical approach to electoral politics.

A variety of methods are used to achieve these goals. As with most democratic processes, the highly visible and symbolic centrepiece is the holding of a free, fair and transparent mock vote that adheres to known and enforceable rules. In some instances the vote parallels municipal elections while at other times it parallels state or federal elections.

One problem that comes with mock ballots based on real-world political parties is a level of partisanship that can detract from the educational goals of the exercise. The Regional Electoral Court of the Federal District (Brasília and surrounding areas) recognized this pitfall and created a fictional electoral process based on a series of artificial parties focusing on specific issues of interest to young people such as health, liberty, sport and leisure, public security and education.

A notable characteristic of the mock ballots coordinated by the state electoral authorities is their for-

mality. The full formal mechanisms of the presiding judicial institutions are employed, including the need to complete specially generated candidate registration applications, with the local educational authorities filling the role of electoral registrar. Results are tabulated and released in much the same manner as they are in Brazil's local, state and federal elections by using the same e-voting machines that are deployed for formal elections. To this end, there is also a process of training school staff and students in the proper operation of polling booths and electoral policing. This last element has particular resonance in the more sparsely populated Brazilian states where there is a long tradition of vote-buying, partisan manipulation and disrespect of electoral laws. Seminars and lectures are held not only to explain the substance of the electoral laws and the necessity of those laws for the political process, but also to engage students in a discussion of the ethics of the political process. Here the ambition is to instil a sense of civic virtue that will undercut the residual aspects of *coronelismo*, or local political bosses controlling electoral outcomes through the application of patronage and particularistic power.

Although there is a larger public education and marketing aspect to the Eleitor do Futuro programme, the bulk of its activities and its substantive impact depend on cooperation with the school system. Under Brazilian law, education is compulsory up to the age of 16. Cooperation from local education authorities is thus crucial to the successful implementation of the programme. A major portion of the state electoral courts' efforts is directed towards the development of the civic education curriculum and materials that teachers can use in the classroom. Additional attention is being given to the provision of extra training for teaching staff, with some states offering distance education programmes to disseminate information and further advance the programme's aims and goals. Indeed, this wider aspect may prove crucial to the expansion of the federal initiative, which until now has only really been applied in larger urban areas. This directly limits the number of participants and neglects the more remote parts of the country that have experienced the worst electoral abuses. While there is widespread knowledge that the programme exists, actual exposure to and participation in it are not nearly on the same scale, measuring in the tens of thousands, which pales in comparison with the over 25 million Brazilian young people of eligible age to participate.

Finally, the sense that political participation is a

wider civic responsibility is bolstered by the approach that the electoral courts take in the design and implementation of Eleitor do Futuro. Unlike previous federal and state programmes that were handed down and imposed by the presiding institution, Eleitor do Futuro initiatives on the state level are explicitly inclusive, requiring the cooperation of, and input and active assistance from, not only educational authorities and individual schools but also a wide range of NGOs that work in areas ranging from democratic enhancement through youth education and capacity development to the more general enhancement of widespread citizenship and civic inclusiveness.

# Teaching Political Participation Through Theatre: The Réseau de communication d'information et de formation des femmes dans les organisations non-gouvernementaux (RECIF/ONG) in Burkina Faso

DAVID McGRANE

The Network of Communication of Information and Training of Women in Non-governmental Organizations (Réseau de communication d'information et de formation des femmes dans les organisations non-gouvernementaux, RECIF/ONG) was set up in March 1992. It has now grown to include 50 member organizations with over 150,000 members. RECIF/ONG functions with nine permanent employees and numerous volunteers from its member organizations. It is an independent, non-partisan and neutral NGO that is not financed by either the government or private business.

The goal behind RECIF/ONG is to connect different women's organizations and to give women the resources they need to become a social force. Thus, it works to organize women and to reinforce the position and decision-making power of women within the NGOs of Burkina Faso. Its activities have thus included training sessions for women involved in NGOs, bulletins, documentation centres, radio and television programmes, and providing access for women to the Internet.

In November 2005, RECIF/ONG entered into partnership with a regional NGO dedicated to improving female literacy and education in the western part of the country, called the Association Munyu des Femmes de la Comoé. Together with this association, RECIF/ONG created a *théâtre-forum* (theatre forum) designed to encourage women to vote and participate in the political life of Burkina Faso. A famous Burkina Faso professional theatre company called Marbayassa, which is based in the city of Ouagadougou, presented the theatre forum.

Marbayassa has developed a three-part concept of the theatre forum. The first part entails presenting an 'anti-model' which is designed to shock the audience and provoke reflection. In this case, the first scene exposes common practices whereby men either order women not to vote or tell them who to vote for. The first scene also contains illustrations of the difficulties women face in attaining political office. The women in this first scene grudgingly and sadly accept the situation they find themselves in; this is designed to create indignation and the desire for change among those watching. In the second part, a character called

the 'joker' appears who asks the audience to judge both the positive and the negative aspects of the behaviour of the characters in the first scene. Finally, members of the audience are invited on stage to replay the first scene with the actors: members of the audience take over the parts of the women in the first scene to show how they would have behaved in that situation in an attempt to illustrate how to avoid the outcome that originally befell their characters. At the end of the presentation, the actors press the public further in their reflections by playing devil's advocate, countering the arguments the audience put forward concerning why women should vote and be involved in politics.

The financing for this project came from Oxfam and RECIF/ONG's own fund-raising activities. The eight actors for the project were paid, while the majority of the organizers and the people working behind the scenes were volunteers.

The motivation for doing a theatre forum was a desire to do something dramatic to awaken the consciousness of women regarding electoral politics. Evaluation forms were passed out at each performance and the response indicated that women were more likely to vote after having seen the play. Women attending were also encouraged to take what they had learned at the theatre forum and share it with women in their own communities.

The theatre forum toured several provinces in the western part of the country in the autumn of 2005. After the tour was finished, a video and a CD of the performances were produced which are now being distributed throughout the country. While there is no finalized plan to present the theatre forum again, RECIF/ONG has indicated that it will attempt to have another tour of the play in response to the positive feedback that it received.

Website: <<http://courantsdefemmes.free.fr/Assoces/Burkina/RECIF/recif.html>>.





# Rock Volieb and the 1998 Parliamentary Elections in Slovakia: Rocking the Vote Slovak Style

JURAJ HOCMAN

In the mid-1990s, the credibility of the government of Slovakia, then led by Prime Minister Vladimír Mečiar, was suffering in the eyes of Slovakia's democratic partners in the West. The Movement for Democratic Slovakia party and its partners held all political state power, and there was widespread apathy and fear among the electorate prior to the 1998 parliamentary elections. Eventually it was the non-governmental sector that emerged as the most important vehicle of social mobilization against the prevailing mood of resignation. Slovak NGOs effectively demonstrated their capability to connect with and activate first-time, young and undecided voters who had not previously been stirred to electoral participation by party affiliation.

The idea of a civic election campaign arose in March 1998. The initiative, optimistically and metaphorically called the O.K. '98 Civic Campaign (Občianska kampaň), was officially established in the city of Zvolen in central Slovakia. Supported by the Mott Foundation and the Foundation for Civil Society (Nadácia občianskej spoločnosti, known as the Pontis Foundation since 1997), the goals of the campaign were to increase public participation and to ensure free and fair parliamentary elections. The Open Society Foundation, the United States Information Service (USIS) and the International Republican Institute (IRI), to name but a few, also provided some funding for specific elements within the campaign such as volunteer training. Within the O.K. '98 campaign alone, Slovak NGOs organized almost 60 projects. Young first-time voters were targeted as a group of specific importance, as they were generally viewed as widely apathetic (prior to the NGOs' efforts).

Rock Volieb, modelled on the US Rock the Vote programme, was one of the most successful projects focusing on young people, and specifically on first-time voters. Its centrepiece was a series of 13 concerts featuring popular rock bands and a voter awareness bus tour, which started in Eastern Slovakia and ended in the centre of the capital, Bratislava. The last concert was held two days before the election, and attracted a crowd of more than 15,000 young people who were enthusiastically expressing their determination to go to the polls and cast their ballots in the upcoming vote.

The campaign went beyond concerts, however. Rock Volieb distributed 20,000 motivational flyers, 70,000 how-to-vote-flyers, 70,000 why-to-vote flyers, 300,000 stickers, 15,000 pencils, and giveaways such as tee-shirts and hats with slogans such as 'Volím, teda som' ('I Vote, Therefore I Am') to encourage voter participation. Additionally, 40,000 free postcards with messages urging voters to the polls were distributed in 200 pubs and restaurants in various Slovak cities. The extensive dissemination of information and pamphlets was made possible by the assistance of other grass-roots organizations such as the Council of Youth (RMS), the Slovak Academic Information Agency (SAIA), the European Law Student Association (ELSA), and many others.

The campaign's web page won an award for best website from CentralEurope.com. Besides providing details about upcoming Rock Volieb events, this web page also provided information on voting procedures and encouraged voters to participate actively in the election.

Rock Volieb also produced a television and radio advertising campaign. MTV Europe came on-side, covering and broadcasting selected moments of the campaign. These featured musical clips, and the appearance of foreign and local musicians and celebrities who expressed their support for young people in Slovakia and encouraged them to vote. The Rock Volieb spots were also shown before every screening of *X-Files: The Movie*, and were thus seen by 80,000–100,000 cinema-goers. Similarly, eight radio spots featuring Slovak personalities encouraged young voter participation. Privately-owned Slovak radio stations, such as Fun Radio, Radio Ragtime and Radio Tatry, broadcast these advertisements regularly.

The Mečiar government controlled the state television and radio broadcasts, and was seen from abroad as being hostile to political and media pluralism. The Slovak NGOs faced a serious challenge in balancing the influence of the state-owned media on public opinion as the activists involved in the O.K. '98 campaign were generally presented as subversive enemies of the state. It therefore has to be stressed that the O.K. '98 campaign benefited not only from highly visible and attractive events such as rock concerts organized in big cities, but also from the work



of local organizers in various regions. The active presence, willingness and enthusiasm of hundreds of volunteers throughout the country were needed to secure a higher voter turnout. Organizers and supporters of the campaign were effective because their direct contact with voters and encouragement of an active, voting youth were accompanied by their commitment to remain non-partisan. Additionally, foreign know-how was indispensable to the success of the campaign.

Whereas forecasts in November 1997 indicated an expected turnout of first-time voters of around 50 per cent, in July/August 1998 it had risen to 54–57 per cent, and in the final three weeks of the September election campaign it reached 73 per cent. It eventually peaked with 80 per cent participation of first-time voters: this figure is only slightly below the overall turnout rate measured at 82.4 per cent.

This significant increase in expected participation appears to have been a direct consequence of the O.K. '98 campaign. After the election, the Institute for Public Affairs (Inštitút pre verejné otázky, IVO) ran a survey focusing on the effect of the NGO campaign on young voters. When asked 'Did the NGO campaign influence you in deciding whether to take part in the elections?', 46 per cent of respondents reported that they had at least noticed the campaign, while 54 per cent did not notice it at all. According to another IVO survey done in October of the same year, 11 per cent considered the involvement of NGOs and the campaign useless, and 30 per cent were not able to evaluate their place in the elections. However, a full 59 per cent of respondents were aware of the impact of the NGOs and the O.K. '98 campaign on the elections, with 38 per cent of respondents giving grades of 1 or 2 (on a scale of 1 to 5) for their work prior to and during the parliamentary elections, and an additional 13 per cent giving them a grade of 3.

The IVO concluded that the NGO campaigns were instrumental in raising the participation of first-time voters from approximately 60 per cent in 1994 to over 80 per cent in 1998. According to one of the authors of the survey, the campaign filled the empty space between the passive position of isolated individuals and the competing political parties. Overall, the response of Slovak society to the messages coming from the NGOs was significantly positive. The NGOs' ability to respect their lifestyles and reflect that fact in the election campaign was of particular importance in their communication with first-time voters.<sup>1</sup>

Besides the youth vote, the other important segment of the electorate was the undecided voters. These were more likely to be found in urban areas, in regions with no strict party loyalty, and in varying proportions among the population as defined by educational background, age, social status, ethnicity, values and so on. Past elections had demonstrated that the electorate in Slovakia's urban areas tends to vote for change, whereas rural voters opt for maintaining the status quo. Furthermore, whereas the voters in rural areas and small communities are traditionally habitual voters, those in urban centres tend to neglect electoral events. In the case of the 1998 parliamentary elections, however, the effects of the civic campaign were clear as urban voters were gradually mobilized, and actively participated by voting.

Overall, the personal testimonies of participants in the NGO campaign coincide with the conclusions drawn by observers and analysts: the campaign, which was completely new in both form and content in this part of Europe, was significantly positive, and it demonstrated the capacity of NGOs to mobilize the electorate, specifically young people, to active participation.

Website: <<http://www.rockvolieb.sk>>, <<http://www.wmd.org/documents/RockVoliebGOTV.pdf>>.

### Endnote

- 1 On the effectiveness of the campaign, see Bútora, Martin and Bútorová, Zora, 'Slovakia's Democratic Awakening', *Journal of Democracy*, 10/1 (1999); 'Rock Volieb '98 Campaign: Report on Activities and Results, 1998 Slovak Parliamentary Elections', <<http://www.wmd.org/documents/RockVoliebGOTV.pdf>>; and Bútora, Martin and Demeš, Pavol, 'Civil Society Organizations in the 1998 Elections'; Bútora, Martin, Mesežnikov, Grigorij and Bútorová, Zora, 'Overcoming Illiberalism: Slovakia's 1998 Elections'; Bútorová, Zora, 'Development of Public Opinion: From Discontent to the Support of Political Change'; and Gyárfášová, O., Kúška M. and Velšic, M., 'First-time Voters and the 1998 Elections', all in Bútora, Martin et al. (eds), *The 1998 Parliamentary Elections and Democratic Rebirth in Slovakia* (Bratislava: IVO [Institute for Public Affairs], 1999). See also Novotný, Peter, Forgács, Daniel and Velšic, Marián, 'Non-governmental Organizations and the 2002 Elections', in Grigorij Mesežnikov et al. (eds), *Slovak Elections 2002: Results, Implications, Context* (Bratislava: IVO [Institute for Public Affairs], 2003); and Velšic, Marián, 'Young Voters', in Grigorij Mesežnikov et al. (eds), *Slovak Elections 2002: Results, Implications, Context* (Bratislava: IVO [Institute for Public Affairs], 2003).

# The 1995 Municipal Elections Lottery in Norway

MARIA GRATSCHEW

The municipality of Evenes, in the far north of Norway, tried an innovative lottery campaign for its municipal elections of 1995 in order to maximize turnout. It was the first time ever such an activity was attempted in Norway.

The idea of conducting a lottery came from the senior administrative management within the municipal administration who argued that a lottery would increase the voters' interest in participating in the election. The winner would receive travel vouchers to be used for a trip to the warm south with the only restriction being that the holiday must start from the local airport in Harstad-Narvik.

The municipal administration organized the lottery initiative, and the Electoral Council within the municipality was responsible for its administration and for selecting two winners among those who had voted. According to the legal framework and election practices in Norway, voters who participate in an election are marked in the electoral register at the polling stations, and it was therefore a simple matter for the senior management of the municipality to choose an elector from the register at random. The voter did not need to sign any document or get a lottery ticket at the polling station: from the viewpoint of the voter, he or she was automatically included in the lottery once they had voted.

The financial costs involved were quite small: administering the lottery did not require any further human resources from the municipality, and the cost of the travel vouchers made up almost all of the additional expense. The value of these came to about 10,000 Norwegian kronor (NOK) (c. 1,600 USD at the exchange rate of the time). The municipality did not actively advertise the lottery in advance of the election. Information regarding the initiative was mainly disseminated by the local newspapers and magazines which included articles on the subject. Some national newspapers also made mention of it in a short note, but the lottery did not receive much attention from the media or the general public overall.

Somewhat surprisingly, neither did the lottery trigger much controversy. There was very little public objection. Some politicians from the opposition

parties argued that voters should not be rewarded for doing their duty, but any other protests were not made public. Nonetheless, there have been no plans to hold another lottery. It was a one-time activity, and an experiment to determine whether such a venture would increase turnout.

The immediate outcome was that turnout did, in fact, increase for that specific election, but the results of this activity have not been evaluated in detail. Municipal elections take place every four years in Norway, with approximately 800 voters normally participating in Evenes municipality. The lottery elections of 1995 showed turnout increase by almost 10 per cent compared to the previous municipal elections in 1991. The 1999 municipal elections, however, saw turnout in Evenes fall by more than 7 per cent in comparison to the 1995 figures. As this evaluation takes so few elections into account, it is difficult to reach any firm conclusions regarding the actual long-term impact of the one-time lottery. In the most recent elections, in 2003, turnout in Evenes was a little above the national average.

Furthermore, the 1995 elections also saw a second new factor enter the electoral scene which makes the consequence of the lottery even more difficult to isolate and judge. At this time, the municipality introduced another new practice: voters were given the opportunity to directly elect the chairperson of the municipal council. This was the first time such an opportunity had arisen in Evenes, and some observers argue that this was another reason contributing to the higher turnout rates in 1995.

Website: <<http://www.evenes.kommune.no/>>.



# The 2005 Parliamentary Election Lottery in Bulgaria

IVO BALINOV

Prior to the 2005 parliamentary elections in Bulgaria, the Council of Ministers decided to allocate 4 million Bulgarian leva (*c.* 2.05 million EUR) from the state budget for the organization of an election lottery with the intention of boosting voter turnout. Everyone who voted was given the right to enter the lottery: it was the voter's choice to register for the lottery or not. People were able to register for it on the Internet at <<http://www.bgizbori.com>>, by sending a text message to a specified number from a mobile phone, or by a regular land-line telephone call. Registration itself was free of charge but text messages and telephone calls were at the expense of those registering. The lottery itself took place on the day after the elections. Prizes included a car worth 15,000 EUR (*c.* 18,700 USD at the exchange rate prevailing at the time), computer equipment, electronic appliances and mobile phones.

The government contracted a private company, Advertisement Agency 2A, to organize and carry out the lottery. Three other companies were also involved: a computer company, E-Card, was engaged to manage the computer programs and databases used; registration by text message was administered by Globul, one of the three mobile phone operators in the country; and registration by phone was managed by the Bulgarian Telecommunications Company (the only company managing landlines in the country). Globul and the Bulgarian Telecommunications Company collected the fees charged for the text messages and phone calls used for registration.

The government stated that the lottery was targeted at young voters, so that some in the media, international organizations and many voters saw it as being focused on potential supporters of the ruling party, the National Movement Simeon II, who were expected to be more hesitant about voting in the elections than the supporters of its main political opponent, the leftist Bulgarian Socialist Party. The government's decision to hold the lottery drew sharp criticism from a number of opposition parties, the president of the country, a high proportion of the members of the Central Electoral Commission (which was not consulted in the decision-making process regarding the lottery and was not involved in carrying it out), and a number of international or-

ganizations. The lottery was seen as a deviation from best election practice.

A group of opposition parties (the left-wing Coalition for Bulgaria, the United Democratic Forces, the Democrats for a Strong Bulgaria and the Movement for National Unification and Social Justice) appealed against the government's decision before the Supreme Administrative Court. Lawyers for the applicants argued that the government's decision on the election budget (which included funds for the lottery among other activities) was in violation of the Parliamentary Elections Act. According to this act, the Council of Ministers is responsible only for technical and organizational preparations for the elections. The opposition also argued that taxpayers' money should not be used to finance the lottery and that the government should not have made the decision on the elections budget without consulting the Central Electoral Commission. The Supreme Administrative Court rejected the appeal, stating that the voter turnout campaign was not in breach of the law. According to the court, it was difficult to distinguish between the duties of the Central Electoral Commission to organize and conduct an information campaign, and the duty of the government to provide technical and organizational support for the elections. The court considered the voter turnout campaign to be an inseparable part of the organization of the elections, and that the Council of Ministers had therefore not violated the law.

The lottery was also criticized by the Council of Europe. 'There is a fine line between encouraging voters to participate in an election and what may be perceived as subtle electoral campaigning in favour of one party. This line must not be crossed, and it must be seen by all concerned to be respected', wrote Terry Davis, Secretary General of the Council of Europe, in a letter of 14 June 2005 addressed to the Bulgarian Minister of Foreign Affairs. A report by the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe, published after the elections, also stated that, while enhancing voter turnout is a worthwhile objective in itself, the introduction of such innovative measures should enjoy the consensus of all political forces concerned, be equally accessible to all voters, and be

organized by a neutral body such as the Central Electoral Commission.<sup>1</sup>

Many of the voters themselves took a negative attitude towards the lottery, seeing it as an attempt to 'buy' their votes in favour of the ruling party. Only about 20 per cent of those who voted (about 730,000 people) entered it.

Overall, the election campaign failed to induce more people to vote. The lowest turnout for 16 years was registered. Only 55.7 per cent of 6.7 million eligible voters cast their ballots—a fall of close to 10 per cent from the previous election.

### **Endnote**

- 1 Council of Europe, Parliamentary Assembly, 'Observation of the Parliamentary Elections in Bulgaria: Joint Report by the Members of the Ad hoc Committee of the Bureau', 12 September 2005. See also Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe, Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (OSCE/ODIHR), 'Republic of Bulgaria Parliamentary Elections June 25, 2005: Elections Assessment Mission Report', Warsaw, OSCE/ODIHR, 2 November 2005; and Thorpe, Nick, 'Bulgaria's Election Lottery', BBC News, 25 June 2005, <[http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/programmes/from\\_our\\_own\\_correspondent/4618845.stm](http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/programmes/from_our_own_correspondent/4618845.stm)> <[http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/programmes/from\\_our\\_own\\_correspondent/4618845.stm](http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/programmes/from_our_own_correspondent/4618845.stm)>.



IV

## Section IV: Conclusions

As voter turnout has fallen in many countries of the world, concern has been rising. Government agencies, EMBs, voluntary associations and individuals have undertaken extensive efforts to reverse, or at least to stabilize, the decline in turnout. In a way, the amount of attention that is being given, and the effort that is being spent, to facilitate voter participation represents a small upswing in participation in its own right. And it is an important testament to the centrality of democratic ideas and practices in many countries that reduced voter participation is viewed with such alarm.

Any inventory of initiatives to encourage higher turnout will be incomplete, as selections have to be made which are inevitably somewhat arbitrary, and as a new project is probably being started every day somewhere in the world. That we have been able to compile as much information as we have presented here is a direct result of the explosion of accessible information available on the Internet. Voter participation projects have in common that their initiators and practitioners are proud of their activity and anxious to share their experiences with others who wish to learn what is being done elsewhere. A good example of an idea and an activity that has spread from one country to others is that of Rock the Vote. Thus, although this book will quickly be overtaken by developments, it will have succeeded if it sparks new interest, and new turnout encouragement projects, in all corners of the world.

This book has created a classification system for the numerous projects which have been identified. To some extent, this also is arbitrary, but most of the projects do fit reasonably well into one of the six categories. Most numerous, perhaps because they are the least controversial, are the **voter information campaigns** undertaken largely by those authorities which actually conduct elections. These campaigns are designed to answer the basic 'how, where and when?' questions related to voter registration and to casting a ballot.

Information campaigns certainly involve advertising, a separate category of **advertising campaigns** has been designated for those which tackle the 'why' question head-on and exhort citizens to go to the polls. These campaigns use various messages, rang-

ing from appeals to citizen duty ('vote because you should') to self-interest ('vote because you need to protect or advance your interests') to the ubiquity of politics ('vote because politics is all around us').

**Grass-roots campaigns** operate on the assumption that personal contact and exhortation are the ways to get out the vote rather than more impersonal advertising methods. **School programmes, such as mock elections**, are another popular method of trying to engage young people in the political process in the hope that they will learn the 'habit' of voting, which will then stay with them for life. School programmes are conducted from primary school to university level. There is an important category of **entertainment** events, the largest and splashiest of which are massive rock concerts, which put out a message of participation as a by-product of engaging youth at leisure. As the group of case studies indicates, however, there are other, smaller-scale productions, such as travelling theatre troupes, which carry a similar message about participation. Theatre groups are particularly common in societies where the literacy rate is low. Finally, there are **inducements** to vote. Examples of these are, however, rare, and some of those which have been implemented or suggested have aroused controversy.

As can be seen in the matrix at annex A, the six approaches to encouraging voting correspond to somewhat different mixes of problems. Voter information campaigns are directed towards the facilitation of voting, providing information that will reduce the information need associated with the act. The registration problems which occur in some countries can prevent people from voting, while in other countries they are merely an inhibition (if registration is permitted at the polls, for example). Information campaigns can help voters to get registered. Information campaigns also point out the location of the poll, the voting hours, and alternative voting methods if they exist. If voting is a marginal activity for some people, particularly young voters or the unregistered, this information may make the difference between a vote and an abstention.

Advertising campaigns which actively promote voting are directed at several of the reasons non-



voters give for their lack of participation. Three of these stand out. First, they often promote the idea of ‘civic duty’, with the message that continual public participation is necessary to democracy’s health and very survival. Second, they carry the message that individuals need to ‘speak’ for themselves at the polls, lest others speak for them. Our case study of CIDEM in France points out that this is often the message of its advertising. Finally, the advertisements often attempt to show the positive side of politics, decisions being made in the public interest, to counteract some of the negative attitudes which are related to a lowering of turnout.

Grass-roots movements often combine elements of both information campaigns and advertising campaigns. Organizations as diverse as Pora in Ukraine and the Minnesota Participation Project (see the two case studies) use groups of volunteers to reach out to citizens directly. Mobilization through direct contact is the method used by grass-roots organizations such as these. Sometimes their methods can include entertainment events as well. While their goals can be different, and in some cases (like that of Pora) they take on a partisan cause, their methods can have direct success in bringing people into the political process to participate. Once again, the goals of grass-roots movements are to combat negativism, to promote civic engagement, and to show how participation at the ballot box is meaningful to everyday life.

Schools are a major arena for promoting the importance of voting to young people, often those below voting age. The broader subject of civics education in the school curriculum is beyond the scope of this book. However, schools are also used at election time to promote a future culture of voting by holding mock or practice elections, like the Canadian Student Vote programme described in the case study. These ‘kids vote’ programmes have become quite common in recent years. They are sometimes run by schools themselves, but can also be coordinated by public service groups, often with the active support of EMBs, which provide literature and voting materials. Media outlets can also be involved in order to publicize the results of the school vote in conjunction with the release of the official election results. The goal of student vote programmes is once again to combat the lack of interest in politics and elections which affects the voting rates of young eligible citizens, and, along with civic education, the programme also attempts to dispel negativity by providing information about the important issues in the election.

Entertainment programmes such as Rock Volieb

in Slovakia (see case study) take a more ‘popular culture’ approach to the promotion of voting by combining the serious message about the importance of voting with the wide appeal of music or theatre. The rock concerts specifically involve messages from the musicians or other celebrities to the effect that voting is ‘cool’. The stars make clear that they will be voting and that the audience should do so as well. At times, information about registration or voting procedures will be transmitted. Voting is described as a meaningful act, and the target audience are exhorted to have their own say in the choice of their representatives and to express their own opinion on the issues of concern to them or their age (or other relevant) group. This approach appears to have enthused and built support for electoral participation in the context of change in 1998 Slovakia .

A final approach to encouraging voter turnout is to provide material inducements to participate. A straightforward response to the view that voters find the costs of voting in terms of time and effort too high would be to pay them in some form to do so. The ancient Roman Republic paid citizens compensation for voting, since in some cases they needed to journey to Rome to do so. Cash payments, or tax deductions, have been suggested in contemporary times, as has allowing voters to decide over a small tax budget if they participate, while non-voters will not get that opportunity. The case studies have provided examples of the distributions of lottery tickets to voters, making them eligible for a substantial prize. These methods of encouraging voting have been more controversial than the others, since the argument can be made that the opportunity for direct material gain should not be necessary in order for people to do their civic duty. Perhaps as a result, few such schemes have been implemented, and those which have been tried are not often repeated even if they are successful in raising turnout.

Many of the approaches to voting encouragement listed in our inventory have been launched, or been expanded, within the past decade, as falling voting rates have brought the problem of electoral participation more directly to the public’s attention. The results of these activities have been difficult to quantify with precision. If the implementation of programmes in a country coincides with a further drop in turnout, does this mean that the programmes failed, or that the decline would have been even greater without them? Conversely, if the turnout seems to be stabilized, or even to increase, does this mean that the programmes should get the credit? The fact that cause

and effect are difficult, if not impossible, to ascertain with certainty is at times frustrating, but not a reason to exercise undue caution in setting up programmes to encourage turnout. In fact, many of those described here have become institutionalized over the past decade, and their operations are expected and appreciated by a wide variety of those active in the election process. While not all activities to encourage turnout have produced results that are demonstrable, and not all are cost-effective, it is possible to draw on the range of global experience that now exists in order to produce some lessons of good practice.

Several of the case studies illustrate the fact that evaluation strategies are often missing in the project plans. Very few countries publish turnout data broken down by age or sex, and for most there are only survey results to use. This makes it particularly difficult to know whether, even if turnout increases at an election after voter mobilization activities have been carried out, it increased within the target groups or within other groups. In addition, few organizations have conducted studies before they design and implement their activities. The fact that turnout is low, or declining, seems to be reason enough to implement smaller or larger activities without studying and specifying the underlying problem or target groups. **It is good practice for organizations considering programmes to encourage voter turnout also to consider evaluation methods which will allow them to judge whether their efforts have been successful, and for EMBs and other bodies to make such evaluations. It is also good practice for EMBs to consider evaluation needs in defining their data collection activities, and to seek to collect data that will support research on factors which affect electoral participation as long as this can be done within a sustainable commitment of human and financial resources.**

Such attempts at evaluation, while limited, have not been entirely lacking. Experiments have shown grass-roots methods to be effective, comparing personal contact to telephone calls.<sup>1</sup> As the case study mentions, surveys conducted by the UK Electoral Commission indicate the success of its advertising campaigns in reaching potential voters and influencing some to vote. Elections Canada's advertising campaigns have also been validated by survey research.<sup>2</sup> Student vote programmes can also cite survey evidence to support the success of their efforts, as the case study from Canada indicates.

**It is good practice for organizations considering ways of encouraging voter turnout to evaluate**

**their relative balance of human and financial resources, and to implement a grass-roots or advertising campaign accordingly.**

**It is good practice for schools to participate in special educational and voting activities at election time, to engage the interest of students and prepare them for voting as they become eligible. In some countries, such activities can be initiated at the level of the individual school. In others, policy decisions or even government regulations may be required to permit such activities to be included in or alongside the school curriculum.**

As more evidence and research about the results and the cost-effectiveness of programmes to encourage turnout is gathered, governments, EMBs, groups and concerned individuals are invited to peruse the inventory and case studies in this publication, to consult the appropriate organizations for information, to launch or continue relevant initiatives designed to contribute to the important task of encouraging people to exercise their right to vote, and to evaluate and to share their experiences.

### **Endnotes**

- 1 Green, Donald P. and Gerber, Alan S., *Get Out the Vote! How to Increase Voter Turnout* (Washington, DC: Brookings Institution Press, 2004).
- 2 Pammatt, Jon H. and LeDuc, Lawrence, *Explaining the Turnout Decline in Canadian Federal Elections: A New Survey of Non-Voters* (Ottawa: Elections Canada, 2003).



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# Annex A. Matrix of Types of Initiative, with Problems Addressed and Methodes Used

The purpose of the following table is to summarize briefly how the approaches outlined in the text generally appear in practice. The columns present information as to: what general problems are being addressed

by each specific type of campaign; who the target audience tends to be; common methods devised to reach these groups; and the types of organizations spearheading the operations.

Approach	Main Problem Addressed	Target Audience	General Methods	Used By
1 Information Campaigns (how to)	Registration / vote facilitation	All potential voters Tend to be as inclusive as possible May target specific low-turnout groups	Mail-outs Advertising (TV, print, radio) Informational websites Leaflets Posters Workshops / seminars	Usually EMBs NGOs Citizen groups Youth organizations
2 Advertising Campaigns (why to)	Negativity Lack of interest—civic duty Meaninglessness—vote matters	All potential voters Tend to be as inclusive as possible May target specific low-turnout groups	Mail-outs Advertising (TV, print, radio) Informational websites	EMBs NGOs Citizen groups Political parties Youth organizations
3 Grassroots a) Specific purpose b) Social group activity	Registration / vote facilitation Negativity Lack of interest—civic duty Meaninglessness—vote matters Civic education	All potential voters May target specific low-turnout groups or certain communities, etc.	Door-to-door canvassing Leaflets Direct mail Telephone banks Email / informational websites Tabling Building local networks Public forums Transport Media support Give-aways / souvenirs Posters / graffiti	NGOs Citizen groups Youth organizations

<b>Approach</b>	<b>Main Problem Addressed</b>	<b>Target Audience</b>	<b>General Methods</b>	<b>Used By</b>
4 School / Mock Elections	Civic education Lack of interest—civic duty Lack of interest—civic duty	Students of all ages Future voters	Parallel elections School government elections Mock elections Classroom activities and games Online forums	NGOs EMBs
5 Entertainment	Registration / vote facilitation Negativity Lack of interest—civic duty Meaninglessness—vote matters Civic education Want to make voting ‘cool’	Specific demographic groups—age, interest	Concerts Theatre Sporting events Comedy Face-to-face contact Educational activities Give-aways / souvenirs Media support Contests	NGOs Citizen groups Youth organizations
6 Inducements		Those requiring a material reason to vote	Qualification for prizes if voted Gifts for voters	EMBs Government

## Annex B. Inventory of Organizations Involved in Promoting Voter Turnout, with Contact Information

The following provides an inventory of past and current projects that have been run in various places around the world in an attempt to encourage voter turnout. They are arranged according to the same framework as is used throughout the book, and then alphabetically by country. It is not by any means suggested that this list is comprehensive, but a degree of geographical balance has been attempted in this, IDEA's first foray into this area of study.

Additions to our Voter Turnout database building on this project are always welcome. Please contact IDEA if you know about other activities that have aimed at encouraging participation. Please find our contact details at <<http://www.idea.int>>.

The telephone numbers given are the complete numbers for international calls, including the international dialling code. Toll-free numbers are also given where they have been found, although these can normally only be used within the country.

### I. Information campaigns ('how')

#### Afghanistan

##### The Asia Foundation

The *Asia Foundation* has supported election programmes in countries throughout the Asia-Pacific region, including more recent voter education programmes in Afghanistan, Cambodia, Bangladesh, Indonesia and East Timor. In the 2005 Afghan elections, the Asia Foundation ran civic education programmes through radio, television and print advertising, as well as travelling theatre troops and festivals. Additionally, it expanded its programme to include media training for politicians and broadcasters.

Address: G.P.O. Box 175, Kabul, Afghanistan  
Tel.: +93 70 294 647; +93 799 339 902  
E-mail: [taf@ag.asiafound.org](mailto:taf@ag.asiafound.org)  
OR  
Address: 465 California Street, 9th floor  
San Francisco, CA 94104, USA  
Tel.: +1 415 982 4640  
Fax: +1 415 392 8863  
E-mail: [info@asiafound.org](mailto:info@asiafound.org)  
Website: <<http://www.asiafoundation.org/Governance/elections.htm>>

#### Albania

##### Mjaft! (Enough!)

The *Mjaft* movement believes that a good democracy, proper governance and a prosperous society can be built only through the will and the participation of civil society. Thus its mission is to increase active citizenship, strengthen the sense of community, promote responsible governance and improve the image of Albania in the world. Among other activities, it has run a voter education campaign called *Ketu Vendos Une!* ('As For Here, I Decide!').

Address: Rruga e Elbasanit, nr. 77, Tirana, Albania  
Tel./Fax: +355 4 223 661  
E-mail: [info@mjaft.org](mailto:info@mjaft.org)  
Website: <[http://www.mjaft.org/en/rreth\\_mjaft.htm](http://www.mjaft.org/en/rreth_mjaft.htm)>

#### Argentina

##### Cámara Nacional Electoral (National Electoral Chamber)

This EMB provides information in its web page on where to vote.

Website: <<http://www.pjn.gov.ar/cne>>

##### Conciencia

This NGO's mission is to promote democratic republican citizenship so that citizens exercise their citizenship not only as a right but also as a responsibility. It offers educational programmes, courses and activities as practical tools to support and promote civic commitment. During election campaigns, *Conciencia* distributes civic education brochures, and additionally provides information on its website.

Address: Av. Santa Fe 1821 - 1er. piso - (1123)  
Cdad. de Bs. As., Argentina  
Tel./Fax: +54 11 4815 1507  
E-mail: [conciencia@conciencia.org](mailto:conciencia@conciencia.org)  
Website: <<http://www.concienciadigital.com.ar>>

##### Poder Ciudadano (Citizen Power)

This NGO works to promote citizen participation, electoral system transparency, and access to public information to fortify the institutions of the democracy



through collective action. Information on electoral system transparency is available on its website.

Address: Piedras 547 Timbre 2 - (C.P. C1070AAK)  
Buenos Aires, Argentina  
Tel./Fax: +54 11 4331 4925  
E-mail: fundacion@poderciudadano.org  
Website: <<http://www.poderciudadano.org.ar>>

## **Australia**

### **Victoria Electoral Commission**

The *VEC* seeks to extend electoral participation and improve access for all those in the community who are entitled to vote, especially those who may have felt or been excluded in the past. Different telephone numbers are available depending on preferred language.

Address: Level 8, 505 Little Collins Street  
Melbourne, Victoria 3000, Australia  
Tel.: +61 3 9299 0520  
Fax: +61 3 9629 8632  
E-mail: info@vec.vic.gov.au  
Website: <<http://www.vec.vic.gov.au>>

### **Western Australian Electoral Commission**

Responsible for the publication and distribution of a range of electoral reports, brochures and maps. Information on how to vote is also available in 20 languages other than English on the website. The *WAEC* is also responsible for election advertising and public relations campaigns, and specific education programmes and presentations.

Address: GPO Box F316, Perth,  
Western Australia 6841  
Tel. (local): 13 63 06  
Tel.: +61 8 9214 0400  
Fax: +61 8 9226 0577  
E-mail: waec@waec.wa.gov.au  
Website: <<http://www.waec.wa.gov.au>>

## **Belarus**

### **Zubr**

*Zubr* is the main non-partisan civic movement in Belarus. Its purpose is to ensure fair and free democratic elections in the country. It embraces non-violent tactics to work for change, including mass protests, pickets, and the dissemination of information and news through the website.

E-mail: contacts@zubr-belarus.com, info@zubr-belarus.com

Website: <<http://www.zubr-belarus.com>>

## **Benin**

### **Centre de Documentation des Services de l'Information (CDSL, Service and Information Documentation Centre)**

Every election, this government organization disseminates information about candidates, voting times, electoral maps and party platforms, and other general information concerning the election.

Address: BP120, Cotonou, Benin  
Tel.: +229 31 40 37  
Website: <<http://www.municipales2002.gouv.bj/index.html>>

## **Bolivia**

### **Corte Nacional Electoral (National Electoral Court)**

As the EMB, the *Corte Nacional Electoral* provides information on registration and voting. Campaigns on the radio and television and in the printed press instruct people on how to go about casting their vote.

Address: Av. Sánchez Lima esq. Pedro Salazar  
(Sopocachi)  
Correo postal 8748, La Paz, Bolivia  
Tel.: +591 2424221, +591 2422338  
Fax: +591 2416710  
E-mail: cne@cne.org.bo / educiudadana@cne.org.bo  
Website: <<http://www.cne.org.bo>>

## **Bosnia and Herzegovina**

### **Association of Election Officials of Bosnia-Herzegovina**

The *AEOBiH* is an NGO founded in September 1999 to provide an independent forum for the exchange of information among election officials. It has been involved in training polling station officials, carrying out voter information activities in 50 municipalities, and explaining to citizens where and how to vote, and is working on educational projects. It also has implemented a voter registration and re-registration project targeting voters who cast absentee votes in the 2000 general elections. Some 10,000 voters in 25 municipalities across Bosnia and Herzegovina were successfully re-registered or registered for the first time.

Address: AEOBIH Secretariat, Terezija 16

71000 Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina  
E-mail: Irena Hadziabdic, Executive Director, at  
irenah@aeobih.com.ba  
Website: <[http://www.aeobih.com.ba/  
GeneralInfo.htm](http://www.aeobih.com.ba/GeneralInfo.htm)>

## **Botswana**

### **Emang Basadi Women's Association**

A women's right organization that has started a political education programme aimed at combating voter apathy and encouraging women to participate in politics including standing as candidates. The organization contends that there is a need to change the prevailing mindset that only men can be voted into decision-making positions.

Tel./Fax: +267 359424 / +267 309335  
Address: Private Bag 00470, Gaborone, Botswana  
E-mail: ebasadi@global.bw  
Website: <[http://www.hrdc.unam.na/bw\\_  
emangbasadi.htm](http://www.hrdc.unam.na/bw_emangbasadi.htm)>

## **Brazil**

### **Assembléia Legislativo de Santa Catarina (Legislative Assembly of Santa Catarina)**

The Assembly has established a school, the Escola do Legislativo Catarinens (School of the Catarine Legislature), which runs programmes at all levels to inform people about how the legislature operates and how they can interact with it.

Website: <<http://www.alesc.sc.gov.br/al/escola>>

### **La Red de Jóvenes del Noreste/Ceará (RJCE, North-east/Ceara Youth Network)**

During the 2002 presidential election, a group of 15 movements and organizations ran a campaign, called Mi Primer Voto Consciente ('My First Informed Vote'), seeking to encourage young people to vote by explaining the importance of voting in an informed and conscientious manner. The network estimates that it reached 20,000 potential young voters between the ages of 16 and 18 and that 5,000 of these potential voters registered with the electoral authorities to vote.

Contacts: Davi Barros  
Tel.: +55 81 3268 3715 / 3247 7089 /  
9615 7689  
Ivina Sousa

Tel.: +55 81 3283 5329 or 9444 0939  
Thyago Porto  
Tel.: +55 81 3247 2780 / 8701 9131

### **Tribunal Superior Eleitoral (High Electoral Tribunal)**

An election simulation run by the EMB provides an online simulator of electronic voting machine.

Website: <<http://www.tse.gov.br>>

## **Bulgaria**

### **Central Electoral Commission**

Prior to the 2005 parliamentary elections, the CEC prepared television and radio advertisements targeted specifically at people with disabilities. These advertisements, on national radio and television, provided clarification as to the voting process: for example, disabled persons were able vote on the ground floor of buildings regardless of whether the polling was on an upper floor.

Tel.: +359 2 939 3770  
+359 2 939 3742  
Fax: +359 2 940 3570  
Website: <<http://www.is-bg.net/cik2005/>>

## **Burundi**

### **Bureau du Burundi, Programme des Nations Unies pour le développement (Burundi Office, United Nations Development Programme)**

During the recent constitutional referendum, the *Burundi Office of the United Nations Development Programme* ran an advertising campaign to educate citizens on the need to vote for a new constitution and to teach them how to vote. These activities contributed to a 92 per cent turnout for the referendum.

Address: 3 Rue du Marché, BP 1490 Bujumbura,  
Burundi  
Tel.: +257 22 31 35  
Fax: +257 22 58 50  
E-mail: registry.bi@undp.org  
Website: <[http://www.bi.undp.org/nouvelles/  
25mars2005.htm](http://www.bi.undp.org/nouvelles/25mars2005.htm)>

## **Central African Republic**

### **Bureau de la République Centrafricaine, Programme des Nations Unies pour le Développement (Central African Republic Office, United Nations Development Programme)**

The *Central African Republic Office of the United Nations Development Programme* has run voter education programmes using radio advertisements and posters teach the population about the roles of the elected representatives and how to cast a vote. The office even wrote songs to encourage citizens to vote and had caravan roadshows which encouraged citizens to vote and did voting simulations.

Address: La Couronne, Barthélemy Bonganda  
BP 872, Bangui, Central African Republic  
Tel.: +236 61 19 77  
E-mail: registry.cf@undp.org  
Website: <<http://www.cf.undp.org/election.htm>>

## **Chile**

### **Electoral cl**

An organization of professionals and experts on electoral topics whose aim is to contribute to the strengthening and transparency of democracy, through the construction, socialization and analysis of the accumulated electoral information, to promote greater degrees of participation and understanding elections. It provides civic and voting education on its website, and participates in surveys on electoral participation (by telephone and person-to-person).

Fax: +56 2 697 0338  
E-Mail: electoral@electoral.cl  
Website: <<http://www.electoral.cl/>>

### **Enciclopedia virtual del Diario La Tercera en Santiago de Chile**

A local weekly newspaper writing on civic participation.

Website: <[http://www.icarito.cl/icarito/enciclopedia/canal/canal/0,0,38035857\\_173977820,00.html](http://www.icarito.cl/icarito/enciclopedia/canal/canal/0,0,38035857_173977820,00.html)>

## **Colombia**

### **Registraduría Nacional del Estado Civil (State Civil Registry)**

A government agency one of whose aims is the promotion of social participation in the electoral process. It publishes an information guide on how to vote on its web page.

Address: Avenida El Dorado # 46-20 – CAN,  
Bogotá, Colombia  
Tel.: +57 1 220 2880  
E-mail: informacion@registraduria.gov.co  
Website: <<http://www.registraduria.gov.co>>

## **Costa Rica**

### **Tribunal Superior de Elecciones (Supreme Electoral Tribunal)**

An EMB whose work is to organize, direct and monitor acts relative to suffrage. It publishes an electronic voting manual and is responsible for facilitating voting for persons with disabilities.

Address: 2163-1000 San José, Costa Rica  
Tel.: +506 287 5555  
E-mail: webmaster@tse.go.cr  
Website: <<http://www.tse.go.cr>>

## **Democratic Republic of the Congo**

### **Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA)**

*CIDA* recently announced the launch of a Project to Support Citizen Participation in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC). While the project is still in the planning stages, it is intended to fund local civil society organizations involved in civic education and encouraging voting within the DRC.

Address: 200 Promenade du Portage  
Gatineau, Quebec K1A 0G4, Canada  
Tel.: +1 819 997 5006  
Fax: +1 819 953 6088  
E-mail: info@acdi-cida.gc.ca  
Website: <[http://www.acdi-cida.gc.ca/cida\\_ind.nsf/vall/FB3A2A765A2C52EB8525702E0048CE3A?OpenDocument](http://www.acdi-cida.gc.ca/cida_ind.nsf/vall/FB3A2A765A2C52EB8525702E0048CE3A?OpenDocument)>

## **Dominican Republic**

### **Junta Central Electoral (National Board of Elections)**

This EMB provides an Internet guide for voters on its website. This guide is an illustrated poster with easy-to-use information on how to vote. The page also contains advertisement campaigns of past elections.

Website: <<http://www.jce.do/Infoelecciones2004/Guia/GuiaFacilitador.pdf>>

## **Ecuador**

### **Tribunal Supremo Electoral (Supreme Electoral Tribunal)**

The *Supreme Electoral Tribunal* runs a voting information campaign for citizens living outside Ecuador. Within the country, the campaign provides information to the relatives of migrants, and works outside Ecuador in cooperation with the consulates, agencies of shipment of remittances and communication agencies.

Address: 6 de Diciembre y Bosmediano (Esq)  
Quito, Ecuador

Tel.: +593 02 245 7101 / +593 02 245 7110

Website: <<http://www.tse.gov.ec>>

## **El Salvador**

### **Tribunal Supremo Electoral (Supreme Electoral Tribunal)**

The *TSE* was created in 1992 to reform the electoral system. One element of work has been the Residential Vote Campaign to promote voter participation and reduce electoral absenteeism: ballot boxes are brought to people's houses to minimize efforts to vote and maximize voter turnout. Megaphones in the streets, radio advertisements, and brochures distributed person-to-person make public announcements relating to this programme.

Address: 15 Calle Poniente # 4223,  
Colonia Escalón  
San Salvador, El Salvador

Tel.: +503 263 4688

Fax: +503 263 4662

Website: <<http://www.tse.gob.sv>>

## **France**

### **Ministère de l'intérieur (Ministry of the Interior)**

Runs a website to provide information on how to register to vote and to explain how the electoral system works.

Address: Place Beauvau, 75008 Paris, France

Tel.: +33 1 40 07 60 60

Website: <[http://www.interieur.gouv.fr/rubriques/b/b3\\_elections](http://www.interieur.gouv.fr/rubriques/b/b3_elections)>

## **Germany**

### **Bundeswahlleiter (Federal Returning Officer)**

Provides information and publications on how elections work; available upon request.

Address: Bundeswahlleiter, Statistisches Bundesamt  
65180 Wiesbaden,  
Federal German Republic

Tel.: +49 611 75 48 63

Fax: +49 611 72 40 00

E-Mail: [bundeswahlleiter@destatis.de](mailto:bundeswahlleiter@destatis.de)

Website: <[http://www.bundeswahlleiter.de/wahlen/e/index\\_e.htm](http://www.bundeswahlleiter.de/wahlen/e/index_e.htm)>

## **Guatemala**

### **Tribunal Supremo Electoral (Supreme Electoral Tribunal)**

With the objective of strengthening the democratic culture of the country, the Capacity Building Unit runs permanent programmes to disseminate civic-electoral education in the form of pamphlets, brochures, and website information, with regard for the different socio-cultural realities of the country.

Address: Oficinas Centrales, 6a. Avenida 0-32  
Zona 2,  
Guatemala

Tel.: +502 223 20385

Website: <<http://www.tse.org.gt>>

## **Ireland**

### **Department of the Environment and Local Government**

Voter registration campaign includes the leaflet 'Are You Registered to Vote?', available on-line in both English and Irish.

Address: Franchise Section, Department of  
the Environment, Heritage and Local  
Government Custom House, Dublin 1,  
Republic of Ireland

Tel.: +353 1 8882420

Local: 1890202021

Fax: +353 1 8882690

Website: <<http://www.environ.ie/DOEI/DOEIPol.nsf/wvNavView/wwwElections?OpenDocument&Lang=en>>

## Japan

### **The Association for Promoting Fair Elections**

This is a charitable foundation, numbering c. 120,000 volunteers, which works closely with the Japanese Government at local levels to encourage electors to vote. During elections it runs various campaigns to raise voter awareness.

Address: 6th Floor, Shosen-Mitsui Building,  
1-1 Toranomom 2-chome, Minato-ku  
Tokyo 105-0001, Japan

Tel.: +81 3 3560 6266

E-mail: [akaruisenkyo@mua.biglobe.ne.jp](mailto:akaruisenkyo@mua.biglobe.ne.jp)

Website: <http://www.akaruisenkyo.or.jp/>

### **Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications (MIC)/Election Administration Commission**

Japanese law provides that the *Minister of Internal Affairs and Communications*, the *Central Election Management Council*, the *Election Administration Commissions* of prefectures and the *Electoral Administration Commissions* of municipalities must always seek to promote civic education among electors by all means and must, in particular when elections are approaching, inform electors widely on voting methods, electoral offences, and put out all other necessary information in relation to elections to ensure that elections are contested fairly and appropriately. As part of these efforts, the government delivers a postcard to each elector informing them of the date, time and place for voting and alternative voting measures (i.e. absentee voting measures). An election bulletin which carries advertisements by candidates and parties as well as the name of the election and the date of the poll is also sent to each household.

Contact: Election Department, Local Administration Bureau, Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications (MIC)

Address: 2-1-2 Kasumigaseki, Chiyoda-ku,  
Tokyo 100-8926, Japan

Tel.: +81 3 5253 5111

Contact: Election Administration Commission,  
Tokyo Metropolitan Government

Address: 2-8-1 Nishi-Shinjuku, Shinjuku-ku,  
Tokyo 163-8001, Japan

Tel.: +81 3 5320 6906

E-mail: [S9000045@section.metro.tokyo.jp](mailto:S9000045@section.metro.tokyo.jp)

Website: <http://www.soumu.go.jp/index.html>,  
<http://www.senkyo.metro.tokyo.jp>

## Kazakhstan

### **Kahar**

*Kahar* is a new organization but is the main non-partisan civic movement in Kazakhstan. Its purpose is to ensure fair and free democratic elections in the country using non-violent methods.

E-mail: [contact@kahar.info](mailto:contact@kahar.info)

Website: <http://www.kahar.org>

## Latvia

### **Central Election Commission of Latvia**

The *Central Election Commission of Latvia* is an elected, independent and permanently functioning state institution. Its duties include the preparation and administration of elections to the Saeima (parliament), national referendums, public legislative initiatives and local government elections. Its duties include informing and educating voters and residents of Latvia about the procedures for and conduct of elections, national referendums and legislative initiatives. Its website is quite comprehensive, providing ample general information for voters.

Website: [http://web.cvk.lv/pub/?doc\\_id=28170](http://web.cvk.lv/pub/?doc_id=28170)

## Luxembourg

### **Centre Informatique de l'Etat (Information Centre for the State)**

The *Centre* provides basic information on how and where to vote.

Address: Service Information et Presse  
33, boulevard Roosevelt, L-2450,  
Luxembourg

Tel.: +352 478 2181

Fax: +352 47 02 85

E-mail: [info@elections.public.lu](mailto:info@elections.public.lu)

Website: <http://www.elections.public.lu>

### **Conférence Générale de la Jeunesse Luxembourgeois (CGJL) (General Conference of Luxembourg Youth)**

The *CGJL* publishes a guide for young citizens which encourages them to vote and tells them how to vote. The conference is made up of a variety of youth organizations or youth wings of adult organizations including the unions, scouts, recreational organizations and the youth wings of all major political parties.

Address: B.P. 2467 L-1024, Luxembourg  
Tel.: +352 40 6090331  
Fax: +352 40 6090351  
E-mail: cgjl@cgjl.lu  
Website: <<http://www.cgjl.lu>>

## **Mexico**

### **Instituto Federal Electoral (Federal Electoral Institute)**

This EMB is responsible for the general promotion and organization of federal elections, the provision of information on how to register and vote, and special programmes directed to children and young people, and is in the midst of a 2005–2010 Civic Education Campaign.

Address: Oficinas Centrales, Viaducto Tlalpan  
No. 100 Col. Arenal Tepepan  
Delegación Tlalpan  
C.P. 14610, México, D.F.  
Website: <<http://www.ife.org.mx>>

## **New Zealand**

### **Elections New Zealand**

The law requires that the New Zealand electoral registers be weeded of names with incorrect information. This requires that electors ensure that they re-enrol if they move or their details change. The electoral rolls are updated on a daily basis and larger, comprehensive enrolment update campaigns are held prior to major electoral events, offering many options including mailings, forms to return by post which are available in various locations, text messaging, the Internet, and telephone. Elections New Zealand also provides an online brochure, 'Everything You Need to Know about Enrolling to Vote', available in choice of 14 languages.

Contact list: <[http://www.elections.org.nz/sitehelp/about\\_contact\\_main.html](http://www.elections.org.nz/sitehelp/about_contact_main.html)>  
Website: <<http://www.elections.org.nz>>

## **Niger**

### **National Democratic Institute**

With funding from the National Endowment for Democracy, the NDI is working with Niger's political party leaders to build a cross-party coalition to bolster women's participation in the electoral process. Through radio-based programming, round tables and

skills workshops, the programme provides women with information on their voting rights and responsibilities, how to campaign effectively for public office, and implementation of Niger's new law requiring that 10 per cent of political party candidates and elected officials to be women.

Address: 2030 M Street, NW , 5th Floor  
Washington, DC 20036-3306, USA  
Tel.: +1 202 728-5500  
Fax: +1 202 728-5520  
E-mail: [ggodfrey@ndi.org](mailto:ggodfrey@ndi.org)  
Website: <<http://www.ndi.org/worldwide/cewa/niger/niger.asp>>

## **Nigeria**

### **Independent National Electoral Commission**

Provides a very informative website on voting and elections.

Corporate Headquarters, Federal Capital Territory

Address: Zambezi Crescent, Maitama District  
P.M.B 0184 Garki  
Abuja, Federal Capital Territory, Nigeria  
Tel.: +234 9 4134368 / +234 9 4134416 /  
+234 9 4134568 / +234 9 4135230  
E-mail: [info@inecnigeria.org](mailto:info@inecnigeria.org)  
Website: <<http://www.inecnigeria.org/>>

## **Paraguay**

### **International Foundation for Electoral Systems (IFES) with the support of the United States Agency for International Development (USAID)**

IFES and USAID have worked together to organize a national campaign known as the Campaña de Participación Ciudadana Para El Voto Responsable ('Campaign of Citizen Participation for Responsible Voting'). Its purpose to promote citizen participation and responsible voting. Numerous NGOs and community organizations have participated by way of building community networks, running regional workshops, and distributing information outlining how to vote.

Address: 25 de Mayo 3079 esq. Bernardino  
Caballero  
Asuncion, Paraguay  
Tel./Fax: +595 21 212 066  
E-Mail: [ifes@telesurf.com.py](mailto:ifes@telesurf.com.py)  
Website: <[http://www.quanta.net.py/ifes/ongs/voto\\_responsable/](http://www.quanta.net.py/ifes/ongs/voto_responsable/)>

## **Peru**

### **Oficina Nacional de Procesos Electorales (National Office of Electoral Processes)**

This EMB runs a number of diverse activities and projects directed at specific groups within the electorate. This includes working with women, the illiterate and persons with disabilities, and intercultural–indigenous bilingual education. The agency also provides voting information through kiosks, and sponsors essay contests on electoral matters.

Address: Jr. Nasca Numero 598, Jesus María,  
Lima 11, Peru  
Tel.: +51 1 315-8080  
Fax: +51 1 315-8059  
Website: <<http://www.onpe.gob.pe/eduelec2002/eduelec02.php#>>

## **Puerto Rico**

### **Gobierno de Puerto Rico**

The State Commission of Elections, besides directing, promoting and maintaining transparency in elections, has a commitment to disseminate widely all information that serves to educate the Puerto Rican electorate. Its website also provides information on voting procedures.

Address: Comisión Estatal de Elecciones,  
PO Box 195552  
San Juan, Puerto Rico 00919-5552  
Website: <<http://www.ceepur.org/sobreCee/leyElectoral/reglamentos/reglamentoEleccionesGenerales2004/comoVotar/index.htm>>

## **Russia**

### **Golos (Voice)**

Golos is a non-partisan civic organization. Its main purpose is to create a means for citizens to influence the decision-making process within the government, as well as to monitor the work of elected officials. It publishes a weekly newspaper, and while its current work is not directly aimed at increasing voter turnout, it effectively collects and distributes information to the population in such a way that it could be easily adapted to voter turnout work.

Contact: Liliya Shibanova  
Tel.: +7 095 917 90 91  
+7 095 917 84 99

E-mail: [golos@golos.org](mailto:golos@golos.org)  
Website: <<http://www.golos.org>>

### **We the Citizens**

The main purpose of this civic organization is threefold: carrying out educational programmes for voters; organizing monitoring of the electoral process; and increasing voter turnout. The tactics used include public lectures and debates, the distribution of literature, and the organization of civic actions aimed at encouraging higher voter turnout. Weekly bulletins are published which include information about the parties and candidates, and the election laws, and summaries of infractions of the election law. The organization holds regular seminars for other civic organizations, round tables and public debates.

Tel.: +7 095-133-66-08 / 095-928-58-77 /  
095-928-45-60  
E-mail: [citizens@mosk.ru](mailto:citizens@mosk.ru)  
Website: <<http://www.citizens.ru>>

## **Serbia**

### **Otpor! ('Resistance')**

*Otpor!* was a pro-democracy youth movement in Serbia which is widely credited with leading the eventually successful struggle to overthrow Slobodan Milosevic in 2000 by way of its *Gotov je* ('He's Finished') campaign. It was also instrumental in inspiring and training several other civic youth organizations in Eastern Europe, including *Kmara* (Georgia), *Pora* (Ukraine), *Zubr* (Belarus), and *Mjaf!* (Albania). Its non-violent activities were meant to disrupt the government message and raise awareness. They included leafleting, poster/sticker/graffiti campaigns, the organization of student groups, a loud presence at public events, the encouragement of public debate, observation of elections, etc.

Website: <<http://www.otpor.com>>,  
<<http://www.sourcewatch.org/index.php?title=Otpor>>

## **Slovakia**

### **Changenet**

*Changenet* is a non-commercial provider of Internet information and an Internet daily in Slovakia, whose mission is to provide Internet connection and information for civil organizations involved in advocating equality, consumer protection and the rights of minori-

ties, as well as the NGOs involved in preventing/fighting racism and xenophobia. In 2001, Changenet replaced the Internet monthly *Nonprofit* whose support was instrumental in the period 1995–2001, including the 1998 O.K. '98 campaign, Gemma 93 ('The Road for Slovakia'), Hlava (Head 98), and Volim, Teda Som ('I Vote Therefore I Am') which, besides *Rock the Vote*, were the main factors in successful GOTV mobilization of first-time voters and the undecided in the 1998 parliamentary election. Information regarding these campaigns can be found under 'archív' at (<<http://www.nonprofit.sk>>).

Address: Mlynské Nivy 41, 821 09 Bratislava, Slovakia

Tel./Fax: +421 2 55560026

Website: <<http://www.changenet.sk>>

### **Freedom House**

Since 1994, *Freedom House* has provided Slovakian NGOs with grants and training with the aim of monitoring freedom and advocating democracy and human rights. In the 2002 parliamentary election in Slovakia it worked on specific regional and municipal projects, as well as with specific sub-groups of the electorate (women, ethnic minorities) to encourage their active participation in the election. This included programmes such as the analysis of public opinion and voter intentions, issue-based voter education, non-partisan voter mobilization and activities, media assistance, monitoring, and analysis of legislation.

Address: Bratislava Office, Grösslingova 4  
811 09 Bratislava, Slovakia

Tel.: +421 2 5296 8593, +421 2 5293 6126

Fax: +421 2 5293 6127

E-mail: [jan@freedomhouse.sk](mailto:jan@freedomhouse.sk),  
[jarbal@freedomhouse.sk](mailto:jarbal@freedomhouse.sk)

Website: <<http://www.freedomhouse.sk>>

### **Inštitút pre verejné otázky (Institute for Public Affairs)**

The *IVO* is a prominent Slovak non-profit research organization which cooperates with renowned similar organizations and foundations in the West. Part of its mission—to promote the values of an open society and a democratic political culture in public policy and decision making—is encouraging an active citizenry in issues of public interest. As part of its activities and publications, the *IVO* encouraged voters to participate in the 1998 and 2002 parliamentary elections.

Address: Baštová 5, 911 03 Bratislava, Slovakia

Tel.: +421 2 5443 4030 / +421 2 5443 4041

Fax: +421 2 5443 4041

E-mail: [ipa@ivo.sk](mailto:ipa@ivo.sk)

Website: <<http://www.ivo.sk>>

### **Občianske oko (Civic Eye)**

In 2002, this NGO presented an information/motivational campaign called *Nie je nám to jedno* ('We Care'), appearing regularly on television to explain the technical process of voting and to encourage participation. To further spread its message, it published a Voter's Manual, and organized 320 discussions with first-time voters promoting their participation in the election.

Address: Partizánska 2, 811 03 Bratislava, Slovakia

Tel./Fax: +421 2 5441 0305

E-mail: [posta@obcianskeoko.sk](mailto:posta@obcianskeoko.sk)

Website: <<http://www.obcianskeoko.sk>>

### **Pontis Foundation**

The *Pontis Foundation* is a non-partisan grant-making and operational foundation which has funded 206 projects since 1997, including information and education services, training, publication, entertainment and GOTV activities, with the aim of which of strengthening the development of NGOs in Slovakia and abroad. In cooperation with other NGOs and their partners abroad, both partisan and non-partisan, the *Pontis Foundation* was instrumental in the 1998 pre-election campaign working with young voters.

Address: Grösslingová 59, 811 09 Bratislava,  
Slovak Republic

Tel.: +421 2 5710 8111

Fax: +421 2 5710 8125

E-mail: [pontis@pontisfoundation.sk](mailto:pontis@pontisfoundation.sk)

Website: <<http://www.pontisfoundation.sk>>

### **Rock Volieb '98 and '02** (a coalition programme coordinated by the *Pontis Foundation*)

Originally modelled on the US *Rock the Vote* campaign, *Rock Volieb* is a broadly-based, non-partisan coalition that intends to increase voter turnout by targeting specific groups (particularly voters under 25 and the more than 250,000 first-time voters), focusing on political agendas rather than emotions, and supporting Slovakia's aspirations for integration into the European Union by informing voters of what is at stake. Its resources include such things as tee-shirts, voter information handouts, and an Internet campaign oriented to young people. Events include opportunities to distribute voter information and motivational



handouts, combining light entertainment with educational activities.

Programme Coordinator: Marek Kapusta

Address: Grösslingova 4,  
81109 Bratislava,  
Slovakia

Tel.: +421 2 5296 2215

Fax: +421 2 5263 2362

E-mail: nos@internet.sk

Website: <<http://www.rockvolieb.sk>>  
(<[http://www.freedomhouse.hu/news/archives/issue\\_21\\_04.html](http://www.freedomhouse.hu/news/archives/issue_21_04.html)>)

## **South Africa**

### **Independent Electoral Commission**

Another example of a strong website message: 'The most important ingredient of any electoral system is the voter. Every citizen has the responsibility to vote and to ensure that his or her councilors and their political parties act in the best interests of all South Africans. Elections rely on the involvement of all citizens over the age of 18, so go out and fulfill your civic duty, vote for the local council of YOUR choice'. The website also provides detailed information on registration and voting both in written and graphic form.

Address: Head Office, Election House,  
260 Walker Street, Sunnyside,  
Pretoria, South Africa

Tel.: +27 12 428 5700

Fax: +27 12 428 5863

E-mail: [iec@elections.org.za](mailto:iec@elections.org.za)

Website: <<http://www.elections.org.za/vision.asp>>

## **Sweden**

### **Valmyndigheten (The Election Authority)**

An arms-length government organization, *Valmyndigheten*'s main purpose is to prepare and coordinate electoral events in Sweden. As part of its responsibilities, it is also responsible for educating voters on the 'who, what, when, where and how' of voting.

Address: Solna strandväg 78  
P.O. Box 4210  
SE-171 04 Solna, Sweden

Tel.: +46 8 635 69 00

Fax: +46 8 635 69 20

E-mail: [valet@val.se](mailto:valet@val.se)

Website: <<http://www.val.se>>

## **Ukraine**

### **Committee of Voters of Ukraine**

The main purposes of this civic organization are to educate voters about the election process and their rights and responsibilities, and to encourage people to vote. The methods used by the committee include lectures and seminars, printed materials, audiovisual materials distributed through the Internet, and educational materials in newspapers. The slogan of its last campaign was 'Come. Think. Vote'.

Address: Kyiv-135, a/c 5, 01135, Ukraine

Tel./Fax: +380 44 492 27 67 / +380 44 492 27 68 /

+380 44 492 27 69 / +380 44 254 25 26

E-mail: [cvu@cvu.kiev.ua](mailto:cvu@cvu.kiev.ua)

Website: <<http://www.cvu.org.ua>>

### **European Union**

The *EU* contributed to the mobilization of voters during the 2004 Ukrainian presidential election by distributing copies of the law, posters, information booklets, handbooks, leaflets and brochures, video/radio spots, numerous training opportunities, lectures, round tables, seminars, press conferences, etc.

For further information see

<<http://www.delukr.cec.eu.int>>  
and

<<http://www.delukr.cec.eu.int/site/page31321.html>>

Or contact

Anje Schubert, Press Officer, at [anje.schubert@cec.eu.int](mailto:anje.schubert@cec.eu.int).

### **Freedom of Choice**

The *Freedom of Choice Coalition* is the network association of 335 nationwide and regional NGOs in 55 cities and towns in all regions of Ukraine, which works for the democratization of Ukrainian society and supports reforms aimed at the country's integration into Europe and the development of civil society in Ukraine. Its educational campaigns for voters have included the distribution of flyers, booklets, leaflets, posters and a newspaper for young people, and the establishment of a hotline for the distribution of information bypassing censorship. Events to educate and distribute materials have included round table/public discussions etc. with a media presence, minstrels (traditional music and educational materials), an in-line skating marathon, information centres for young people, etc. It also works on securing the rights of and the facilitation of voting by visually impaired people.

Address: Kyiv, Desyatynna St., 1/3, A/c 193, 01025,  
Ukraine

Tel./Fax: +380 44 461 90 22

E-mail: [info@coalition.org.ua](mailto:info@coalition.org.ua)

Website: <http://www.coalition.org.ua>

### **Pora ('High Time')**

This was the main non-partisan civic movement in Ukraine at the time of the disputed 2004 presidential election in Ukraine. (It has since become a political party.) The purpose of this youth organization was to ensure fair and free elections in the country as well as to maximize voter turnout. Its 2004 campaign focused on the large-scale distribution of information on candidates' programmes, voters' rights and the course of the electoral campaign directly to the voters, in order to increase their motivation to participate in the elections and promote national and European values. The organization employed a number of tactics to achieve its goals, including concerts, organized protests, public meetings, the distribution of pamphlets, leaflets, booklets, stickers and small souvenirs, a website, group e-mails, videos, advertisements, interviews, billboards, posters, graffiti, etc.

Contact: Maryana Pochtar

Address: Kyiv, Frolivska St., 9/16, Ukraine

Tel.: +38 44 594 20 20

Fax: +38 44 251 19 37

E-mail: [international@pora.org.ua](mailto:international@pora.org.ua),  
[info@pora.org.ua](mailto:info@pora.org.ua), [press@pora.org.ua](mailto:press@pora.org.ua)

Website: <http://pora.org.ua/eng/>

## **USA**

### **Declare Yourself**

*Declare Yourself* is a national non-partisan, non-profit campaign intended to energize and empower a new movement of young voters and encourage them to participate. Its activities have included a live spoken word and music tour of college campuses; an unprecedented nationwide voter education initiative for high school seniors; an extensive online awareness campaign; a massive voter registration drive; a televised 'get out the vote' concert; and public service announcements. It has also produced a short film, *Let's Go Voting!*, to illustrate the important details about voter registration, following the issues, and voting, as well as a 'Voter Education Guide' booklet that is similar to a driving instruction manual.

Website: <http://www.declareyourself.com>

Sign up on the website at <http://www.declareyourself.com/signup.php>

### **League of Women Voters**

Provides information on voter turnout, civic participation, and current public policy issues. The *LWV* website offers an Interactive Center where voters can write a letter to a member of Congress, sign a petition, or join a Grassroots Lobbying Team. The LWV publishes the booklet 'Navigating the Election Day' to educate voters about the voting process.

Address: 1730 M Street NW, Suite 1000  
Washington, DC 20036-4508, USA

Tel.: +1 202 429 1965

Fax: +1 202 429 0854

Website: <http://www.lwv.org/>

### **The Vanishing Voter: A Project to Invigorate the American Electoral Process**

*The Vanishing Voter Project* seeks to promote awareness of and participation in the electoral process. In 2004, the project concentrated on encouraging young adults, particularly those on college campuses, to register and vote, and provided a website with information to help them through the process and to a better understanding of the issues and the candidates.

Tel.: +1 617 495 8269

E-mail: [vanishingvoter@ksg.harvard.edu](mailto:vanishingvoter@ksg.harvard.edu)

Website: <http://www.vanishingvoter.org/>

## **Venezuela**

### **Consejo Nacional Electoral (National Electoral Council)**

This EMB has run an election simulation to teach voters how to cast a ballot.

Address: Av. Washington, Quinta Adriana,  
El Paraíso, Caracas, Venezuela

Tel.: +58 212 451 8895

Fax: +58 212 451 7351

Website: <http://www.cne.gov.ve>

## **2. Advertising Campaigns ('why')**

### **Albania**

#### **Mjaft! ('Enough!')**

The *Mjaft* movement believes that a good democracy, proper governance and a prosperous society can

be built only through the will and the participation of civil society. Thus, its mission is to increase active citizenship, strengthen the sense of community, promote responsible governance and improve the image of Albania in the world. The activities organized by the movement in recent months include a voter education campaign (Ketu Vendos Une!—'As For Here, I Decide!'), public debates, peaceful protests, direct action-organizing workshops, student orientation, lectures, issue-related concerts, countrywide bus tours, theatres, petitions, volunteer action, campaigns to advocate increases in the education budget, and so on.

Address: Rruga e Elbasanit, nr. 77, Tirana, Albania  
Tel./Fax: +355 4 223 661  
E-mail: info@mjaft.org  
Website: <[http://www.mjaft.org/en/rreth\\_mjaft.htm](http://www.mjaft.org/en/rreth_mjaft.htm)>

## **Argentina**

### **Conciencia**

This NGO works to promote democratic and republican citizenship so that citizens exercise their citizenship not only as a right but also as a responsibility. It offers programmes, courses and activities, educational methodologies and techniques as practical tools to support and promote civic commitment. As part of this, it distributes brochures on civic education during electoral campaigns and provides information on its website.

Address: Av. Santa Fe 1821 - 1er. piso - (1123)  
Cdad. de Bs. As. – Argentina  
Tel./Fax: +54 11 4815 1507  
E-mail: conciencia@conciencia.org  
Website: <<http://www.concienciadigital.com.ar>>

### **Poder Ciudadano (Citizen Power)**

This NGO works to promote citizen participation, electoral system transparency, and access to public information in order to strengthen the institutions of the democracy through collective action. Information on electoral system transparency is available on its website.

Address: Piedras 547 Timbre 2 - (C.P. C1070AAK)  
Buenos Aires, Argentina  
Tel./Fax: +54 11 4331 4925  
E-mail: fundacion@poderciudadano.org  
Website: <<http://www.poderciudadano.org.ar>>

## **Australia**

### **Electoral Commission Queensland**

Voting in Australia is compulsory, but the website message clearly stresses that there is more at stake: 'Voting is your chance to make your mark, to choose your Member of Parliament and local government representative, and have your say in how we are governed'.

Address: GPO Box 1393, Brisbane 4001, Australia  
Electoral enquiries: 1300 881 665 (in-country)  
Fax: +61 7 3229 7391  
E-mail: ecq@ecq.qld.gov.au  
Website: <<http://www.ecq.qld.gov.au>>

### **Western Australian Electoral Commission**

Part of the Commission's mission is to conduct elections, maintain the electoral register and raise public awareness of electoral matters. One element of this is to increase community awareness through election advertising and public relations campaigns.

Address: GPO Box F316, Perth,  
Western Australia 6841  
Tel. (local): 13 63 06  
Tel.: +61 8 9214 0400  
Fax: +61 8 9226 0577  
E-mail: waec@waec.wa.gov.au  
Website: <<http://www.waec.wa.gov.au>>

## **Brazil**

### **Camara de Diputados (Chamber of Deputies)**

The Campaign for the Citizen Vote, an initiative of the Council of Ethics of the Chamber of Deputies, aims to inform the voters about their right and duty to denounce vote-buying.

E-mail: consciencia@consciencia.net  
Website: <<http://www.consciencia.net/2004/mes/08/voto-campanha.html>>

### **Cáritas Brasileira (Caritas Brazil)**

Teenage Vote: A Citizen Conquest is a national media campaign with the aim of motivating young people to vote in the next elections and stimulating the debate on the importance of voting conscientiously.

Address: SDS - No 36 - Bloco P  
Edifício Venâncio III Salas 410/  
414 70393-900  
Brasília/DF, Brazil  
Website: <<http://www.adital.com.br/site/noticia.asp?lang=ES&cod=11865>>

**Conferência Nacional dos Bispos do Brasil (CNBB, National Conference of Bishops of Brazil)**

This national programme generally emphasizes a Christian's responsibility to vote. The logic and necessity of voting are set out in a 32-page booklet which can be downloaded from the organization's website. While young people are not explicitly highlighted, the CNBB website does make it clear that if young people want to change things then they must vote. The material provided on the national site is more in keeping with the conceptual and argumentative material necessary to advance a pro-vote campaign on a local level.

Address: Caixa Postal 02067  
70259-970 - Brasília-DF, Brazil  
Tel.: +55 61 2103 8300/ 2103 8200  
Fax: +55 61 2103 8303  
Website: <<http://www.cnbb.org.br>>

**Tribunal Regional Eleitoral do Rio de Janeiro (Regional Electoral Tribunal of Rio de Janeiro)**

This agency ran the Fala Sério, Vota ('Speak Seriously, Vote') programme during the 2004 municipal elections. There was a special stand on Ipanema Beach to register young voters of 16–17 years of age and explain to them why they should vote. Other activities included an extended television advertising campaign and a now-defunct website.

Website: <<http://www.falaseriovota.com.br>>

**Bulgaria**

**'You Choose' Voter Education Campaign 2001**

The Bulgarian Media Coalition, made up of 14 Bulgarian NGOs, participated in this project, aimed at increased voter participation, by producing several radio and one television advertisement which were aired across the country by two radio chains, 14 local radio stations and three cable television channels.

Address: Sofia 1000, 29 Slavyanska Str., Bulgaria  
Tel./Fax: +359 2 980 5856/ 988 5831 /ext. 201/  
E-mail: [bmc@bmcbg.com](mailto:bmc@bmcbg.com)  
Website: <<http://bmc.bulmedia.com>>

**Canada**

**Elections Canada**

*Elections Canada* is the non-partisan agency responsible for the conduct of federal elections and referendums. Part of its mandate is to keep the public informed

about the electoral process. Its website contains much information and links directed to various groups within the population.

Address: 257 Slater Street,  
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0M6, Canada  
Tel.: +1 613 993 2975 or  
(toll-free) 1 800 463 6868  
Fax: +1 888 524 1444  
Website: <<http://www.elections.ca>>

**Get Your Vote On**

This organization's focus is to make voting fun/interesting/worth doing for young people (aged 18–34) in British Columbia. It provides information about provincial political parties, candidates and their positions on key issues; helps people put on their own events and spread the word; and makes politicians, the media and the public pay attention to issues of concern to young people. It also sells and gives away souvenir items (available online).

Address: #605-201 W. Hastings St., Vancouver, BC,  
V6B 1H7, Canada  
Tel.: +1 604 685 6631  
Fax: +1 604 688 5756  
E-mail: [info@getyourvoteon.ca](mailto:info@getyourvoteon.ca)  
or  
Address: #302-733 Johnson St., Victoria, BC,  
V8W 3C7, Canada  
Tel.: +1 250 386 5255 ext: 246  
Website: <<http://getyourvoteon.ca>>

**Vote for a Change (A Voter Education Campaign for Peace and Justice)**

The campaign encourages voter participation in federal elections by emphasizing the need to use the power of voting and voicing issues. It provides many suggestions on how to make your voice heard and a 'get started' action kit, as well as campaign materials for purchase or downloading for people to make their own (postcards, buttons, stickers, flyers, lawn signs, billboards, etc.).

Address: c/o Centre for Social Justice  
489 College Street, Suite 303  
Toronto, ON M6G 1A5, Canada  
Tel.: +1 416 927 0777 or  
(toll-free) 1 888 803 8881  
Fax: +1 416 927 7771  
E-mail: [vote@socialjustice.org](mailto:vote@socialjustice.org)  
Website: <<http://www.socialjustice.org>>

## **Comoros**

### **Bureau des Comores, Programme des Nations Unies pour le développement (Comoros Office, United Nations Development Programme)**

The *Comoros Office of the UNDP* paid for newspaper and radio advertisements as well as posters to encourage people to vote. The advertising campaign also focused on teaching people how to vote, especially young people.

Address: Maison des Nations Unies,  
Hamramba BP 648 Moroni,  
Union des Comores, Comores  
Tel.: +269 73 1558  
Fax: +269 73 1577  
E-mail: registry.km@undp.org  
Website: <<http://www.km.undp.org/apec.htm>>

## **France**

### **Association Civisme et Démocratie (CIDEM, Civics and Democracy Association)**

During election or referendum campaigns, *CIDEM* runs television and radio advertisements encouraging French citizens to register and vote. In addition, it has used advertising in cinemas before films, in underground stations and on buses, and has even placed flyers on parked cars. Its material is mainly aimed at voters between the ages of 18 and 24. Caravan roadshows are also sent to community events around the country. During the 2005 referendum on the European Constitution, which took place during the summer vacation, *CIDEM* ran an advertising campaign encouraging citizens to use a proxy vote if they were away at the time of the referendum. It also conducts research on electoral participation and provides educators with materials to encourage voting among their students. *CIDEM* disseminates its message through its large member associations, such as the Scouts, which have 4 million members and 50,000 local groups.

Address: 16, boulevard Jules Ferry, 75011 Paris,  
France  
Tel.: +33 1 43 14 39 40  
Fax: +33 1 43 14 39 50  
E-mail: cidem@cidem.org  
Website: <<http://www.cidem.org>>

### **Bureau d'Information pour la France du Parlement européen (Information Office for France of the European Parliament)**

The office ran an advertising campaign in 286 univer-

sity restaurants to encourage students to vote in the 2004 European Parliament elections. The campaign consisted of distributing posters, brochures and napkins in the restaurants and setting up kiosks at the exits.

Website: <<http://www.europarl.eu.int/paris>>

## **Guatemala**

### **Accion Ciudadana (Citizen Action)**

The *Mirador Electoral 2003* (Electoral Overview 2003) programme was a non-partisan, civic initiative that aimed to increase the capacity of societal control of electoral processes, based on the principles of inclusion, fairness, competitiveness and transparency. As part of this initiative, brochures and guides were published and distributed.

Address: Av. La Reforma 12-01, Zona 10  
Edificio Reforma Montufar, nivel 17,  
Guatemala  
Tel.: +502 2331 7566 69  
Website: <<http://www.accionciudadana.org.gt/servicedet.asp?id=100>>

### **Campaña Para el Voto Consciente de la Juventud Guatemalteca en el Proceso Electoral 2003 (Campaign for an Informed Youth Vote for the 2003 Electoral Process) (Instituto Centroamericano de Estudios Políticos (INCEP, Central American Institute of Political Studies)**

This was a campaign to promote the civic-political participation of young people and to encourage informed voting. It took on multiple tasks: the running of 115 workshops for young people on the political and electoral systems; accompanying urban young people going to register; providing information and interactive forums to disseminate information on candidates and political platforms; and the participation of 150 young observers in the 2003 electoral process.

Contact: manfredmarroquin@gmail.com,  
accionciudadana@accionciudadana.org.gt

## **Kenya**

### **Electoral Commission**

The *EC* is the EMB responsible for the promotion of voter education and free and fair elections.

Address: Anniversary Towers, University Way  
P. O. Box 45371, Nairobi, Kenya  
Tel.: +254 20 222072  
Website: <<http://www.statehousekenya.go.ke/government/E.Commission.htm>>

## **Mali**

### **Bureau du Mali, Programme des Nations Unies pour le développement (Mali Office, United Nations Development Programme)**

The *Mali Office of the UNDP* embarked on a major project for the 2002 presidential and legislative elections, which included a 367,000 USD media campaign to encourage citizens to vote, as well as to help with the organization of the elections to ensure their fairness and transparency.

Address: Immeuble Hamaciré NDouré,  
Badalabougou-Est  
BP 120, Bamako, Mali  
Tel.: +223 222 01 81  
Fax: +223 222 62 98  
E-mail: [registry.ml@undp.org](mailto:registry.ml@undp.org)  
Website: <<http://www.ml.undp.org>>

## **Mexico**

### **Mexican Episcopal Conference**

This group launched a campaign, *Fe y Política* (Faith and Politics), emphasizing the importance of voting and its connection to achieving peace and justice. To do this, it organized 15 regional workshops.

Website: <<http://www.cem.org.mx/>>  
<<http://www.aciprensa.com/noticia.php?n=10053>>

## **Netherlands**

### **Instituut voor Publiek en Politiek (Dutch Centre for Political Participation)**

A non-partisan organization whose object is to promote political and social participation. It developed the concept of *VoteMatch* which has since spread to Germany, Switzerland and Bulgaria, and has been used for European Parliament elections as well. It is an online computer test, based on the policy proposals of political parties. Visitors are invited to respond to 25–30 brief, clear statements, and their answers are matched to the political party which corresponds most closely to their particular preferences.

Contact: Jochum de Graaf, Project Manager  
Address: Prinsengracht 911-915,  
1017 KD Amsterdam

Tel.: +31 20 521 76 00

Fax: +31 20 638 31 18

E-mail: [j.degraaf@votematch.net](mailto:j.degraaf@votematch.net) /

[j.degraaf@stemwijzer.nl](mailto:j.degraaf@stemwijzer.nl)

Website: <<http://www.votematch.net/index.htm>> /  
<<http://www.publiek-politiek.nl>>

## **Poland**

### **Młodzi Demokraci (Young Democrats Association)**

An association of young people who want to participate in the making of a modern, free, and strong Poland. Its goal is for every citizen to be able to fully enjoy their political and economic rights, and to emphasize the participation of young people in particular.

Address: Al. Ujazdowskie 18, Ip., 00 478 Warsaw,  
Poland

Tel.: +48 22 622 75 48 (49)

Fax: +48 22 622 53 86

E-mail: [fopp@wp.pl](mailto:fopp@wp.pl)

Website: <<http://www.smd.org.pl>>

### **Wybieram.pl ('I Choose')**

*Wybieram.pl* is a non-partisan campaign developed by, and aimed at, young voters in Poland. Its main goals are to increase youth voter turnout, to encourage conscientious voting, and to promote interest in politics and public life. Its campaign has included an advertising campaign (on television and the radio, in the print media, outdoor advertisements, and the Internet), the website, posters, stickers and awareness bracelets.

Contact: Kasia Szajewska

E-mail: [kasia@wybieram.pl](mailto:kasia@wybieram.pl)

Website: <<http://www.wybieram.pl>>

## **Slovakia**

### **Rock Volieb '98 and '02** (a coalition programme coordinated by the Pontis Foundation)

Originally modelled on the US *Rock the Vote* campaign, *Rock Volieb* is a broadly-based, non-partisan coalition that intends to increase voter turnout by targeting specific groups (particularly voters under 25 and the more than 250,000 first-time voters), focusing on political agendas rather than emotions, and supporting Slovakia's aspirations for integration into

the European Union by informing voters of what is at stake. It produced advertisements and videos for public television, private stations, and schools, in addition to the events run intended to combine light entertainment with educational activities and the distribution of voter information and motivational handouts.

Programme Coordinator: Marek Kapusta  
Address: Grösslingova 4, 81109 Bratislava, Slovakia  
Tel.: +421 2 5296 2215  
Fax: +421 2 5263 2362  
E-mail: nos@internet.sk  
Website: <<http://www.rockvolieb.sk>>  
(<[http://www.freedomhouse.hu/news/archives/issue\\_21\\_04.html](http://www.freedomhouse.hu/news/archives/issue_21_04.html)>)

## **South Africa**

### **Independent Electoral Commission**

Another example of a strong website message: 'The most important ingredient of any electoral system is the voter. Every citizen has the responsibility to vote and to ensure that his or her councilors and their political parties act in the best interests of all South Africans. Elections rely on the involvement of all citizens over the age of 18, so go out and fulfill your civic duty, vote for the local council of YOUR choice'. The website also provides detailed information on registration and voting both in written and graphic forms.

Address: Head Office, Election House  
260 Walker Street, Sunnyside, Pretoria,  
South Africa  
Tel.: +27 12 428 5700  
Fax: +27 12 428 5863  
E-mail: [iec@elections.org.za](mailto:iec@elections.org.za)  
Website: <<http://www.elections.org.za/vision.asp>>

## **Switzerland**

### **Conseil Suisse des Activités de Jeunesse (CSAJ) (Swiss Council for Youth Activities)**

The CSAJ created a website (<<http://www.youngvote.ch>>) for the last federal election, which explained how to vote and gave information about different candidates in the user's area. In collaboration with smartvote.ch, it also provided a questionnaire designed for young people to help them find candidates with ideas and values similar to their own. The CSAJ is made up a variety of youth organizations or youth wings of adult organizations including the unions, the Scouts, student organizations, recreational organizations,

churches and the youth wings of social movements.

Address: Avenue de Beaulieu 9, CH-1004 Lausanne,  
Switzerland  
Tel.: +41 21 624 25 17  
E-mail: [info@csaj.ch](mailto:info@csaj.ch)  
Website: <<http://www.csaj.ch>>

### **Smartvote**

*Smartvote* is a website which provides an on-line questionnaire designed to help citizens find candidates with ideas and values similar to their own. It is the product of an NGO that is financed through individual donations and a partnership with the Université de Berne and the Ecole professionnelle artisanale and industrielle de Berne. It does not accept donations from governments or political parties. Over 250,000 people used it during the last federal election.

Address: Case postale 5276, 1002 Lausanne,  
Switzerland  
Tel.: +41 22 799 59 29  
E-mail: [contact@smartvote.ch](mailto:contact@smartvote.ch)  
Website: <<http://www.smartvote.ch>>

## **Ukraine**

### **Freedom of Choice**

The *Freedom of Choice Coalition* is the network association of 335 nationwide and regional NGOs in 55 cities and towns in all regions of Ukraine, which works for the democratization of Ukrainian society, and supports reforms aimed at the country's integration into Europe and the development of civil society in Ukraine. Its media campaigns for voters have included radio talk shows, a newspaper for young people, the Hot Line Project (an uncensored newswire service), public service announcements (made with *Rock the Vote*), flyers, booklets, leaflets, posters, etc. It has distributed flyers, booklets, leaflets and posters, and has held events to educate and distribute these materials, such as round table/public discussions, etc., with a media presence, minstrels (traditional music and educational materials), an in-line skating marathon, information centres for young people, etc.

Address: Kyiv, Desyatynna St., 1/3, A/c 193, 01025,  
Ukraine  
Tel./Fax: +380 44 461 90 22  
E-mail: [info@coalition.org.ua](mailto:info@coalition.org.ua)  
Website: <<http://www.coalition.org.ua>>

### **Pora ('High Time')**

This was the main non-partisan civic movement in Ukraine at the time of the disputed 2004 presidential election in Ukraine. (It has since become a political party.) The purpose of this youth organization was to ensure fair and free elections in the country as well as to maximize voter turnout. Its 2004 campaign focused on large-scale distribution of information on candidates' programmes, voters' rights and the course of the electoral campaign directly to the voters, in order to increase their motivation to participate in the elections and promoting national and European values. The organization employed a number of tactics to achieve its goals, including concerts, organized protests, public meetings, the distribution of pamphlets, leaflets, booklets, stickers and small souvenirs, a website, group e-mails, videos, advertisements, interviews, billboards, posters, graffiti and so on.

Contact: Maryana Pochtar  
Address: Kyiv, Frolovsk St., 9/16, Ukraine  
Tel.: +38 44 594 20 20  
Fax: +38 44 251 19 37  
E-mail: international@pora.org.ua,  
info@pora.org.ua, press@pora.org.ua  
Website: <<http://pora.org.ua/eng/>>

### **UK**

#### **UK Electoral Commission**

This EMB takes a very emphatic approach throughout its website to the importance of voting and its effects on the quality of everyday life. In addition, it engages in extensive television and radio advertising campaigns where the main message is that all qualified voters have a reason to cast a ballot.

Address: Trevelyan House, Great Peter Street,  
London SW1P 2HW, UK  
Tel.: +44 207 271 0500  
Fax: +44 207 271 0505  
E-mail: info@electoralcommission.org.uk  
Website: <<http://www.electoralcommission.gov.uk/your-vote/>>

### **USA**

#### **Declare Yourself**

*Declare Yourself* is a national non-partisan, non-profit campaign intended to energize and empower a new movement of young voters and encourage them to participate. Its activities have included a live spoken word

and music tour of college campuses; an unprecedented nationwide voter education initiative for high school seniors; an extensive online awareness campaign; a massive voter registration drive; a televised 'get out the vote' concert; and public service announcements. It has also produced many videos, fact sheets, trailers, banners to print, videos, public service announcements etc., all available online (<<http://www.declareyourself.com/videos.htm>>).

Website: <<http://www.declareyourself.com>>  
Sign up on the website at <<http://www.declareyourself.com/signup.php>>

## **3. Grass-roots Movements**

### **Belarus**

#### **Malady Front (Young Front)**

A non-partisan youth movement in Belarus, its main purpose to educate and mobilize young people for civic and electoral participation. The organization has extensively used sports events and entertainment (such as concerts) to achieve its goals, as well as public protests to raise awareness of the necessity of the democratic processes and to encourage young people to participate actively in them.

E-mail: mfrontbelarus@yahoo.com  
Website: <<http://www.mfront.net>>

### **Zubr**

*Zubr* is the main non-partisan civic movement in Belarus. Its purpose is to ensure fair and free democratic elections in the country. It embraces non-violent tactics to work for change including mass protests, pickets, and the dissemination of information and news through its website.

E-mail: contacts@zubr-belarus.com,  
info@zubr-belarus.com  
Website: <<http://www.zubr-belarus.com>>

### **Brazil**

#### **Centro de Voluntariado de Rio Claro (Rio Claro Volunteers' Centre)**

The goal of this NGO is to encourage social, political and cultural participation by young people and their educators. Students volunteer within community networks to help in the development of social programmes for young people, and also raise awareness



and distribute literature regarding the importance of young people voting. It has published a booklet entitled 'Por que a Juventude deve votar?' ('Why Should Young People Vote?') based on its research.

Address: Avenida Rio Claro, 290 – Centro  
Tel.: +55 19 3534 9444  
E-mail: [cvrioclaro@cvrioclaro.org.br](mailto:cvrioclaro@cvrioclaro.org.br)  
Website: <http://www.cvrioclaro.org.br>

### **Global Youth Action Network**

Runs the Campanha Nacional para Participação Juvenil nas Eleições Municipais (National Campaign for Youth Participation on Municipal Elections) which accepts proposals from young people and assigns grants for the organization of public debates of the local candidates. Its website also presents a facilitation guide for young people's participation in different countries.

Address: Rua Mourato Coelho, 460  
São Paulo - SP CEP 05417-011, Brazil  
Tel.: +55 11 3815 9926  
Fax: +55 11 3819 8593  
E-mail: [brasil@youthlink.org](mailto:brasil@youthlink.org)  
Website: <http://brazil.takingitglobal.org> or  
<http://www.tiglobal.org/eleitoral/sobrecampanha.htm>

### **Instituto de Juventude Contemporanea (Institute for Contemporary Youth)**

This group organized the Tents of Youth project to create a space where the importance of voting could be discussed and ideas exchanged between young people in Ceará. A second programme, Saia do Muro, created an electoral list of voters aged 16–17 years and promoted the importance of voting. The programme involved c. 49,000 students between 16 and 24 years of age.

Address: Rua João Lobo Filho,  
267 Bairro de Fátima  
CEP: 60055-360 Fortaleza-CE, Brazil  
Tel./Fax: +55 85 247 7089  
Website: [http://web.matrix.com.br/ijc/\\_ijc.php?op=3&opc=TT](http://web.matrix.com.br/ijc/_ijc.php?op=3&opc=TT)

### **Movimento Nacional pela Reforma Política com Participação Popular (National Movement for Political Reform with Popular Participation)**

The objective of this non-partisan organization is to organize widespread debate in all sectors of civil society about how Brazil's political system should be reformed. Of particular concern are efforts to prevent

electoral fraud and corruption by elected officials, two crucial aspects retarding voter turnout. Recent activities include the organization of a conference in Brasília on the prevention of electoral fraud for those involved in running the 2006 presidential election.

Website: <http://www.proreformapolitica.com.br>

## **Bulgaria**

### **Women's Alliance for Development**

As part of the larger You Choose programme trained by the US *National Democratic Institute (NDI)*, WAD ran a campaign called the 2001 National Educational Campaign for Female Voters. The goal of the campaign was to motivate women voters to participate actively in the elections, to familiarize women voters with the platforms of the different parties participating in the elections and to motivate women voters to demand that those parties engage in resolving their problems. The WAD coordinated the campaign, which involved 13 other partner organizations. Local activities were targeted at young and first-time voters, mothers, unemployed women, women living in rural areas, women belonging to ethnic minority groups, and elderly women. Specific activities included phone banks, focus groups, the distribution of information materials (booklets, posters, tee-shirts), and the broadcasting of radio and video clips by local channels.

Address: 52 Neofit Rilski Str. 1000, Sofia, Bulgaria  
Tel./Fax: +359 2 9805532 / +359 2 9809447 /  
+359 2 9805920  
E-mail: [wad@women-bg.org](mailto:wad@women-bg.org)  
Website: [http://www.women-bg.org/\\_bg/beg\\_pages/prj\\_ti\\_izbirash.html](http://www.women-bg.org/_bg/beg_pages/prj_ti_izbirash.html)

## **Canada**

### **Get Your Vote On**

This organization's focus is to make voting fun/interesting/worth doing for young people (aged 18–34) in British Columbia. It provides information about provincial political parties, candidates and their positions on key issues; helps people put on their own events and spread the word; and makes the politicians, the media and the public pay attention to issues of concern to young people. It also sells and gives away souvenir items (available online).

Address: #605-201 W. Hastings St.  
Vancouver, BC, V6B 1H7, Canada

Tel.: +1 604-685-6631  
Fax: +1 604-688-5756  
E-mail: [info@getyourvoteton.ca](mailto:info@getyourvoteton.ca)  
or  
Address: #302 – 733 Johnson St.  
Victoria, BC, V8W 3C7, Canada  
Tel.: +1 250 386 5255 ext: 246  
Website: <http://getyourvoteton.ca>

### **Vote for a Change (A Voter Education Campaign for Peace and Justice)**

The campaign encourages voter participation in federal elections by emphasizing the need to use the power of voting and voicing issues. It provides many suggestions on how to make your voice heard and a 'get started' action kit, as well as campaign materials for purchase or downloading for people to make their own (postcards, buttons, stickers, flyers, lawn signs, billboards, etc.).

Address: c/o Centre for Social Justice  
489 College Street, Suite 303,  
Toronto, ON M6G 1A5, Canada  
Tel.: +1 416 927 0777 or  
(toll-free) 1 888 803 8881  
Fax: +1 416 927 7771  
E-mail: [vote@socialjustice.org](mailto:vote@socialjustice.org)  
Website: <http://www.socialjustice.org>

## **Democratic Republic of the Congo**

### **Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA)**

CIDA has recently announced the launching of a Project to Support Citizen Participation in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. While the project is still in the planning stages, it is intended to fund local civil society organizations involved in civic education and the encouragement of voting within the DRC.

Address: 200 Promenade du Portage  
Gatineau, Quebec, K1A 0G4, Canada  
Tel.: +1 819 997 5006  
Fax: +1 819 953 6088  
E-mail: [info@acdi-cida.gc.ca](mailto:info@acdi-cida.gc.ca)  
Website: [http://www.acdi-cida.gc.ca/cida\\_ind.nsf/vall/FB3A2A765A2C52EB8525702E0048CE3A?OpenDocument](http://www.acdi-cida.gc.ca/cida_ind.nsf/vall/FB3A2A765A2C52EB8525702E0048CE3A?OpenDocument)

## **El Salvador**

### **Asociación Salvadoreña para el Desarrollo Local y la Democracia (Salvadorean Association for Local**

### **Development and Democracy)**

In a country emerging from a process of transformation, this organization seeks to face the challenges of democratization and to construct, in a participatory and democratic form, a society for all Salvadorans using its community networks. Its work is based on the themes of municipal strengthening, citizen participation, civic education and the strengthening of electoral democracy for local development.

Address: Col. Miramonte  
Calle Colima No. 827  
Tel.: +503 260 8655 / 260 8998 / 260 8999  
E-mail: [aspad@aspad.org](mailto:aspad@aspad.org)  
Website: <http://www.aspad.org/aspad/programas/PartCiudadana.htm>

## **France**

### **Fédération régionale des maisons des jeunes et de la culture de Rhône-Alpes (MJC de Rhône-Alpes) (Regional Federation of the Houses of Youth and Culture of Rhône-Alpes)**

The *MJCs of the Rhône-Alpes* region created a project called Citoyenneté en Marche (Citizenship on the March) with funding from several private, public and NGO sources. The project consisted of distributing leaflets, holding public debates with comedians as animators, producing radio programmes, interactive theatre, a concert around the theme of citizenship, from which a CD was produced, and the construction of websites. One part of the project was a mock election for young people to vote for their favourite dance, type of music, fashion and food.

Address: Parc Marius Berliet  
3 rue des Hérèdeaux, 69 008 Lyon, France  
Tel.: +33 4 78 78 96 96  
Fax: +33 4 78 78 96 99  
E-mail: [les-mjc-en-rhone-alpes@wanadoo.fr](mailto:les-mjc-en-rhone-alpes@wanadoo.fr)  
Website: <http://www.zelector-mjc.org>

## **Guatemala**

### **Campaña Para el Voto Consciente de la Juventud Guatemalteca en el Proceso Electoral 2003 (Campaign for an Informed Youth Vote for the 2003 Electoral Process) (Instituto Centroamericano de Estudios Políticos (INCEP, Central American Institute of Political Studies)**

This was a campaign to promote the civic-political participation of young people and to encourage informed

voting. This programme took on multiple tasks: the running of 115 workshops for young people on the political and electoral systems; accompanying urban young people to register; providing information and interactive forums to disseminate information on candidates and political platforms; and the participation of 150 young observers in the 2003 electoral process.

Contact: manfredmarroquin@gmail.com,  
accionciudadana@accionciudadana.org.gt

### **Sector de Mujeres Campaña Por Voto Consciente**

This women's organization runs a campaign called When You Vote, Don't Forget Me. It promotes active political participation and conscientious and informed voting by women through community and street activities, and media publications.

Address: 4a. Calle 5-57 Zona 1, Guatemala 01001  
Tel.: +502 253 2696  
E-mail: mujerpaz@intelnet.net.gt  
Website: <<http://www.cimacnoticias.com/noticias/03dic/03121701.html>>

## **Kazakhstan**

### **Kahar**

Kahar is a new organization but is the main non-partisan civic movement in Kazakhstan. Its purpose is to ensure fair and free democratic elections in the country using non-violent methods.

E-mail: contact@kahar.info and info@kahar.info  
Website: <<http://www.kahar.org>>

## **Niger**

### **National Democratic Institute**

With funding from the *National Endowment for Democracy*, the NDI is working with Niger's political party leaders to build a cross-party coalition to bolster women's participation in the electoral process. Through radio-based programming, round tables and skills workshops the programme provides women with information on their voting rights and responsibilities, how to campaign for public office effectively, and implementation of Niger's new law requiring that 10 per cent of political party candidates and elected officials to be women.

Address: 2030 M Street, NW, Fifth Floor  
Washington, DC 20036-3306, USA  
Tel.: +1 202 728 5500

Fax: +1 202 728 5520  
E-mail: ggodfrey@ndi.org  
Website: <<http://www.ndi.org/worldwide/cewa/niger/niger.asp>>

## **Poland**

### **Mlodzi Demokraci (Young Democrats Association)**

This is an association of young people who want to participate in the making of a modern, free and strong Poland. Its goal is for every citizen to be able to fully enjoy their political and economic rights, and to emphasize the participation of young people in particular.

Address: Al. Ujazdowskie 18, Ip., 00 478 Warsaw,  
Poland  
Tel.: +48 22 622 75 48 (49)  
Fax: +48 22 622 53 86  
E-mail: fopp@wp.pl  
Website: <<http://www.smd.org.pl>>

## **Russia**

### **We the Citizens**

The main purpose of this civic organization is three-fold: carrying out educational programmes for voters; organizing monitoring of the electoral process; and increasing voter turnout. The tactics used include public lectures and debates, the distribution of literature, and the organization of civic actions aimed at encouraging higher voter turnout. Weekly bulletins are published which include information about the parties and candidates, and the election laws, and summaries of inflections of the election law. The organization holds regular seminars for other civic organizations, round tables and public debates.

Tel.: +7 095-133-66-08 / 095-928-58-77 /  
095-928-45-60  
E-mail: citizens@mosk.ru  
Website: <<http://www.citizens.ru>>

## **Rwanda**

### **Ministère du Genre et de la Promotion de la Femme (MIGEPROF, Ministry of Gender and Family Promotion)**

*MIGEPROF* organizes local women's councils which in turn make women aware of their rights and encourage them to vote. Due to a unique electoral system

and other circumstances, 49 per cent of the members of the Rwandan Parliament are women. Rwanda's women's councils are an example of volunteer-based, grass-roots-oriented groups being organized by a central government.

Address: BP 969, Kigali, Republic of Rwanda  
Tel.: +250 570698  
E-Mail: [gender@rwanda1.com](mailto:gender@rwanda1.com)  
Website: <<http://www.rwandaphonebook.com/gouvernement/migeprof/migeprof-21012.html>>

## **Slovakia**

**Rock Volieb '98 and '02** (a coalition programme coordinated by the Pontis Foundation)

Originally modelled on the US *Rock the Vote* campaign, *Rock Volieb* is a broadly-based, non-partisan coalition that intends to increase voter turnout by targeting specific groups (particularly voters under 25 and the more than 250,000 first-time voters), focusing on political agendas rather than emotions, and supporting Slovakia's aspirations for integration into the European Union by informing voters of what is at stake. Clever slogans, striking brochures, connections, and media support cannot take the place of people being approached by other young people face-to-face. With this in mind, Rock Volieb reaches out to NGOs, local clubs, artists, local personalities and opinion-makers, media, youth groups, bands, and volunteers to join the coalition as partners. These groups offer inspiration, motivation, ideas, contacts, and direct assistance to the effort.

Programme Coordinator: Marek Kapusta  
Address: Grösslingova 4, 81109 Bratislava, Slovakia  
Tel.: +421 2 5296 2215  
Fax: +421 2 5263 2362  
E-mail: [nos@internet.sk](mailto:nos@internet.sk)  
Website: <<http://www.rockvolieb.sk>>  
<[http://www.freedomhouse.hu/news/archives/issue\\_21\\_04.html](http://www.freedomhouse.hu/news/archives/issue_21_04.html)>

## **Ukraine**

### **Pora ('High Time')**

This was the main non-partisan civic movement in Ukraine at the time of the disputed 2004 presidential election in Ukraine. (It has since become a political party.) The purpose of this youth organization was to ensure fair and free elections in the country as well

as to maximize voter turnout. Its 2004 campaign focused on large-scale distribution of information on candidates' programmes, voters' rights and the course of the electoral campaign directly to the voters in order to increase their motivation to participate in the elections and promoting national and European values. It employed a number of tactics to achieve its goals, including concerts, organized protests, public meetings, the distribution of pamphlets, leaflets, booklets, stickers and small souvenirs, a website, group e-mails, videos, advertisements, interviews, billboards, posters, graffiti, etc.

Contact: Maryana Pochtar  
Address: Kyiv, Frolivska St., 9/16, Ukraine  
Tel.: +38 44 594 20 20  
Fax: +38 44 251 19 37  
E-mail: [international@pora.org.ua](mailto:international@pora.org.ua),  
[info@pora.org.ua](mailto:info@pora.org.ua), [press@pora.org.ua](mailto:press@pora.org.ua)  
Website: <<http://pora.org.ua/eng/>>

## **USA**

### **Black Youth Vote**

Committed to helping 18- to 35-year-old black voters identify the issues and influence the public policies that affect them. *BYV* will reach young black voters by working on historically black college campuses, sponsoring a national media campaign to communicate the value of voter participation, and working with existing organizations to implement voter education and mobilization initiatives.

Address: National Coalition on Black Civic Participation  
1900 L Street NW, Suite 700  
Washington, DC 20036, USA  
Tel.: +1 202 659 4929  
Fax: +1 202 659 5025  
E-mail: [nbcpc@nbcpc.org](mailto:nbcpc@nbcpc.org)  
Website: <<http://www.bigvote.org/byv.htm>>

### **Casa de Maryland**

Organizes the Tu Voto Es To Voz ('Your Vote Is Your Voice') campaign to promote voting by the Latino community in Maryland. It does this through door-to-door information campaigning, public demonstrations and community networking.

Tel.: +1 301 431 4185  
Website: <<http://www.casademaryland.org/spanish/index1.htm>>

### **Declare Yourself**

*Declare Yourself* is a national non-partisan, non-profit campaign intended to energize and empower a new movement of young voters and encourage them to participate. Its activities have included a live spoken word and music tour of college campuses; an unprecedented nationwide voter education initiative for high school seniors; an extensive online awareness campaign; a massive voter registration drive; a televised 'get out the vote' concert; and public service announcements.

Website: <<http://www.declareyourself.com>>

Sign up on website at: <<http://www.declareyourself.com/signup.php>>

### **MassVOTE (The Massachusetts Voter Education Network)**

*MassVOTE* is a non-partisan voting rights organization whose purpose to increase voter education and turnout by working with other non-profit organizations. In addition, MassVOTE's electoral reform agenda seeks to eliminate voter participation barriers, especially among communities of colour, language minorities, low-income groups, young people, new Americans and the disabled.

Address: 18 Tremont Street, Suite 608, Boston, MA 02108, USA

Tel.: +1 617 542 VOTE (8683) or (toll-free) 1 888 475 VOTE (8683)

Fax: +1 617 259 1599

E-mail: [info@massvote.org](mailto:info@massvote.org)

Website: <<http://www.massvote.net>>

### **Minnesota Participation Project – Nonpartisan Nonprofit Voter Mobilization**

Provides a variety of methods and strategies to work with other in-state non-profit organizations seeking to increase voter mobilization depending on the group's capacity, experience and resources. The main components are information exchange; education and training; coaching; organizing; list enhancement; and GOTV teams.

Contacts:

Jeannie Fox:

Tel: +1 651 642 1904 x247 or

[jeannie@mncn.org](mailto:jeannie@mncn.org)

Josh Schenck Winters

Tel: +1 651 642 1904 x223 or

[josh@mncn.org](mailto:josh@mncn.org)

Website: <<http://www.mncn.org/mpp/gotv.htm>>

### **National Association of Latino Elected and Appointed Officials Educational Fund**

This NGO runs the *Voces del Pueblo* campaign, which focuses on those Latinos who are least likely to vote. *Voces del Pueblo* holds voter forums to identify areas of concern for under-represented Latinos, hosts debates and 'radio town halls' with candidates, and employs phone banks and door-to-door canvassing to get out the vote.

Address: 1122 West Washington Blvd., 3rd Floor  
Los Angeles, CA 90015, USA

Tel.: +1 213 747 7606

Fax: +1 213 747 7664

E-mail: [info@naleo.org](mailto:info@naleo.org)

Website: <<http://www.naleo.org>>

### **New Voters Project**

The *New Voters Project* is a non-partisan effort to register young people and get them to the polls on election day. In 2004, the New Voters Project succeeded in becoming the largest grass-roots youth voter mobilization effort in the country's history. The core of the voter turnout effort in 2004 was peer-to-peer contact in the four weeks leading up to election day. Using the state public interest research groups' time-tested and academically-reviewed model, participants walked from door to door in neighbourhoods and student dormitories, made thousands of telephone calls, and went into classrooms and community centres.

Address: 1533 Market St., 2nd Floor  
Denver, CO 80202, USA

Tel.: +1 303 573 5885

E-mail: [info@newvotersproject.org](mailto:info@newvotersproject.org)

Website: <[http://www.newvotersproject.org/about\\_the\\_new\\_voters\\_project](http://www.newvotersproject.org/about_the_new_voters_project)>

### **Project Vote**

Registers new and infrequent voters in low-income and minority communities through door-to-door canvassing and by placing volunteers at high-traffic sites; educates people about issues that are important to them so they will have a reason to vote. *Project Vote* also works with local groups and individuals to build Voter Mobilization Networks—permanent coalitions dedicated to getting out the vote each election year.

Address: 88 Third Avenue, 3rd Floor  
Brooklyn, NY 11217, USA

Tel.: +1 800 546 8683

or

Address: 739 8th Street SE, Suite 202

Washington, DC 20003, USA  
or  
Address: 103 East 21st Street  
Little Rock, AR 72206, USA  
Website: <<http://www.projectvote.org/>>

### **Unitarian Universalist Association of Congregations**

Focuses on GOTV efforts as they are seen to be just as important as, if not more important than, registering new voters. Emphasizes a process of registering/recording voters, educating them, reminding them to vote, encouraging attendance at religious services on civic participation, and providing transport to the polls on election day.

Address: 1320 18th Street NW, Suite 300B  
Washington, DC 20036, USA  
Tel.: +1 202 296 4672  
Fax: +1 202 296-4673  
Website: <<http://www.uua.org>>

### **Youth Vote Coalition**

This association is a national non-partisan coalition of diverse organizations dedicated to engaging young people between the ages of 18 and 30 in the political process. It has over 100 national members who represent young people across the country.

Address: 1010 Vermont Ave. NW, Suite 715  
Washington, DC 20005, USA  
Tel.: +1 202 783 4751  
Fax: +1 202 783 4750  
E-mail: [info@youthvote.org](mailto:info@youthvote.org)  
Website: <<http://www.youthvote.org>>

## **4. School/Mock Elections and Other Special-purpose Educational Programmes**

### **Australia**

#### **Australian Capital Territory Electoral Commission (Elections ACT)**

The *ACT Electoral Commission*, in conjunction with the *ACT Legislative Assembly* education office, produces a range of material for education purposes. Commission staff are also available to visit schools, provide fact sheets, make presentations to students and community groups, receive visits to the Legislative Assembly, conduct mock elections, provide assistance in school

elections, provide electoral display materials, etc.

Address: PO Box 272, Civic Square, ACT 2608,  
Australia  
Tel.: +61 2 6205 0033  
E-mail: [election@act.gov.au](mailto:election@act.gov.au)  
Website: <<http://www.elections.act.gov.au/educate.html>>

### **Victoria Electoral Commission – Your Opinion Counts programme**

Your Opinion Counts has curriculum resources on the electoral system in Victoria designed for teachers of middle secondary school students. The material is written and designed for students of Studies of Society and Environment in years 9 and 10. It explores democracy and the electoral process through contemporary themes such as human rights. By examining the electoral system in the context of current issues, it is hoped that students will gain an understanding of the relevance and role of elections in society. Is also designed to foster an ongoing interest in democratic and political processes.

Address: Level 8, 505 Little Collins Street  
Melbourne, Victoria 3000, Australia  
Tel.: +61 3 9299 0520  
Fax: +61 3 9629 8632  
E-mail: [info@vec.vic.gov.au](mailto:info@vec.vic.gov.au)  
Website: <[http://www.vec.vic.gov.au/ElectoralInfo/WP\\_ElectoralEducation.htm](http://www.vec.vic.gov.au/ElectoralInfo/WP_ElectoralEducation.htm)>

### **Western Australian Electoral Commission – Electoral Education Centre**

The centre's goal is to provide appropriate and interesting information for anyone, including new voters (young people and new citizens); long-established voters with an interest in the electoral process; academics; or teachers looking for 'hands-on' methods of teaching students about democracy. The centre offers a range of services and educational programmes (including activity sheets, available online) aimed at a wide range of groups from primary and secondary school students through to adult education classes and wider community groups. Mock election programmes are included in its services.

Address: Constitutional Centre of Western Australia  
PO Box 1396, West Perth, WA 6872  
Tel.: +61 8 9222 6955  
Fax: +61 8 9222 6960  
E-Mail: [eec@waec.wa.gov.au](mailto:eec@waec.wa.gov.au)  
Website: <<http://www.waec.wa.gov.au/frames.asp?section=education>>

## **Belgium**

### **Department of Education of the French Belgian Community – Démocratie ou barbarie (Democracy or Barbarism)**

Democracy or Barbarism runs campaigns in secondary schools encouraging voting and respect for human rights. As the title suggests, it focuses heavily on comparisons between Belgium and less democratic countries as a way to encourage voting and appreciation for human rights.

Address: Coordination pédagogique Communauté française  
Direction générale de l'Enseignement obligatoire  
Bureau 3 F 338  
1, rue A. Lavallée à 1080 Brussels, Belgium  
Tel.: +32 2 690 83 52  
Fax: +32 2 690 85 84  
E-mail: [democratie.barbarie@cfwb.be](mailto:democratie.barbarie@cfwb.be)  
Website: <http://www.cfwb.be/autorg/pg011.htm>

## **Bolivia**

### **Corte Nacional Electoral (National Electoral Court)**

Student Mural Competition: young people of the city of El Alto were 'painting democracy'. This programme targeted primary and secondary school students.

Address: Av. Sánchez Lima esq. Pedro Salazar (Sopocachi)  
Correo postal 8748, La Paz, Bolivia  
Tel.: +591 2424221 / +591 2422338  
Fax: +591 2416710  
E-mail: [cne@cne.org.bo](mailto:cne@cne.org.bo) / [educiudadana@cne.org.bo](mailto:educiudadana@cne.org.bo)  
Website: <http://www.cne.org.bo>

## **Botswana**

### **Independent Electoral Commission with the Friedrich Ebert Stiftung and the University of Botswana – Botswana Voter Apathy Project**

The 2002 Democracy Research Project highlighted the problem of voter apathy, especially among young people and women. This prompted activities to increase participation among eligible voters in 2004, including workshops, seminars and campaigns.

Address: Friedrich Ebert Stiftung  
P.O. Box 18, Gaborone, Botswana

Tel.: +267 3952 441  
Fax: +267 3930 821  
E-mail: [fes@fes.org.bw](mailto:fes@fes.org.bw)  
Website: <http://botswana.fes-international.de/02cElections2004.htm>

## **Brazil**

### **Assembléia Legislativa do Estado de Acre (Acre State Legislative Assembly)**

Deputados por um Dia ('Deputies for a Day') sees a series of votes held in participating schools to elect representatives who will partner with a state legislator and spend a day proposing and debating legislation in the state legislature. The aim of the project is to give young people a greater awareness of how the political process works, develop students' self-esteem, and improve the image of parliamentary institutions.

Address: Rua Arlindo Porto Leal, 241 – Centro  
Rio Branco, Acre, Brazil  
Tel.: +55 68 3223 1797  
Website: <http://www.aleac.ac.gov.br>

### **Assembléia Legislativa do Maranhão (Legislative Assembly of the State of Maranhão)**

The Assembly has organized the Parlamento Estudantil da Assembléia Legislativa do Maranhão (Student Parliament of the Legislative Assembly of Maranhão). Six schools send seven representatives each to a state student assembly where they engage in the process of legislative work for a full day, following the rules and procedures of the actual legislature. The decisions, findings and debates of the student assembly are published in the official gazette of the legislature. The programme aims, through practical experience, to teach students what is involved in the participatory democratic process of a legislature.

Website: <http://www.al.ma.gov.br/2005/12/6/Pagina8248.htm>

### **Instituto de Juventude Contemporanea (Institute for Contemporary Youth)**

This group organized the Tents of Youth project to create a space where the importance of voting could be discussed and ideas exchanged between young people in Ceará. A second programme, Saia do Muro, created an electoral list of voters of 16 and 17 years old and promoted the importance of voting. This programme involved c. 49,000 students between 16 and 24 years of age.

Address: Rua João Lobo Filho  
267 Bairro de Fátima  
CEP: 60055-360 Fortaleza-CE, Brazil  
Tel./Fax: +55 85 247 7089  
Website: <[http://web.matrix.com.br/ijc/\\_ijc.php?op=3&opc=TT](http://web.matrix.com.br/ijc/_ijc.php?op=3&opc=TT)>

### **Tribunal Regional Eleitoral de Mato Grosso do Sul (Regional Electoral Tribunal of Mato Grosso do Sul)**

Eleição Jovem de Mato Grosso do Sul (Youth Elections of Mato Grosso do Sul) was a programme of simulated elections held in schools in advance of the 2003 municipal elections, using equipment identical to that used for the formal vote. The goal was to show students how the electoral process works and, by doing so, encourage a heightened sense of citizenship and participation in electoral politics among young people.

Address: Rua Desembargador Leão Neto do Carmo, 23 - Parque dos Poderes  
Campo Grande/MS - CEP: 79037-100, Brazil  
Tel.: +55 67 3326 4166 / 3326 4141  
Fax: +55 67 3326 4002  
Website: <<http://www.tre-ms.gov.br/jovem/jovem.htm>>

### **Tribunal Regional Eleitoral do Roraima (Regional Electoral Tribunal of Roraima)**

The Programa Eleitor do Futuro ('Voter of the Future Programme') is targeted at children of 10–15 years of age who regularly attend school, seeking to build their political capacity and mobilize them as an informed section of society who will exercise their right to vote in future. A programme of classes, lectures, contests, simulated elections and activities is used to build citizenship skills in participating students. The programme is intended to run in cooperation with state and municipal secretaries of education as well as a network of governmental and non-governmental organizations working with children and young people.

Address: Av. Getúlio Vargas, 225 – São Pedro  
Boa Vista – RR, CEP 69.306-150, Brazil  
Tel.: +55 95 2121 7000  
Fax: +55 95 2121 7007  
Website: <<http://www.tre-rr.gov.br/eleitordofuturo>>

### **Tribunal Superior Eleitoral (Supreme Electoral Tribunal)**

The Eleição Jovem ('Youth Election') programme is run by this government agency. The goal of the programme is to stimulate political participation by teaching the fundamental principles of political ethics and the Brazilian electoral legal system. Targeted at children in the 7th and 8th year of basic schooling and the first year of middle schooling, the plan is to teach students how to participate effectively in the political process and prepare themselves to be responsible voters and candidates for office.

Address: Praça dos Tribunais Superiores –  
Bloco C  
CEP 70.096-900, Brasília, DF, Brazil  
Tel.: +55 61 3322 3000  
Fax: +55 61 3322 0639  
Website: <<http://www.tse.gov.br>>

## **Bulgaria**

### **Bulgarian Association for Fair Elections and Civil Rights**

The association conducted civic education classes in 11 schools in the city of Pleven prior to the 2003 municipal elections. The classes were targeted at students that would be first-time voters. The centrepiece was a film put together by volunteers, meant to familiarize students with election procedures and electoral systems in the country and worldwide, as well as voters' rights in Bulgaria.

Address: Sofia 1504, 121 Evlogi Georgiev Blvd.,  
Bulgaria  
Tel.: +359 2 46 41 35, 944 37 76  
Fax: +359 2 46 41 35  
E-mail: <<http://bafecr.org/>>  
Website: <<http://bafecr.org>>

## **Canada**

### **Elections Canada**

This agency presents a section of its website expressly for educational purposes. It covers general information about elections, but also acts to provide resources for students involved in conducting school elections and for civics teachers by providing ideas for games and activities.

Address: 257 Slater Street  
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0M6, Canada  
Tel.: +1 613 993 2975 or



(toll-free) 1 800 463 6868

Fax: +1 888 524 1444

Website: <[http://www.elections.ca/content\\_youth.asp?section=yth&dir=res&document=index&lang=e&textonly=false](http://www.elections.ca/content_youth.asp?section=yth&dir=res&document=index&lang=e&textonly=false)>

### **Student Vote**

*Student Vote* is a non-profit educational initiative working to inspire the habit of electoral and community participation among students across Canada. Student Vote aims to provide Canadian students with an opportunity to participate actively in a non-partisan parallel election experience during an official election period. It is hoped that this experience will promote citizenship and participation among young Canadians.

Tel: (toll-free): 1 866 488 8775

E-mail: [info@studentvote.ca](mailto:info@studentvote.ca) or  
[Lindsay@mail.studentvote.ca](mailto:Lindsay@mail.studentvote.ca)

Website: <<http://www.studentvote.ca>>

### **France**

#### **Fédération régionale des maisons des jeunes et de la culture de Rhône-Alpes (MJC de Rhône-Alpes) (Regional Federation of the Houses of Youth and Culture of Rhône-Alpes)**

The *MJCs of the Rhône-Alpes* region created a project called *Citoyenneté en Marche* (Citizenship on the March) with funding from several private, public and NGO sources. The project consisted of distributing leaflets, holding public debates with comedians as animators, producing radio programmes, interactive theatre, a concert around the theme of citizenship, from which a CD was produced, and the construction of websites. One part of the project was a mock election for young people to vote for their favourite dance, type of music, fashion and food.

Address: Parc Marius Berliet  
3 rue des Hérédiaux, 69 008 Lyon, France

Tel.: +33 4 78 78 96 96

Fax: +33 4 78 78 96 99

E-mail: [les-mjc-en-rhone-alpes@wanadoo.fr](mailto:les-mjc-en-rhone-alpes@wanadoo.fr)

Website: <<http://www.zelector-mjc.org>>

#### **Ministère de l'éducation nationale, de l'enseignement supérieur et de la recherche (Ministry of National Education, Universities and Research)**

In 1999, the *Ministry of Education* adopted a programme entitled *Éducation civique, juridique et so-*

*ciale* (ECJS) ('Civic, Judicial and Social Education') which attempted to make citizenship a subject on par with mathematics, science and languages. A part of the ECJS curriculum is teaching the responsibility of citizens to vote. To date, a large number of networks of teachers and university education departments have surfaced to trade ideas and lesson plans to teach the new curriculum.

Address: 110 rue de Grenelle, 75357 Paris SP 07,  
France

Tel.: +33 1 55 55 10 10

Website: <<http://www.education.gouv.fr/>>

### **Mexico**

#### **Instituto Federal Electoral (Federal Electoral Institute)**

In addition to its other tasks, this EMB has special programmes directed to children and young people through both curricular and extra-curricular programmes. The children's section on its website contains activities, information, interactive games and trivia, arranged by age groups, for families and schools, and features characters and logos designed to appeal to children. It also has publications for students and schools, and organizes annual public consultations with children. It is also currently in the midst of a 2005–2010 Civic Education Campaign.

Address: Oficinas Centrales  
Viaducto Tlalpan No. 100 Col. Arenal  
Tepepan  
Delegación Tlalpan  
C.P. 14610, México, D.F.

Website: <<http://www.ife.org.mx>>,  
<<http://www.ife.org.mx/InternetCDA/IFEninios/index.jsp>>

### **New Zealand**

#### **Elections New Zealand – Hands Up!**

*Hands Up!* examines issues at the heart of citizenship and involvement in society. It encourages students working at levels 1–4 to become socially and 'politically' active in issues relevant to their own lives, starting in their school and local community. This resource provides information for teachers in a ready-to-use format with activities and background notes. The activities are designed to encourage active participation in the classroom and a focus on the local community. Students will learn more by 'doing' than just reading

or being told about political process.

Contact list: <[http://www.elections.org.nz/sitehelp/about\\_contact\\_main.html](http://www.elections.org.nz/sitehelp/about_contact_main.html)>

Website: <[http://www.elections.org.nz/study/handsup\\_teacher\\_notes.html](http://www.elections.org.nz/study/handsup_teacher_notes.html)>

## **Northern Ireland**

### **Electoral Commission of Northern Ireland**

The *Electoral Commission of Northern Ireland* recently established a study to find out why young people in Northern Ireland have apparently disengaged themselves from politics. It has been running courses and visiting schools, colleges, youth groups and so on to find out from people between 16 and 24 years of age the reasons for their apathy about or lack of interest in voting.

Address: Seatem House, 28–32 Alfred Street  
Belfast, BT2 8EN, Northern Ireland

Tel.: +44 2890 89 4020

Fax: +44 2890 89 4026

Website: <<http://www.electoralcommission.org.uk/your-area/northern-ireland.cfm>>

## **Paraguay**

### **Decidamos (Let Us Decide)**

An NGO, *Decidamos* runs Campañas por la Expresión Ciudadana ('citizenship expression campaigns' to promote the rights of the people. These campaigns include civic education and citizenship courses and workshops for students and organizations, mass media campaigns (television, radio, print media), and the publication of booklets and working papers.

Address: Colón 1700 casi París, Asunción, Paraguay

Tel.: +595 21 425850/2

E-mail: [comunicacion@decidamos.org.py](mailto:comunicacion@decidamos.org.py)

Website: <<http://www.decidamos.org.py>>

## **Peru**

### **Jurado Nacional de Elecciones (National Electoral Court)**

This EMB ensures the implementation of electoral civic education courses through inter-institutional agreements within the educational community, looking to promote democratic values and conscientious voting.

Address: Avenida Nicolás de Piérola 1070 Lima 1,  
Peru

Tel.: +51 1 311 1700

E-mail: [consultas@jne.gob.pe](mailto:consultas@jne.gob.pe)

Website: <<http://www.jne.gob.pe>>

## **Portugal**

### **Secretaria de Estado da Juventude e do Desporto (Youth and Sport Secretariat)**

One project of this government agency has been the development of Hemiciclo – Jogo de Cidadania ('Citizenship Game') which is directed at all students at secondary level or equivalent and consists of the creation and development of a process of debate and democratic decision making.

Address: Avenida da Liberdade 194  
1269-051 Lisboa, Portugal

E-mail: [geral@juventude.gov.pt](mailto:geral@juventude.gov.pt)

Website: <<http://juventude.gov.pt/Portal/Programas/ProgHemiciclo/TemaDocumentos/>>

## **Slovakia**

### **Nadácia Intenda (Intenda Foundation)**

Intenda is the largest Slovak foundation oriented to increasing the participation of young people in social and public life. Its intention is to create and support conditions for the development of a society that is friendly to young people, thus enabling their better integration in society, as well as their active participation in public affairs. The programme includes the establishment of student parliaments, youth parliaments, schools of democracy, and youth governments for local/regional public affairs.

Address: Pražská 9, 811 04 Bratislava, Slovakia

Tel.: +421 2 5729 7112

Fax: +421 2 5729 7117

E-mail: [intenda@intenda.sk](mailto:intenda@intenda.sk)

Website: <<http://www.intenda.sk>>

### **Rada mládeže Slovenska (Youth Council of Slovakia)**

The *RMS* is an umbrella organization of children and youth organizations in Slovakia with a wide spectrum of activities. Its aim is to engage young people in Slovakia in active participation in social life. During the 2002 parliamentary election, it guided the Each Drop Counts programme with the aim of mobilizing young

people for active participation in the election.

Address: Pražská 11, 811 04 Bratislava, Slovakia  
Tel.: +421 2 5249 8108  
Fax: +421 2 5249 3301  
E-mail: rms@rms.mladez.sk  
Website: <<http://www.mladez.sk>>

### **Slovenská akademická informaná agentúra (SAIA, Slovak Academic Information Agency)**

This non-governmental, not-for-profit academic organization specializes in educational programmes, academic exchanges and the dissemination of information. Its mission is to enhance civil society through the internalization of education and research in Slovakia.

Address: Námestie slobody 1, 812 20 Bratislava, Slovakia  
Tel.: +421 2 5441 1464  
Fax: +421 2 5441 1429  
Website: <<http://www.saia.sk>>

## **Ukraine**

### **Committee of Voters of Ukraine**

The main purposes of this civic organization are to educate voters about the election process and their rights and responsibilities, and to encourage people to vote. It has also run student elections on a national level where students voted for the presidential candidates, and were made aware of the electoral laws and voting procedures. With these student elections being in compliance with election legislation, this activity played an educational role for students as well as interesting them in participating in the elections.

Address: Kyiv-135, a/c 5, 01135, Ukraine  
Tel./Fax: +380 44 492 27 67 / +380 44 492 27 68 / +380 44 492 27 69 / +380 44 254 25 26  
E-mail: cvu@cvu.kiev.ua  
Website: <<http://www.cvu.org.ua>>

## **UK**

### **Hansard Society – HeadsUp**

HeadsUp was launched in June 2003 as a resource to promote political awareness and participation among young people under the age of 18. The site assists teachers in covering the political literacy strand of citizenship education, and MPs can use it to consult with their younger constituents. Its main feature is a moderated online forum where students deliberate on topical

issues that relate to work in Parliament. Y Vote Mock Elections aims to actively engage students with the political, social and moral issues of the world around them by giving them the opportunity to stand as party candidates, speech writers and canvassers in a mock election. Y Vote Mock Elections gives students the opportunity to engage in an active citizenship exercise which is fun and provides an excellent introduction to the mechanics and issues involved in an election.

Address: LSE, 9 Kingsway, London WC2B 6XF, UK  
Tel.: +44 207 395 4000  
Fax: +44 207 395 4008  
Website: <<http://www.hansardsociety.org.uk>>, <<http://www.headsup.org.uk>>

### **UK Electoral Commission – Do Politics**

The *UKEC*'s aim is to encourage young people to get involved in democracy by running workshops and events. It provides resources and training across the UK, including programmes such as the New Initiatives Fund, and provides grants to innovative projects aimed at raising awareness of British democratic processes and institutions. Recent projects include a voting-themed theatre production in Northern Ireland, election-shadowing activity in England and a schools democracy project in Wales.

Address: Trevelyan House, Great Peter Street, London SW1P 2HW, UK  
Tel.: +44 207 271 0500  
Fax: +44 207 271 0505  
E-mail: dopolitics@electoralcommission.org.uk  
Website: <<http://www.dopolitics.co.uk>>

## **USA**

### **Association of American Colleges and Universities**

The *AAC&U* initiatives help campuses to develop avenues through which students learn about the promise and reality of American democracy and develop a commitment to participating in building more just and equitable communities at home and in the global community. AAC&U projects and publications help campuses to develop courses and programmes that enable students to gain knowledge, but also to learn how to use knowledge ethically in the service of the public good. The AAC&U also works in partnership with a set of higher education associations to gather and disseminate resources related to higher education and civic engagement.

Address: 1818 R Street NW, Washington DC 20009,  
USA

Tel.: +1 202 387 3760

Fax: +1 202 265 9532

Website: <<http://www.aacu-edu.org/issues/civicengagement/index.cfm>>

### **Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching**

In order to strengthen education for responsible, engaged citizenship among college students, the Political Engagement Project is documenting and studying the impacts of a diverse collection of academic courses and programmes that represent creative approaches to undergraduate political education.

Project contact: Ruby Kerawalla,  
[kerawalla@carnegiefoundation.org](mailto:kerawalla@carnegiefoundation.org)

Address: 51 Vista Lane, Stanford,  
CA 94305,  
USA

Tel.: +1 650 566 5100

Fax: +1 650 326 0278

Website: <<http://www.carnegiefoundation.org/PEP/>>

### **Declare Yourself**

The *Declare Yourself Voter Education Initiative* has partnered with two key organizations for the distribution and outreach of an unprecedented youth voter education initiative for high school seniors—Newspapers in Education (NIE) and the National Association of Secretaries of State (NASS). The goal is to teach young people, particularly those eligible to vote for the first time, all they need to know about registering and voting.

Website: <<http://www.declareyourself.com>>

Sign up at <<http://www.declareyourself.com/signup.php>>

### **International Republican Institute in Latin America and the Caribbean**

The *IRI* has been involved in efforts to integrate traditionally disenfranchised groups into political processes, to promote accountability and ethics in the political process, to ensure improved conduct of elections, and to promote political and public acceptance of economic reform in the region. Activities to this end have included youth leadership seminars and workshops. The *IRI* has also developed and supported an innovative programme to help pro-freedom activists in Cuba who are working to bring about change from within

the island.

Contact: Brian Dean (Regional Program Director,  
Latin America and Caribbean)

Address: 1225 Eye Street, NW, Suite 700  
Washington, DC 20005, USA

Tel.: +1 202 572 1580

Fax: +1 202 408 9462

Website: <<http://www.iri.org/region.asp?region=8397517221>>

### **Kids Voting USA**

*Kids Voting USA* gives young people knowledge, tools and motivation for democratic living as part of their basic education. Its acclaimed curricula include Civics Alive!, the K-12 core curriculum, and Destination Democracy, a high school service-learning curriculum that connects community service projects with the political process. Students also take part in an authentic voting experience that mirrors the official voting process.

Address: Superstition Office Plaza,  
3933 South McClintock Drive, Suite 505  
Tempe, Arizona 85282, USA

Tel.: +1 480 921 3727 or  
(toll-free) 1 866 500 VOTE

Fax: +1 480 921 4008

E-mail: [kidsvotingusa@kidsvotingusa.org](mailto:kidsvotingusa@kidsvotingusa.org)

Website: <<http://www.kidsvotingusa.org>>

### **National Association of Secretaries of State**

New Millennium is a national campaign designed primarily to raise levels of civic engagement among the country's 18–24 year-olds. Having the goal to find creative and participatory solutions to provide young people with the information and skills they need to become motivated, educated and informed citizens, one means encouraged is the promotion of civics education in schools.

Address: Hall of the States  
444 N. Capitol St., NW, Suite 401  
Washington, DC 20001, USA

Tel.: +1 202 624 3525

E-mail: [nass@sso.org](mailto:nass@sso.org)

Website: <<http://www.stateofthevote.org/mediakit.html>>

### **National Campaign for Political and Civic Engagement**

In 2003, Harvard University's Institute of Politics, working with colleges and universities across the coun-

try, established the *National Campaign for Political and Civic Engagement*. Participating schools work on their own campus, and collaboratively, to work with young people and candidates to increase engagement and to promote civil studies curriculum for younger students.

Address: Institute of Politics, Harvard University  
79 JFK Street, Cambridge, MA 02138,  
USA

Tel.: +1 617 495 1360

Fax: +1 617 495 1364

E-mail: [iop@hcs.harvard.edu](mailto:iop@hcs.harvard.edu)

Website: <[http://www.iop.harvard.edu/events\\_national\\_campaign.html](http://www.iop.harvard.edu/events_national_campaign.html)>

### **PBS kids**

This is a programme to teach children and to encourage them to get their grown-ups out to vote. Also includes activities, a mock vote, a section for parents and teachers, etc.

Contact: <[http://pbskids.org/zoom/help/contact\\_general.html](http://pbskids.org/zoom/help/contact_general.html)>

Website: <<http://pbskids.org/zoom/fromyou/elections/>>

## **5. Entertainment**

### **Albania**

#### **Mjaft! ('Enough!')**

The *Mjaft* movement believes that a good democracy, proper governance and a prosperous society can only be built through the will and the participation of civil society. Thus, its mission is to increase active citizenship, strengthen the sense of community, promote responsible governance and improve the image of Albania in the world. Among other activities, it has run public debates, peaceful protests, direct action workshops, student orientations, lectures and issue-related concerts as well as countrywide bus tours, theatres, petitions, volunteer action, and so on.

Address: Rruga e Elbasanit, nr. 77, Tirana, Albania

Tel./Fax: +355 4 223 661

E-mail: [info@mjaft.org](mailto:info@mjaft.org)

Website: <[http://www.mjaft.org/en/rreth\\_mjaft.htm](http://www.mjaft.org/en/rreth_mjaft.htm)>

### **Belarus**

#### **Malady Front (Young Front)**

A non-partisan youth movement, its main purpose to educate and mobilize young people for civic and electoral participation. The organization has used sports events and entertainment such as concerts extensively to achieve its goals, as well as public protests to raise awareness of the necessity of the democratic processes and to encourage young people to participate actively in them.

E-mail: [mfrontbelarus@yahoo.com](mailto:mfrontbelarus@yahoo.com)

Website: <<http://www.mfront.net>>

### **Bulgaria**

#### **You Choose!**

As part of this overarching programme, various organizations arranged for seven concerts prior to the 2003 municipal elections. One example was a concert organized by a group of local organizations in the city of Kazanluk on 14 October 2003 with the goal of encouraging first-time voters (students) to participate in the municipal elections (<[http://bmc.bulmedia.com/BG/docs/Ti\\_izbirash\\_bulletin\\_3.pdf](http://bmc.bulmedia.com/BG/docs/Ti_izbirash_bulletin_3.pdf)>). Another example was a series of free-admission parties in a nightclub in Sofia's 'student city' (an area where most students live) organized with the goal of encouraging students to participate in the elections (<[http://bmc.bulmedia.com/BG/docs/Ti\\_izbirash\\_bulletin\\_2.pdf](http://bmc.bulmedia.com/BG/docs/Ti_izbirash_bulletin_2.pdf)>).

### **Burkina Faso**

#### **Réseau de Communication d'information et de formation des femmes dans les organisations non-gouvernementales au Burkina Faso (RECIF/ONG, Network of Communication of Information and Training of Women in Non-governmental Organizations)**

*RECIF/ONG* is a network of NGOs. One of its projects was the presentation of a theatre play which illustrated the positive effects of women exercising their right to vote, and encouraged women to vote.

Address: 01 BP 6473, Ouagadougou 01,  
Burkina Faso

Tel.: +226 31 22 25

Fax: +226 31 19 43

E-Mail: [recif@fasonet.bf](mailto:recif@fasonet.bf)

Website: <<http://courantsdefemmes.free.fr/Assoces/Burkina/RECIF/recif.html>>

## **Canada**

### **Rock the Vote BC**

Built on the *Rock the Vote* model, this provincially-focused group holds concerts and contests; provides prizes, educational information about voting and issues, a place for people to write in their opinions, etc.

Address: 250-1385 West. 8th Avenue  
Vancouver, BC, V6H 3V9, Canada  
Tel.: +1 604 733 1880  
Fax: +1 604 733 1852  
E-mail: [info@rockthevotebc.com](mailto:info@rockthevotebc.com)  
Website: <http://www.rockthevotebc.com/>

### **Rush The Vote**

Founded in 1997, *Rush the Vote* is a national non-partisan organization dedicated to increasing youth voter turnout and political awareness through music and education—an approach known as ‘edutainment’. Events have included jams, cyphers, school tours, concerts, sporting events, lectures, town hall meetings, meetings in churches, student groups, block parties, spoken word poetry, basketball tournaments, concerts etc. Pictures and videos are available on the website.

E-mail: [Contact\\_info@rushthevote.com](mailto:Contact_info@rushthevote.com)  
Website: [http://www.rushthevote.ca/v2/index\\_main.html](http://www.rushthevote.ca/v2/index_main.html)

## **Democratic Republic of the Congo**

### **Commission Electorale Indépendante (Independent Electoral Commission) and Programme des Nations Unies pour le Développement, Bureau de la République Démocratique du Congo**

The joint *CEI/PNUD* programme will fund community groups, NGOs, unions, churches, professional associations and youth organizations to create projects to encourage voting and to educate the general public about the voting process. Suggestions for admissible projects include concerts, theatre plays, sporting events or conferences.

Address: Commission Electorale Indépendante (CEI)  
11, avenue lieutenant Colonel Lukusa  
Commune de la gombe, Kinshasa  
Democratic Republic of the Congo  
Tel.: +243 98 95 09  
Fax: +243 177 5599 6606  
E-mail: [cei-kinshasa@cei-rdc.org](mailto:cei-kinshasa@cei-rdc.org)

Website: [http://www.cei-rdc.org/article.php3?id\\_article=13](http://www.cei-rdc.org/article.php3?id_article=13),  
<http://www.cd.undp.org/docs/APEC%20Prodoc%20Final.doc>

## **France**

### **Fédération régionale des maisons des jeunes et de la culture de Rhône-Alpes (MJC de Rhône-Alpes) (Regional Federation of the Houses of Youth and Culture of Rhône-Alpes)**

The *MJCs of the Rhône-Alpes* region created a project called *Citoyenneté en Marche* (‘Citizenship on the March’) with funding from several private, public and NGO sources. The project consisted of distributing leaflets, holding public debates with comedians as animators, producing radio programmes, interactive theatre, a concert around the theme of citizenship, from which a CD was produced, and the construction of websites. One part of the project was a mock election for young people to vote for their favourite dance, type of music, fashion and food.

Address: Parc Marius Berliet  
3 rue des Hérivéeaux, 69 008 Lyon, France  
Tel.: +33 4 78 78 96 96  
Fax: +33 4 78 78 96 99  
E-mail: [les-mjc-en-rhone-alpes@wanadoo.fr](mailto:les-mjc-en-rhone-alpes@wanadoo.fr)  
Website: <http://www.zelector-mjc.org>

## **Mexico**

### **Instituto Federal Electoral (Federal Electoral Institute)**

This EMB ran a national tour of rock bands, a mass media campaign, and a lecture cycle called *Tu Rock es Votar* (<http://www.turockesvotar.com/index.html>), based on the *Rock the Vote* model, for the 2006 elections.

Address: Oficinas Centrales  
Viaducto Tlalpan No. 100 Col.  
Arenal Tepepan  
Delegación Tlalpan, C.P. 14610,  
México, D.F.  
Website: <http://www.ife.org.mx>

## **Slovakia**

**Rock Volieb '98 and '02** (a coalition programme coordinated by the Pontis Foundation)

Originally modelled on the US *Rock the Vote* campaign, *Rock Volieb* is a broadly-based, non-partisan coalition that intends to increase voter turnout by targeting specific groups (particularly voters under 25 and the more than 250,000 first-time voters). The goal is to combine light entertainment and cultural programmes with educational activities showing the way to develop young voters into a powerful political force. Popular personalities and musicians are expected to encourage young people to get involved. *Rock Volieb* operates on the belief that by addressing the issue of voting while people are having a good time the campaign can create an atmosphere that will make people think of voting as, for lack of a better term, 'cool'.

Programme Coordinator: Marek Kapusta  
Address: Grösslingova 4, 81109 Bratislava, Slovakia  
Tel.: +421 2 5296 2215  
Fax: +421 2 5263 2362  
E-mail: nos@internet.sk  
Website: <<http://www.rockvolieb.sk>  
<[http://www.freedomhouse.hu/news/archives/issue\\_21\\_04.html](http://www.freedomhouse.hu/news/archives/issue_21_04.html)>

## USA

### Declare Yourself

*Declare Yourself* is national non-partisan, non-profit campaign intended to energize and empower a new movement of young voters to participate. Its activities have included a live spoken word and music tour of college campuses; an unprecedented nationwide voter education initiative for high school seniors; an extensive online awareness campaign; a massive voter registration drive; a televised 'get out the vote' concert; and public service announcements. Videos are available on its website.

Website: <<http://www.declareyourself.com/>>  
Sign up at: <<http://www.declareyourself.com/signup.php>>

### Hip Hop Summit Action Network (HSAN)

A non-profit, non-partisan national coalition of Hip-Hop artists, entertainment industry leaders, education advocates, civil rights proponents, and youth leaders united in the belief that Hip-Hop is an enormously influential agent for social change which must be responsibly and proactively used to fight poverty and injustice. The Hip Hop Team Vote gives young people the information they need before heading to the polls.

E-mail: [info@hsan.org](mailto:info@hsan.org)  
Website: <<http://www.hsan.org>>

### Rock the Vote

A non-profit, non-partisan organization, *Rock the Vote's* purpose is to mobilize young people to create positive social and political change in their lives and communities by incorporating the entertainment community and youth culture into its activities. It coordinates voter registration drives, GOTV events, and voter education efforts, all with the intention of ensuring that young people take advantage of their right to vote. From actors to musicians, comedians to athletes, *Rock the Vote* harnesses cutting-edge trends and pop culture to make political participation cool.

Address: 10635 Santa Monica Blvd, Suite 150  
Los Angeles, CA 90025, USA  
Tel.: +1 310 234 0665  
Fax: +1 310 234 0666  
or  
Address: 1313 L Street, NW, 1st Floor  
Washington, DC 20005, USA  
Tel.: +1 202 962 9710  
Fax: +1 202 962 9715  
E-mail: [Info@rockthevote.com](mailto:Info@rockthevote.com)  
Website: <<http://www.rockthevote.com>>

### Smackdown Your Vote

This is a joint effort dedicated to the cause of increasing voter turnout among 18–30 year-olds, using the excitement of wrestling as a draw to raise voter interest. A Million More in 2004 aims to register 1 million new 18- to 30-year-old voters for the 2004 election. Other objectives of the campaign include training 16- and 17-year-olds as poll workers, holding youth-oriented presidential debates, and encouraging candidates to state their positions on issues important to young people.

E-mail: [smackdownyourvote@wwecorp.com](mailto:smackdownyourvote@wwecorp.com)  
Website: <<http://vote.wwe.com/>>

## 6. Inducements

### Bulgaria

#### 2005 Parliamentary Elections Lottery

With the intention of boosting voter turnout, the Bulgarian Council of Ministers chose to implement

an election lottery. Despite considerable opposition, the lottery went forward. Every elector who had vote was given the right to enter it (i.e. the voter had to choose to register for the lottery or not). People were able to register for the lottery on the Internet, by sending a text message to a specified number from a mobile phone, or by a regular telephone call. The lottery itself took place on the day after the elections, and prizes included a car, computer equipment, electronic appliances, and mobile phones. The election registered the lowest turnout for 16 years.

Registration by text messages was administered by the Globul company (<<http://www.globul.bg>>).

Address: 1715 Sofia, Mladost 4,  
Business Park Sofia, building 4, floor 5

Tel.: +359 2 942 8000

Fax: +359 2 942 8010

E-mail: [CustomerCare@globul.bg](mailto:CustomerCare@globul.bg)

Registration by telephone was administered by the Bulgarian Telecommunications Company (<<http://www.btc.bg>>)

Address: 8, Totleben Blvd., 1606 Sofia, Bulgaria

Fax: +359 2 954 9780

E-mail: [central.office@btc.bg](mailto:central.office@btc.bg)

Website: <[http://www.bgizbori.com/rulles\\_lottery.html](http://www.bgizbori.com/rulles_lottery.html)>

## **Norway**

### **1995 Municipal Elections – Election Lottery**

The municipality of Evenes, in the far north of Norway, tried an innovative lottery campaign for its municipal elections of 1995 in order to maximize voter turnout. The winner would receive travel vouchers to be used for a trip to the warm south. The voter did not need to opt to enter the lottery or get a lottery ticket; he or she was automatically included in the lottery once they had voted. There was very little public objection. This was a one-time experiment and, although turnout for this municipal election rose, and has since fallen, it is impossible to determine whether this has to do with the lottery or with other, concurrent changes.

Website: <<http://www.evenes.kommune.no/>>







## Annex C. Voter Turnout Statistics from around the World in National-level Elections, 1945—2006

### Legislative Elections 108—127 Presidential Elections 128—135

#### ES: Electoral System 2006

AV:	Alternative Vote
BV:	Block Vote
FPTP:	First Past The Post
MMP:	Mixed Member Proportional
Modified BC:	Modified Borda Count
(List) PR:	List Proportional Representation
SNTV:	Single Non-Transferable Vote
STV:	Single Transferable Vote
TRS:	Two-Round System

These tables include the total votes cast and the total registered electorate for all elections for which any data is available for the lower house of the legislature, and all elections for which any data is available for directly elected presidents, whether or not head of the executive.

Where a limited number of electoral districts were not contested, data relates to those districts where contests took place.

In two round electoral systems, data relates to the second round.

In mixed or multiple tier electoral systems where voters cast more than one ballot, the highest number of votes cast in any section or tier is recorded.

#### Notes

- 1 Source: IFES
- 2 Source: Inter-Parliamentary Union
- 3 Registered voters are approximate
- 4 Total votes are approximate
- 5 Registered voters and total votes are approximate
- 6 Registered voters and total votes are taken from preliminary estimates
- 7 Total votes include only valid votes
- 8 Source: Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE)
- 9 Elections are for Czechoslovakia
- 10 Source: IFES, total votes include only valid votes
- 11 Election ruled as invalid by Georgian Supreme Court
- 12 Registered voters and total votes exclude 23 constituencies with unopposed candidates
- 13 Source: IFES, data for January elections
- 14 Source: IFES, data for December elections
- 15 Results of single-member constituency. Total votes in proportional representation was 59 844 601
- 16 Registered voters are equal to the number of eligible voters since no voter registration process took place
- 17 Data are for constitutional assembly elections
- 18 Votes from 15 contested constituencies out of 24 constituencies
- 19 Votes from 13 contested constituencies out of 23 constituencies
- 20 No voter registration process took place
- 21 A presidential election was held just one year after the last one because of the President's impeachment
- 22 One electoral district unopposed
- 23 Election annulled in one district
- 24 Elections are for West Germany
- 25 The elections were uncontested in a majority of the district
- 26 The number of total votes and registered voters are approximate. Source: European Commission
- 27 Excludes 6 electoral districts where polls were conducted
- 28 Direct election of Prime Minister
- 29 The president is elected for a five year term by parliament and confirmed in a referendum by the people
- 30 Three member collective Presidency

N/A: Not available

## Legislative Elections

Year	Total Votes	Registration	Vote/Registration Voters %
<b>Afghanistan</b> ES: SNTV			
2005 <sup>2</sup>	6 406 615	12 977 336	49.4
<b>Albania</b> ES: MMP			
1991	1 963 568	1 984 933	98.9
1992 <sup>5</sup>	1 830 000	2 000 000	91.5
1996	1 963 344	2 204 002	89.1
1997	1 412 929	1 947 235	72.6
2001 <sup>5</sup>	1 373 210	2 468 000	55.6
2005 <sup>2</sup>	1 403 473	2 850 891	49.2
<b>Algeria</b> ES: PR			
1991	7 822 625	13 258 554	59.0
1997	10 999 139	16 767 309	65.6
2002	8 288 536	17 951 127	46.2
<b>Andorra</b> ES: Parallel			
1993	7 829	9 675	80.9
1997	8 842	10 837	81.6
2001	10 892	13 342	81.6
2005	12 833	16 022	80.1
<b>Angola</b> ES: PR			
1992	4 402 575	4 828 486	91.2
<b>Anguilla</b> ES: FPTP			
1972	1 457	3 105	46.9
1976	2 725	3 802	71.7
1980	2 777	3 508	79.2
1984	2 694	3 733	72.2
1989	3 801	5 190	73.2
1994	4 495	5 980	75.2
1999	4 847	6 578	73.7
2000	4 825	7 520	64.2
2005	5 630	7 558	74.5
<b>Antigua and Barbuda</b> ES: FPTP			
1951	4 843	6 886	70.3
1956	6 500	11 400	57.0
1960	2 559	6 738	38.0
1965	9 223	21 525	42.8
1971	17 309	30 682	56.4
1976	24 879	26 197	95.0
1980	22 280	28 906	77.1
1984	19 223	31 453	61.1
1989	22 390	36 876	60.7
1994	27 263	43 749	62.3

Year	Total Votes	Registration	Vote/Registration Voters %
1999	33 318	52 385	63.6
2004	39 627	43 456	91.2
<b>Argentina</b> ES: PR			
1946	2 839 507	3 405 173	83.4
1951 <sup>6</sup>	7 593 948	8 633 998	88.0
1954	7 906 858	9 194 157	86.0
1958	9 088 497	10 002 327	90.9
1960	8 870 202	10 187 586	87.1
1962	9 084 512	10 596 321	85.7
1963	9 717 677	11 353 936	85.6
1965	9 565 574	11 460 766	83.5
1973	12 235 481	14 302 497	85.5
1983	14 927 572	17 929 951	83.3
1985	15 326 907	18 649 101	82.2
1987	16 263 572	19 452 790	83.6
1989	16 867 095	20 022 072	84.2
1991	18 609 221	20 742 631	89.7
1993	17 090 830	21 443 953	79.7
1995	17 939 156	22 158 612	81.0
1998	18 135 267	23 184 491	78.2
1999 <sup>7</sup>	18 953 456	24 109 306	78.6
2001	18 602 837	24 735 483	75.2
2005 <sup>2</sup>	18 513 717	26 098 546	70.9
<b>Armenia</b> ES: Parallel			
1995	1 183 573	2 195 283	53.9
1999	1 137 133	2 198 544	51.7
2003	1 232 627	2 233 757	55.2
<b>Aruba</b> ES: PR			
1993	40 240	45 680	88.1
1994	39 986	64 848	61.7
1997	44 741	52 166	85.8
2001	N/A	N/A	N/A
2005	N/A	N/A	N/A
<b>Australia</b> ES: AV			
1946	4 453 941	4 739 853	94.0
1949	4 697 800	4 895 227	96.0
1951	4 654 406	4 962 675	93.8
1954	4 619 571	5 096 468	90.6
1955	4 525 774	5 172 443	87.5
1958	5 141 109	5 384 624	95.5
1961	5 384 350	5 651 561	95.3
1963	5 575 977	5 824 917	95.7
1966	5 892 327	6 193 881	95.1

Year	Total Votes	Registration	Vote/Registration Voters %
1969	6 273 611	6 606 873	95.0
1972	6 747 247	7 074 070	95.4
1974	7 535 768	7 898 922	95.4
1975	7 881 873	8 262 413	95.4
1977	8 127 762	8 553 780	95.0
1980	8 513 992	9 014 920	94.4
1983	8 870 174	9 373 580	94.6
1984	9 293 021	9 866 266	94.2
1987	9 715 428	10 353 213	93.8
1990	10 225 800	10 728 435	95.3
1993	10 900 861	11 384 638	95.8
1996	11 182 467	11 668 852	95.8
1998	11 476 609	12 056 625	95.2
2001	12 054 664	12 708 837	94.9
2004	12 354 983	13 098 461	94.3
<b>Austria ES: PR</b>			
1945	3 253 329	3 449 605	94.3
1949	4 250 616	4 391 815	96.8
1953	4 395 519	4 586 870	95.8
1956	4 427 711	4 614 464	96.0
1959	4 424 658	4 696 603	94.2
1962	4 506 007	4 805 351	93.8
1966	4 583 970	4 886 818	93.8
1970	4 630 851	5 045 841	91.8
1971	4 607 616	4 984 448	92.4
1975	4 662 684	5 019 277	92.9
1979	4 784 173	5 186 735	92.2
1983	4 922 454	5 316 436	92.6
1986	4 940 298	5 461 414	90.5
1991	4 848 741	5 628 912	86.1
1994	4 760 987	5 774 000	82.5
1995	4 959 539	5 768 009	86.0
1999	4 695 192	5 838 373	80.4
2002	4 982 261	5 912 592	84.3
<b>Azerbaijan ES: TRS</b>			
1995	3 556 277	4 132 800	86.1
2000	2 883 819	4 241 550	68.0
2005 <sup>2</sup>	1 891 977	4 675 527	40.5
<b>Bahamas ES: FPTP</b>			
1972	50 216	50 071	100.3
1977	64 108	71 295	89.9
1982	75 609	84 235	89.8
1987	90 280	102 713	87.9

Year	Total Votes	Registration	Vote/Registration Voters %
1992	112 057	122 000	91.8
1997	119 173	129 946	91.7
2002	130 328	144 758	90.0
<b>Bahrain ES: TRS</b>			
1973	19 509	24 883	78.4
1998	N/A	N/A	N/A
2002	N/A	N/A	N/A
<b>Bangladesh ES: FPTP</b>			
1973	19 329 683	35 205 642	54.9
1979	19 676 124	38 363 858	51.3
1986	28 873 540	47 876 979	60.3
1988	25 832 858	49 863 829	51.8
1991	34 477 803	62 181 743	55.4
1996	42 880 564	56 716 935	75.6
2001	56 185 707	74 946 364	75.0
<b>Barbados ES: FPTP</b>			
1951	62 020	95 939	64.6
1956	62 274	103 290	60.3
1961	64 090	104 518	61.3
1966	79 258	99 988	79.3
1971	94 019	115 189	81.6
1976	99 463	134 241	74.1
1981	119 566	167 029	71.6
1986	135 562	176 739	76.7
1991	121 696	191 000	63.7
1994	124 121	206 000	60.3
1999	128 484	203 621	63.1
2003 <sup>2</sup>	124 463	218 811	56.9
<b>Belarus ES: TRS</b>			
1995	4 199 431	7 445 800	56.4
2000	4 430 878	7 254 752	61.1
2004 <sup>2</sup>	6 297 600	6 986 163	90.1
<b>Belgium ES: PR</b>			
1946	2 460 796	2 724 796	90.3
1949	5 320 263	5 635 452	94.4
1950	5 219 276	5 635 452	92.6
1954	5 463 130	5 863 092	93.2
1958	5 575 127	5 954 858	93.6
1961	5 573 861	6 036 165	92.3
1965	5 578 876	6 091 534	91.6
1968	5 554 652	6 170 167	90.0

Year	Total Votes	Registration	Vote/Registration Voters %
1971	5 741 270	6 271 240	91.5
1974	5 711 996	6 322 227	90.3
1977	6 005 195	6 316 292	95.1
1978	6 039 916	6 366 652	94.9
1981	6 504 056	6 878 141	94.6
1985	6 552 234	7 001 297	93.6
1987	6 573 045	7 039 250	93.4
1991	6 623 897	7 144 884	92.7
1995	6 562 149	7 199 440	91.1
1999	6 652 005	7 343 464	90.6
2003 <sup>2</sup>	6 936 869	7 570 580	91.6
<b>Belize ES: FPTP</b>			
1979	44 971	50 091	89.8
1984	48 311	64 447	75.0
1989	59 954	82 556	72.6
1993	70 465	94 470	74.6
1998	81 090	90 000	90.1
2003	100 353	126 202	79.5
<b>Benin ES: PR</b>			
1991	1 069 367	2 069 343	51.7
1995	1 922 553	2 536 234	75.8
1999	1 776 108	2 533 399	70.1
2003 <sup>2</sup>	1 724 093	3 084 422	55.9
<b>Bermuda ES: FPTP</b>			
1989	23 160	31 162	74.3
1993	26 776	34 506	77.6
1998	29 378	36 073	81.4
2003	29 472	39 324	74.9
<b>Bolivia ES: MMP</b>			
1956	958 016	1 126 528	85.0
1958	460 340	N/A	N/A
1960	987 730	1 300 000	76.0
1962	1 067 877	N/A	N/A
1964	1 297 319	1 411 560	91.9
1966	1 099 994	1 270 611	86.6
1978	1 971 968	1 921 556	102.6
1979	1 693 233	1 871 070	90.5
1980	1 489 484	2 004 284	74.3
1985	1 728 365	2 108 458	82.0
1989	1 573 790	2 136 587	73.7
1993	1 731 309	2 399 197	72.2
1997	2 321 117	3 252 501	71.4

Year	Total Votes	Registration	Vote/Registration Voters %
2002	2 994 065	4 155 055	72.1
2005 <sup>2</sup>	3 102 417	3 671 152	84.5
<b>Bosnia and Herzegovina ES: PR</b>			
1996 <sup>3</sup>	1 335 707	2 900 000	46.1
1998	1 879 339	2 656 758	70.7
2000	1 597 805	2 508 349	63.7
2002 <sup>8</sup>	1 298 827	2 342 141	55.5
<b>Botswana ES: FPTP</b>			
1965	N/A	140 793	N/A
1969	76 858	140 428	54.7
1974	64 011	205 016	31.2
1979	134 496	243 483	55.2
1984	227 756	293 571	77.6
1989	250 487	367 069	68.2
1994	283 375	370 173	76.6
1999 <sup>7</sup>	354 463	459 662	77.1
2004	421 272	552 849	76.2
<b>Brazil ES: PR</b>			
1945	6 122 864	7 499 670	81.6
1947	2 635 680	6 205 415	42.5
1950	8 234 906	11 455 149	71.9
1954	9 890 604	15 104 604	65.5
1958	12 678 997	12 780 997	99.2
1962	14 747 221	18 528 847	79.6
1966	17 285 556	22 387 251	77.2
1970	22 435 521	28 966 114	77.5
1978	37 629 180	46 030 464	81.7
1982	48 466 898	58 871 378	82.3
1986	58 791 788	69 166 810	85.0
1990	70 918 635	83 817 593	84.6
1994	77 950 257	94 782 803	82.2
1998	83 296 067	106 101 067	78.5
2002	95 579 567	115 184 077	83.0
<b>Bulgaria ES: PR</b>			
1991	5 694 842	6 790 006	83.9
1994	5 264 614	6 997 954	75.2
1997	4 291 258	7 289 956	58.9
2001	4 608 289	6 916 151	66.6
2005	3 747 808	6 720 941	55.8
<b>Burkina Faso ES: PR</b>			
1970	1 156 697	2 395 226	48.3
1978	1 161 824	2 887 550	40.2
1992	1 260 107	3 727 843	33.8

Year	Total Votes	Registration	Vote/Registration Voters %
1997	2 220 161	4 985 352	44.5
2002	1 868 645	2 913 219	64.1
<b>Burundi ES: PR</b>			
1993	2 156 659	2 360 090	91.4
2005 <sup>1</sup>	2 446 001	3 167 124	77.2
<b>Cambodia ES: PR</b>			
1993	4 134 631	4 764 430	86.8
1998	5 057 679	5 395 595	93.7
2003	5 277 494	6 341 834	83.2
<b>Cameroon ES: PBV</b>			
1960	1 349 739	1 940 438	69.6
1988	3 282 884	3 634 568	90.3
1992	2 435 443	4 019 562	60.6
1997	2 906 156	3 844 330	75.6
2002	N/A	4 570 294	N/A
<b>Canada ES: FPTP</b>			
1945	5 305 193	6 952 445	76.3
1949	5 903 572	7 893 629	74.8
1953	5 701 963	8 401 691	67.9
1957	6 680 690	8 902 125	75.1
1958	7 357 139	9 131 200	80.6
1962	7 772 656	9 700 325	80.1
1963	7 958 636	9 910 757	80.3
1965	7 796 728	10 274 904	75.9
1968	8 217 916	10 860 888	75.7
1972	9 966 148	12 909 179	77.2
1974	9 671 002	13 620 553	71.0
1979	11 531 000	15 234 997	75.7
1980	11 014 914	15 890 416	69.3
1984	12 638 424	16 775 011	75.3
1988	13 281 191	17 639 001	75.3
1993	13 863 135	19 906 796	69.6
1997	13 174 698	19 663 478	67.0
2000	12 997 185	21 243 473	61.2
2004	13 683 570	22 466 621	60.9
2006	14 815 680	22 812 683	64.9
<b>Cape Verde ES: PR</b>			
1991	125 564	166 818	75.3
1995	158 901	207 648	76.5
2001	140 901	260 275	54.1
2006	174 858	322 735	54.2
<b>Cayman Islands ES: BV</b>			
2005 <sup>1</sup>	10 527	13 118	80.2

Year	Total Votes	Registration	Vote/Registration Voters %
<b>Central African Republic ES: TRS</b>			
1993	809 298	1 191 374	67.9
1998	834 494	1 427 691	58.5
2005	946 616	1 302 930	72.7
<b>Chad ES: PBV</b>			
1997	881 346	1 757 879	50.1
2002 <sup>2</sup>	2 185 646	4 171 169	52.4
<b>Chile ES: PR</b>			
1945	407 826	624 495	65.3
1949	470 376	591 994	79.5
1953	779 174	1 100 027	70.8
1957	878 229	1 284 159	68.4
1961	1 385 676	1 858 980	74.5
1965	2 353 123	2 920 615	80.6
1969	2 406 129	3 244 892	74.2
1973	3 687 105	4 510 060	81.8
1989	7 158 646	7 556 613	94.7
1993	7 354 141	8 085 439	91.0
1997	7 046 361	8 069 624	87.3
2001	6 991 504	8 075 446	86.6
2005	7 207 351	8 220 897	87.7
<b>Colombia ES: PR</b>			
1945	875 856	2 279 510	38.4
1947 <sup>7</sup>	1 472 686	2 613 586	56.3
1949 <sup>7</sup>	1 751 804	2 773 804	63.2
1951	934 580	N/A	N/A
1953 <sup>7</sup>	1 028 323	N/A	N/A
1958	3 693 939	5 365 191	68.9
1960	2 542 651	4 397 541	57.8
1962	3 090 203	5 338 868	57.9
1964	2 261 190	6 135 628	36.9
1966	2 939 222	6 609 639	44.5
1968	2 496 455	6 696 723	37.3
1970	3 980 201	7 666 716	51.9
1974	5 100 099	8 925 330	57.1
1978	4 180 121	12 519 719	33.4
1982	5 584 037	13 721 607	40.7
1986	6 909 838	15 839 754	43.6
1990	7 631 691	13 793 566	55.3
1991	4 962 383	15 037 526	33.0
1994	6 145 436	17 003 195	36.1
1998	9 000 000	20 000 000	45.0

Year	Total Votes	Registration	Vote/Registration Voters %
2002	10 188 929	24 000 636	42.5
2006	10 767 726	26 595 171	40.5
<b>Comoros ES: TRS</b>			
1978	144 767	191 468	75.6
1987 <sup>3</sup>	221 000	340 000	65.0
2002	N/A	N/A	N/A
2004 <sup>2</sup>	N/A	225 000	N/A
<b>Congo, Democratic Republic of ES: List-PR and FPTP</b>			
2006	17 931 238	25 420 199	70.5
<b>Cook Islands ES: FPTP</b>			
1999	9 430	10 600	89.0
2004 <sup>22</sup>	8 302	9 613	86.4
<b>Costa Rica ES: PR</b>			
1948	89 010	N/A	N/A
1953	198 270	293 678	67.5
1958	229 507	354 779	64.7
1962	391 500	483 980	80.9
1966	451 475	554 627	81.4
1970	562 678	675 285	83.3
1974	699 042	875 041	79.9
1978	859 042	1 058 455	81.2
1982	991 556	1 261 127	78.6
1986	1 216 053	1 486 474	81.8
1990	1 383 956	1 692 050	81.8
1994	1 525 624	1 881 348	81.1
1998	1 431 913	2 045 980	70.0
2002	1 569 338	2 279 851	68.8
2006	1 404 509	2 156 572	65.1
<b>Côte d'Ivoire ES: FPTP and PBV</b>			
1990	1 872 292	4 408 809	42.5
2000	1 740 240	5 517 613	31.5
<b>Croatia ES: PR</b>			
1992	2 690 873	3 558 913	75.6
1995 <sup>4</sup>	2 500 000	3 634 233	68.8
2000	2 821 020	3 685 378	76.5
2003 <sup>1</sup>	2 520 008	4 087 553	61.7
<b>Cyprus ES: PR</b>			
1970	200 141	263 857	75.9
1976	232 764	272 898	85.3
1981	295 602	308 729	95.7
1985	327 821	346 454	94.6
1991	359 640	381 323	94.3

Year	Total Votes	Registration	Vote/Registration Voters %
1996	369 521	409 996	90.1
2001	428 981	467 543	91.8
2006	445 915	501 024	89.0
<b>Czech Republic ES: PR</b>			
1990 <sup>9</sup>	10 785 270	11 195 596	96.3
1992 <sup>9</sup>	9 750 978	11 515 699	84.7
1996	6 096 404	7 990 770	76.3
1998	6 006 459	8 116 836	74.0
2002	4 789 145	8 264 484	57.9
2006	5 372 449	8 333 305	64.5
<b>Denmark ES: PR</b>			
1945	2 055 315	2 381 983	86.3
1947	2 089 015	2 435 306	85.8
1950	2 059 944	2 516 118	81.9
1953	2 077 615	2 571 311	80.8
1953	2 172 036	2 695 554	80.6
1957	2 321 097	2 772 159	83.7
1960	2 439 936	2 842 336	85.8
1964	2 640 856	3 088 269	85.5
1966	2 802 304	3 162 352	88.6
1968	2 864 805	3 208 646	89.3
1971	2 904 096	3 332 044	87.2
1973	3 070 253	3 460 737	88.7
1975	3 068 302	3 477 621	88.2
1977	3 124 967	3 552 904	88.0
1979	3 194 967	3 552 904	89.9
1981	3 314 424	3 776 333	87.8
1984	3 386 733	3 829 600	88.4
1987	3 389 201	3 907 454	86.7
1988	3 352 651	3 991 897	84.0
1990	3 265 420	3 941 499	82.8
1994	3 360 637	3 988 787	84.3
1998	3 431 926	3 993 009	85.9
2001	3 484 957	3 998 957	87.1
2005 <sup>1</sup>	3 384 560	4 003 616	84.5
<b>Djibouti ES: PBV</b>			
1992	73 187	151 066	48.4
1997	94 303	165 942	56.8
2003 <sup>1</sup>	86 482	178 617	48.4
<b>Dominica ES: FPTP</b>			
1951 <sup>2</sup>	17 680	23 288	75.9
1954 <sup>2</sup>	16 746	23 835	70.3
1957 <sup>2</sup>	17 639	23 348	75.5



Year	Total Votes	Registration	Vote/Registration Voters %
1961 <sup>2</sup>	17 571	22 838	76.9
1966 <sup>2</sup>	19 380	24 147	80.3
1970 <sup>2</sup>	21 122	25 899	81.6
1975 <sup>2</sup>	23 107	29 907	77.3
1980 <sup>2</sup>	30 842	38 452	80.2
1985 <sup>2</sup>	33 565	45 018	74.6
1990 <sup>2</sup>	33 693	50 557	66.6
1995 <sup>2</sup>	37 563	57 632	65.2
2000	36 264	60 266	60.2
2005	N/A	N/A	N/A
<b>Dominican Republic</b> ES: FPTP			
1947	840 340	840 340	100.0
1952	1 098 816	N/A	N/A
1957	1 265 681	N/A	N/A
1962 <sup>7</sup>	1 054 954	N/A	N/A
1966 <sup>7</sup>	1 345 402	N/A	N/A
1970 <sup>7</sup>	1 238 205	N/A	N/A
1986 <sup>7</sup>	2 112 101	3 039 347	69.5
1990	1 840 553	3 275 570	56.2
1994	1 399 200	3 300 000	42.4
1996	2 946 699	3 750 502	78.6
1998	2 187 528	4 129 554	53.0
2002	2 371 247	4 644 791	51.1
2006	3 101 071	5 492 880	56.5
<b>East Timor</b> ES: Parallel			
2001	384 248	446 666	86.0
<b>Ecuador</b> ES: PR			
1947	199 860	352 550	56.7
1950	276 821	431 794	64.1
1952	334 737	N/A	N/A
1954	465 187	569 959	81.6
1956	599 227	836 955	71.6
1958	491 357	N/A	N/A
1962	699 409	N/A	N/A
1979	1 678 924	2 088 874	80.4
1984	2 656 884	3 734 076	71.2
1986	3 149 690	4 255 346	74.0
1988	3 610 581	4 649 684	77.7
1990	3 651 081	5 259 114	69.4
1994	4 044 433	6 175 991	65.5
1996	4 521 207	6 662 007	67.9
1998	3 341 902	7 072 496	47.3
2000	N/A	N/A	N/A

Year	Total Votes	Registration	Vote/Registration Voters %
2002 <sup>2</sup>	5 178 885	8 154 425	63.5
<b>Egypt</b> ES: TRS			
1976	3 803 973	9 564 482	39.8
1984	5 323 086	12 339 418	43.1
1987	7 207 467	14 324 162	50.3
1990	7 253 168	16 326 229	44.4
1995	10 072 017	20 987 453	48.0
2000	N/A	24 602 241	N/A
2005	N/A	N/A	N/A
<b>El Salvador</b> ES: PR			
1952 <sup>7</sup>	700 979	N/A	N/A
1956 <sup>7</sup>	585 000	N/A	N/A
1958 <sup>7</sup>	450 000	N/A	N/A
1960 <sup>7</sup>	420 102	N/A	N/A
1964 <sup>7</sup>	296 434	1 074 243	27.6
1966 <sup>7</sup>	387 155	1 195 823	32.4
1968	492 037	1 342 775	36.6
1970	622 570	1 494 931	41.6
1972	634 651	1 119 699	56.7
1978 <sup>7</sup>	849 208	1 800 000	47.2
1985	1 101 606	N/A	N/A
1988	1 083 812	1 600 000	67.7
1991	1 153 013	2 180 000	52.9
1994	1 500 000	2 722 000	55.1
1997	2 679 055	3 004 174	89.2
2000	1 242 842	3 264 724	38.1
2003 <sup>10</sup>	1 005 285	3 537 091	28.4
2006	1 997 814	3 801 040	52.6
<b>Estonia</b> ES: PR			
1990	910 000	1 163 683	78.2
1992	467 629	689 319	67.8
1995	545 770	791 957	68.9
1999	492 356	857 270	57.4
2003	500 686	859 714	58.2
<b>Ethiopia</b> ES: FPTP			
1992	19 148 000	N/A	N/A
2000	18 226 800	20 252 000	90.0
2005 <sup>1</sup>	22 610 690	27 372 888	82.6
<b>Fiji</b> ES: AV			
1992	238 814	303 172	78.8
1994	227 046	303 529	74.8

Year	Total Votes	Registration	Vote/Registration Voters %
1999	390 877	437 195	89.4
2001	379 954	468 772	81.1
2006	421 468	479 673	87.9
<b>Finland ES: PR</b>			
1945	1 710 251	2 284 249	74.9
1948	1 893 837	2 420 287	78.2
1951	1 825 779	2 448 239	74.6
1954	2 019 042	2 526 969	79.9
1958	1 954 397	2 606 258	75.0
1962	2 310 090	2 714 838	85.1
1966	2 378 583	2 800 461	84.9
1970	2 544 510	3 094 359	82.2
1972	2 587 060	3 178 169	81.4
1975	2 761 223	3 741 460	73.8
1979	2 906 066	3 858 553	75.3
1983	2 992 970	3 951 932	75.7
1987	2 895 488	4 018 248	72.1
1991	2 776 984	4 060 778	68.4
1995	2 803 602	4 088 358	68.6
1999	2 710 095	4 152 430	65.3
2003	2 815 700	4 220 951	66.7
<b>France ES: TRS</b>			
1945	19 657 603	24 622 862	79.8
1946	20 215 200	24 696 949	81.9
1951	19 670 655	24 530 523	80.2
1956	22 138 046	26 772 255	82.7
1958	21 026 543	27 244 992	77.2
1962	18 918 154	27 540 358	68.7
1967	22 910 839	28 242 549	81.1
1968	22 500 524	28 178 087	79.9
1973	24 299 210	29 883 738	81.3
1978	24 658 645	34 424 388	71.6
1981	25 182 623	35 536 041	70.9
1986	28 736 080	36 614 738	78.5
1988	24 472 329	36 977 321	66.2
1993	26 860 177	38 968 660	68.9
1997	26 649 818	39 215 743	68.0
2002	22 186 165	36 783 746	60.3
<b>Gabon ES: TRS</b>			
1996	N/A	N/A	N/A
2001	N/A	596 431	N/A
<b>Gambia ES: FPTP</b>			

Year	Total Votes	Registration	Vote/Registration Voters %
1972 <sup>7</sup>	103 851	136 521	76.1
1977 <sup>7</sup>	177 181	216 234	81.9
1982 <sup>7</sup>	166 102		N/A
1987	200 000	249 376	80.2
1992 <sup>3</sup>	223 200	400 000	55.8
1997	307 856	420 507	73.2
2002	94 621	167 817	56.4
<b>Georgia ES: Parallel</b>			
1992	2 592 117	3 466 677	74.8
1995	2 127 946	3 121 075	68.2
1999	2 133 878	3 143 851	67.9
2003 <sup>11</sup>	N/A	N/A	N/A
2004	1 498 012	2 343 087	63.9
<b>Germany ES: MMP</b>			
1949 <sup>24</sup>	24 495 614	31 207 620	78.5
1953 <sup>24</sup>	28 479 550	33 120 940	86.0
1957 <sup>24</sup>	31 072 894	35 400 923	87.8
1961 <sup>24</sup>	32 849 624	37 440 715	87.7
1965 <sup>24</sup>	33 416 207	38 510 395	86.8
1969 <sup>24</sup>	33 523 064	38 677 235	86.7
1972 <sup>24</sup>	37 761 589	41 446 302	91.1
1976 <sup>24</sup>	38 165 753	42 058 015	90.7
1980 <sup>24</sup>	38 292 176	43 231 741	88.6
1983 <sup>24</sup>	39 279 529	44 088 935	89.1
1987 <sup>24</sup>	38 225 294	45 327 982	84.3
1990	46 995 915	60 436 560	77.8
1994	47 737 999	60 452 009	79.0
1998	49 947 087	60 762 751	82.2
2002	48 582 761	61 432 868	79.1
2005	48 044 134	61 870 711	77.7
<b>Ghana ES: FPTP</b>			
1956	697 257	1 392 874	50.1
1969	1 493 281	2 362 665	63.2
1979	1 770 379	5 022 092	35.3
1992 <sup>12</sup>	2 059 415	7 336 846	28.1
1996 <sup>5</sup>	5 980 000	9 200 000	65.0
2000	6 546 695	10 698 652	61.2
2004	N/A	10 296 970	N/A
<b>Greece ES: PR</b>			
1946	1 121 696	N/A	N/A
1950	1 696 146	N/A	N/A
1951	1 717 012	2 224 246	77.2
1952	1 600 172	2 123 150	75.4

Year	Total Votes	Registration	Vote/Registration Voters %
1956	3 379 445	4 507 907	75.0
1958	3 863 982	5 119 148	75.5
1961	4 640 512	5 668 298	81.9
1963	4 702 791	5 662 965	83.0
1964	4 626 290	5 662 965	81.7
1974	4 966 558	6 241 066	79.6
1977	5 193 891	6 403 738	81.1
1981	5 753 478	7 059 778	81.5
1985	6 421 466	7 661 588	83.8
1989	6 669 228	7 892 904	84.5
1989	6 799 485	8 061 803	84.3
1993	7 019 925	8 462 636	83.0
1996	6 952 938	9 107 766	76.3
2000	7 027 007	9 373 439	75.0
2004	7 575 190	9 886 807	76.6
<b>Grenada ES: FPTP</b>			
1951	20 622	N/A	N/A
1954	22 476	N/A	N/A
1957	24 682	N/A	N/A
1961	20 932	N/A	N/A
1962	21 107	N/A	N/A
1967	29 001	N/A	N/A
1972	34 679	41 539	83.5
1976	41 238	63 193	65.3
1984	41 506	48 158	86.2
1990	39 939	58 374	68.4
1995	44 116	71 412	61.8
1999	41 753	73 682	56.7
2003 <sup>2</sup>	47 239	82 270	57.4
<b>Guatemala ES: PR</b>			
1950	417 000	583 300	71.5
1954	485 531	698 985	69.5
1958	492 274	736 400	66.8
1959	337 496	756 000	44.6
1961	362 064	814 000	44.5
1966	519 393	944 170	55.0
1970	633 979	1 190 449	53.3
1974	727 174	1 568 724	46.4
1978 <sup>5</sup>	720 000	1 800 000	40.0
1982	1 074 392	2 356 571	45.6
1985	1 904 236	2 753 572	69.2
1990	1 808 718	3 204 955	56.4
1994	731 357	3 480 196	21.0

Year	Total Votes	Registration	Vote/Registration Voters %
1995	1 737 033	3 711 589	46.8
1999	1 800 676	4 458 744	40.4
2003 <sup>1</sup>	2 764 965	5 073 282	54.5
<b>Guinea (Conakry) ES: Parallel</b>			
1995	1 886 403	3 049 262	61.9
2002	3 209 458	4 458 871	72.0
<b>Guinea-Bissau ES: PR</b>			
1994	178 604	396 938	45.0
1999	402 400	503 007	80.0
2004 <sup>1</sup>	449 924	605 018	74.4
<b>Guyana ES: PR</b>			
1964	240 120	247 604	97.0
1968	314 246	369 088	85.1
1973	349 587	421 575	82.9
1980 <sup>7</sup>	403 014	430 375	93.6
1985 <sup>7</sup>	291 175	N/A	N/A
1992	308 852	381 299	81.0
1997	408 057	461 481	88.4
2001	403 769	440 185	91.7
2006	338 873	N/A	N/A
<b>Haiti ES: TRS</b>			
1990	1 640 729	3 271 155	50.2
1995	1 140 523	3 668 049	31.1
2000	2 547 000	4 245 384	60.0
2006	1 774 172	3 533 430	50.2
<b>Honduras ES: PR</b>			
1948	258 345	300 496	86.0
1954	252 624	411 354	61.4
1956	512 694	N/A	N/A
1957 <sup>7</sup>	331 660	522 359	63.5
1965	613 888	815 261	75.3
1971	608 342	900 658	67.5
1980	1 003 680	1 233 756	81.4
1981	1 214 735	1 558 316	78.0
1985	1 597 841	1 901 757	84.0
1989	1 799 146	2 366 448	76.0
1993	1 776 204	2 734 000	65.0
1997	2 084 411	2 901 743	71.8
2001	2 279 366	3 437 454	66.3
2005 <sup>2</sup>	1 833 710	3 988 605	46.0
<b>Hungary ES: MMP</b>			
1990	5 901 931	7 822 764	75.4

Year	Total Votes	Registration	Vote/Registration Voters %
1994	5 485 538	7 959 228	68.9
1998	4 570 400	8 062 700	56.7
2002	4 423 806	6 018 069	73.5
2006	3 257 244	5 059 002	64.4
<b>Iceland ES: PR</b>			
1946	67 895	77 670	87.4
1949	73 432	82 481	89.0
1953	78 754	87 601	89.9
1956	84 355	91 618	92.1
1959	86 147	95 050	90.6
1959	86 426	95 637	90.4
1963	90 958	99 798	91.1
1967	97 855	107 101	91.4
1971	106 975	118 289	90.4
1974	115 575	126 388	91.4
1978	124 377	137 782	90.3
1979	126 929	142 073	89.3
1983	133 764	150 977	88.6
1987	154 438	171 402	90.1
1991	160 142	182 768	87.6
1995	167 751	191 973	87.4
1999	169 431	201 525	84.1
2003 <sup>1</sup>	185 311	211 289	87.7
<b>India ES: FPTP</b>			
1952 <sup>7</sup>	105 940 000	173 210 000	61.2
1957	123 460 000	193 650 000	63.8
1962	119 910 000	217 680 000	55.1
1967	152 730 000	250 600 000	60.9
1971	151 296 749	273 832 301	55.3
1977	193 953 183	320 682 598	60.5
1980	201 269 129	354 024 081	56.9
1984	240 846 499	379 116 623	63.5
1989 <sup>7</sup>	290 366 661	498 647 786	58.2
1991	282 700 000	498 363 801	56.7
1996	343 308 035	592 572 288	57.9
1998	373 678 215	602 340 382	62.0
1999	370 579 735	620 394 065	59.7
2004 <sup>1</sup>	387 779 787	671 524 934	57.7
<b>Indonesia ES: PR</b>			
1971	54 699 509	58 179 245	94.0
1977	63 998 344	70 662 155	90.6
1982	74 930 875	82 132 263	91.2

Year	Total Votes	Registration	Vote/Registration Voters %
1987 <sup>5</sup>	85 822 000	94 000 000	91.3
1992	97 789 534	107 565 697	90.9
1997	110 938 069	124 740 987	88.9
1999	110 298 176	118 217 393	93.3
2004 <sup>1</sup>	113 488 398	148 000 369	76.7
<b>Iran, Islamic Republic of ES: TRS</b>			
1992	18 803 158	N/A	N/A
1996	24 718 661	32 000 000	77.2
2000	N/A	N/A	N/A
2004	N/A	N/A	N/A
<b>Iraq ES: PR</b>			
2005 <sup>13</sup>	8 550 571	14 662 639	58.3
2005 <sup>14</sup>	12 396 631	15 568 702	79.6
<b>Ireland ES: STV</b>			
1948	1 336 628	1 800 210	74.2
1951	1 343 616	1 785 144	75.3
1954	1 347 932	1 763 209	76.4
1957	1 238 559	1 738 278	71.3
1961	1 179 738	1 670 860	70.6
1965	1 264 666	1 683 019	75.1
1969	1 334 963	1 735 388	76.9
1973	1 366 474	1 783 604	76.6
1977	1 616 770	2 118 606	76.3
1981	1 734 379	2 275 450	76.2
1982	1 701 385	2 335 153	72.9
1987	1 793 406	2 445 515	73.3
1989	1 677 592	2 448 810	68.5
1992	1 751 351	2 557 036	68.5
1997	1 788 997	2 707 498	66.1
2002	1 878 609	3 002 173	62.6
<b>Israel ES: PR</b>			
1949	440 095	506 507	86.9
1951	695 007	924 885	75.1
1955	876 188	1 057 795	82.8
1959	994 306	1 218 483	81.6
1961	1 037 030	1 274 880	81.3
1965	1 244 706	1 449 709	85.9
1969	1 427 981	1 758 685	81.2
1973	1 601 098	2 037 478	78.6
1977	1 771 726	2 236 293	79.2
1981	1 954 609	2 490 014	78.5
1984	2 091 402	2 654 613	78.8

Year	Total Votes	Registration	Vote/Registration Voters %
1988	2 305 576	2 894 267	79.7
1992	2 637 943	3 409 015	77.4
1996	3 119 832	3 933 250	79.3
1999	3 372 952	4 285 428	78.7
2001	2 805 938	4 504 769	62.3
2003	3 200 773	4 720 074	67.8
2006	3 186 739	5 014 622	63.5
<b>Italy ES: PR</b>			
1946	24 947 187	28 005 449	89.1
1948	26 854 203	29 117 554	92.2
1953	28 410 851	30 267 080	93.9
1958	30 399 708	32 436 022	93.7
1963	31 766 058	34 201 660	92.9
1968	33 003 249	35 566 681	92.8
1972	34 524 106	37 049 654	93.2
1976	37 741 404	40 423 131	93.4
1979	38 112 228	42 181 664	90.4
1983	39 114 321	43 936 534	89.0
1987	40 599 490	45 689 829	88.9
1992	41 479 764	47 435 964	87.4
1994	41 461 260	48 135 041	86.1
1996	40 496 438	48 846 238	82.9
2001	40 195 500	49 358 947	81.4
2006	39 425 980	47 160 264	83.6
<b>Jamaica ES: FPTP</b>			
1949	477 107	732 217	65.2
1955	495 682	761 238	65.1
1959	563 974	853 539	66.1
1962	580 517	796 540	72.9
1967	446 815	543 307	82.2
1972	477 771	605 662	78.9
1976	742 149	870 972	85.2
1980	860 746	990 417	86.9
1983 <sup>25</sup>	27 043	990 019	2.7
1989	845 485	1 078 760	78.4
1993	678 572	1 002 571	67.7
1997	773 425	1 182 292	65.4
2002	734 628	1 293 373	56.8
<b>Japan ES: Parallel</b>			
1946	26 582 175	36 878 420	72.1
1947	27 796 840	40 907 493	68.0
1949	31 174 957	42 105 300	74.0

Year	Total Votes	Registration	Vote/Registration Voters %
1952	35 749 709	46 772 584	76.4
1953	34 946 130	47 090 167	74.2
1955	37 334 338	49 235 375	75.8
1958	40 042 489	52 013 529	77.0
1960	39 920 119	54 312 993	73.5
1963	41 458 946	58 281 678	71.1
1967	46 599 456	62 992 796	74.0
1969	47 442 401	69 260 424	68.5
1972	52 929 059	73 769 636	71.7
1976	57 231 993	77 926 588	73.4
1979	54 518 515	80 169 924	68.0
1980	60 338 439	80 925 034	74.6
1983	57 240 830	84 252 608	67.9
1986	61 703 794	96 426 845	64.0
1990	66 215 906	90 322 908	73.3
1993	63 574 819	94 866 020	67.0
1995	43 307 400	97 320 000	44.5
1996 <sup>4</sup>	57 766 696	97 909 655	59.0
2000 <sup>15</sup>	60 882 471	100 433 798	60.6
2003 <sup>2</sup>	61 183 286	102 306 684	59.8
2005 <sup>2</sup>	69 532 186	103 067 966	67.5
<b>Jordan ES: SNTV</b>			
1989	541 426	1 020 446	53.1
1993	822 294	1 501 279	54.8
1997	702 260	1 480 000	47.4
2003 <sup>1</sup>	1 342 999	2 325 496	57.8
<b>Kazakhstan ES: Parallel</b>			
1994	N/A	N/A	N/A
1995	2 519 733	3 308 897	76.2
1999	5 262 489	8 411 757	62.6
2004 <sup>26</sup>	1 570 590	2 770 000	56.7
<b>Kenya ES: FPTP</b>			
1992	4 622 764	7 855 880	58.8
1997	5 910 580	9 030 092	65.5
2002	5 976 205	10 451 150	57.2
<b>Kiribati ES: TRS</b>			
1974 <sup>8</sup>	8 401	12 354	68.0
1978 <sup>8</sup>	15 004	18 523	81.0
1982 <sup>8</sup>	18 826	22 816	82.5
1983 <sup>8</sup>	19 995	25 011	79.9
1991 <sup>8</sup>	19 285	N/A	N/A
1998	N/A	N/A	N/A

Year	Total Votes	Registration	Vote/Registration Voters %
2002	N/A	N/A	N/A
2003	N/A	N/A	N/A
<b>Korea, Republic of</b> ES: Parallel			
1967	11 202 317	14 717 354	76.1
1971	11 430 202	15 610 258	73.2
1973	11 196 484	15 690 130	71.4
1978	15 025 370	19 489 490	77.1
1981	16 397 845	20 909 120	78.4
1985	20 286 672	23 987 830	84.6
1988	19 840 815	26 198 205	75.7
1992	20 843 482	29 003 828	71.9
1996	20 122 799	31 488 294	63.9
2000	19 156 515	33 482 387	57.2
2004 <sup>1</sup>	21 351 340	35 596 497	60.0
<b>Kuwait</b> ES: BV			
1975	30 863	52 994	58.2
1981	37 528	41 698	90.0
1985	48 000	56 745	84.6
1992	69 224	81 440	85.0
1996 <sup>4</sup>	85 735	107 169	80.0
1999	N/A	N/A	N/A
2003 <sup>2</sup>	N/A	136 715	N/A
<b>Kyrgyzstan</b> ES: TRS			
1995 <sup>5</sup>	1 344 200	2 200 000	61.1
2000	1 613 855	2 505 763	64.4
2005	N/A	N/A	N/A
<b>Lao People's Dem. Republic</b> ES: BV			
1992 <sup>2</sup>	2 009 727	2 024 756	99.3
1997 <sup>2</sup>	2 284 632	2 299 128	99.4
2002 <sup>2</sup>	2 543 403	2 545 838	99.9
2006	N/A	2 748 936	N/A
<b>Latvia</b> ES: PR			
1990	1 600 000	1 970 443	81.2
1993	1 119 432	1 245 530	89.9
1995	959 459	1 334 436	71.9
1998	964 667	1 341 942	71.9
2002	995 085	1 398 156	71.2
<b>Lebanon</b> ES: BV			
1992 <sup>16</sup>	723 291	2 383 345	30.3
1996 <sup>16</sup>	1 112 249	2 577 979	43.1
2000 <sup>2</sup>	1 236 168	2 748 674	45.0
2005	1 395 015	3 002 028	46.5

Year	Total Votes	Registration	Vote/Registration Voters %
<b>Lesotho</b> ES: MMP			
1965	259 844	416 952	62.3
1970	306 529	374 272	81.9
1993	532 678	736 930	72.3
1998	617 738	860 000	71.8
2002	554 386	831 315	66.7
<b>Liberia</b> ES: FPTP			
2005 <sup>2</sup>	987 911	1 291 541	76.5
<b>Liechtenstein</b> ES: PR			
1945	2 883	3 088	93.4
1949	3 022	3 285	92.0
1953	3 025	3 333	90.8
1953	3 173	3 398	93.4
1957	3 294	3 525	93.4
1958	3 419	3 544	96.5
1962	3 452	3 646	94.7
1966	3 724	3 892	95.7
1970	4 091	4 309	94.9
1974	4 369	4 572	95.6
1978	4 670	4 879	95.7
1982	5 004	5 246	95.4
1986	11 677	12 512	93.3
1989	12 094	13 307	90.9
1993	12 255	13 999	87.5
1997	12 836	14 765	86.9
2001	14 178	16 350	86.7
2005 <sup>2</sup>	15 070	17 428	86.5
<b>Lithuania</b> ES: Parallel			
1992	1 918 027	2 549 952	75.2
1996	1 374 612	2 597 530	52.9
2000	1 539 743	2 646 663	58.2
2004 <sup>2</sup>	1 227 301	2 664 167	46.1
<b>Luxembourg</b> ES: PR			
1945	159 083	N/A	N/A
1948	77 865	84 724	91.9
1951	83 613	92 110	90.8
1954	170 092	183 590	92.6
1959	173 836	188 286	92.3
1964	173 702	191 788	90.6
1968	170 566	192 601	88.6
1974	185 527	205 817	90.1
1979	188 909	212 614	88.9

Year	Total Votes	Registration	Vote/Registration Voters %
1984	191 651	215 792	88.8
1989	191 332	218 940	87.4
1994	191 724	217 131	88.3
1999	191 267	221 103	86.5
2004 <sup>1</sup>	199 846	217 979	91.7
<b>Macedonia ES: PR</b>			
1994	707 210	1 222 899	57.8
1998	793 674	1 572 976	50.5
2002	1 241 605	1 664 297	74.6
<b>Madagascar ES: FPTP and PR</b>			
1970	2 612 656	2 756 978	94.8
1983	3 519 997	4 838 279	72.8
1989	4 283 512	5 741 974	74.6
1993 <sup>5</sup>	3 600 000	6 000 000	60.0
1998	3 147 368	5 234 198	60.1
2002	3 966 287	5 844 564	67.9
<b>Malawi ES: FPTP</b>			
1994	3 021 239	3 775 256	80.0
1994	3 021 239	3 775 256	80.0
1999	4 680 262	5 071 822	92.3
1999	4 680 262	5 071 822	92.3
2004 <sup>27</sup>	3 135 170	5 568 333	56.3
<b>Malaysia ES: FPTP</b>			
1974	2 122 927	N/A	N/A
1978	3 473 790	N/A	N/A
1982	4 181 800	5 800 000	72.1
1986	5 052 157	6 791 446	74.4
1990 <sup>5</sup>	5 600 000	8 000 000	70.0
1995	6 470 882	9 012 370	71.8
1999	6 655 348	9 694 156	68.7
2004 <sup>7</sup>	6 916 138	9 762 720	70.8
<b>Maldives ES: BV</b>			
1989	61 875	90 084	68.7
1994	82 227	109 072	75.4
1999	N/A	N/A	N/A
2005 <sup>2</sup>	111 946	157 027	71.3
<b>Mali ES: TRS</b>			
1992	1 008 189	4 780 416	21.1
1997	1 133 769	5 254 299	21.6
2001	N/A	N/A	N/A
<b>Malta ES: STV</b>			
1947	106 141	140 703	75.4

Year	Total Votes	Registration	Vote/Registration Voters %
1950	106 820	140 516	76.0
1951	113 366	151 977	74.6
1953	119 333	148 478	80.4
1955	121 243	149 380	81.2
1962	151 533	166 936	90.8
1966	144 873	161 490	89.7
1971	168 913	181 768	92.9
1976	206 843	217 724	95.0
1981	225 466	238 237	94.6
1987	236 719	246 292	96.1
1992	249 145	259 423	96.0
1996	264 037	271 746	97.2
1998	268 150	281 078	95.4
2003	285 122	297 930	95.7
<b>Man, Isle of ES: FPTP</b>			
2001 <sup>22</sup>	27 379	47 529	57.6
<b>Mauritania ES: TRS</b>			
1992	456 237	1 174 087	38.9
1996	541 849	1 040 855	52.1
2001	560 045	1 028 630	54.4
<b>Mauritius ES: BV</b>			
1976	400 486	N/A	N/A
1982 <sup>5</sup>	486 000	540 000	90.0
1983	470 008	540 000	87.0
1987	543 565	639 488	85.0
1991	573 419	682 000	84.1
1995	567 810	712 513	79.7
2000	630 292	779 433	80.9
2005 <sup>2</sup>	664 081	817 356	81.2
<b>Mexico ES: MMP</b>			
1946	2 294 928	2 556 949	89.8
1949	2 163 582	2 992 084	72.3
1952	3 651 483	4 924 293	74.2
1955	6 190 376	8 941 020	69.2
1958	7 332 429	10 443 465	70.2
1961	6 845 826	10 004 696	68.4
1964	9 051 524	13 589 594	66.6
1967	9 938 814	15 821 075	62.8
1970	13 940 862	21 654 217	64.4
1973	15 009 984	24 890 261	60.3
1976	16 068 911	25 913 066	62.0
1979	13 796 410	27 912 053	49.4

Year	Total Votes	Registration	Vote/Registration Voters %
1982	22 866 719	31 516 370	72.6
1985	18 281 851	35 278 369	51.8
1988	18 820 415	38 074 926	49.4
1991	24 149 001	39 517 979	61.1
1994	35 545 831	45 729 053	77.7
1997	30 120 221	52 208 966	57.7
2000	30 214 419	52 789 209	57.2
2003 <sup>1</sup>	26 968 371	64 710 596	41.7
2006	42 026 083	71 351 585	58.9
<b>Micronesia, Federated States of</b> ES: FPTP			
1995	33 686	N/A	N/A
1999 <sup>7</sup>	17 020	N/A	N/A
2001	N/A	N/A	N/A
2003	N/A	N/A	N/A
2005	N/A	N/A	N/A
<b>Moldova, Republic of</b> ES: PR			
1994	1 869 090	2 356 614	79.3
1998	1 680 470	2 431 218	69.1
2001	1 605 853	2 295 288	70.0
2005 <sup>1</sup>	1 576 079	2 430 537	64.8
<b>Monaco</b> ES: Parallel			
1968	2 388	3 301	72.3
1973	2 457	3 400	72.3
1978	2 719	3 647	74.6
1983	2 930	3 904	75.1
1988	2 985	4 244	70.3
1993	3 051	4 582	66.6
1998	3 226	4 932	65.4
2003 <sup>2</sup>	4 658	5 842	79.7
<b>Mongolia</b> ES: BV			
1990	1 006 460	1 027 000	98.0
1992	1 037 392	1 085 120	95.6
1996	1 014 031	1 147 260	88.4
2000	1 027 859	1 247 033	82.4
2004 <sup>2</sup>	1 088 318	1 329 798	81.8
<b>Montenegro</b>			
2006 <sup>7</sup>	338 835	484 430	69.9
<b>Montserrat</b> ES: TRS			
2001	2 288	2 953	77.5
<b>Morocco</b> ES: PR			
1970	4 160 016	4 874 598	85.3

Year	Total Votes	Registration	Vote/Registration Voters %
1977	5 369 431	6 519 301	82.4
1984	4 999 646	7 414 846	67.4
1993	7 153 211	11 398 987	62.8
1997	7 456 996	12 790 631	58.3
2002	7 165 206	13 884 467	51.6
<b>Mozambique</b> ES: PR			
1994	5 404 199	6 148 842	87.9
1999	4 833 761	7 099 105	68.1
2004 <sup>2</sup>	3 321 926	9 142 151	36.3
<b>Myanmar</b> ES: FPTP			
1956	3 868 242	7 442 770	52.0
1990	15 120 000	20 619 500	73.3
<b>Namibia</b> ES: PR			
1989	680 688	701 483	97.0
1994	497 499	654 189	76.1
1999	541 114	861 848	62.8
2004 <sup>1</sup>	835 980	984 587	84.9
<b>Nauru</b> ES: Modified BC			
1971	880	N/A	N/A
1973	1 148	N/A	N/A
1976	1 348	N/A	N/A
1977	1 599	N/A	N/A
1980	1 587	N/A	N/A
1983	N/A	N/A	N/A
1987	2 264	2 443	92.7
1989	2 358	2 659	88.7
1992	N/A	2 576	N/A
1995	2 947	2 952	99.8
1997	3 139	3 418	91.8
2000	3 400	3 829	88.8
2003	3 981	N/A	N/A
2004	N/A	N/A	N/A
<b>Nepal</b> ES: FPTP			
1959	1 791 381	4 246 468	42.2
1981 <sup>5</sup>	4 079 400	7 800 000	52.3
1986	5 454 672	9 044 964	60.3
1991	5 725 246	6 496 365	88.1
1994	5 562 920	6 413 172	86.7
1997	5 725 246	6 496 365	88.1
1999	8 894 566	13 518 839	65.8
<b>Netherlands</b> ES: PR			
1946	4 913 015	5 275 888	93.1



Year	Total Votes	Registration	Vote/Registration Voters %
1948	5 089 582	5 433 633	93.7
1952	5 501 728	5 792 679	95.0
1956	5 849 652	6 125 210	95.5
1959	6 143 409	6 427 864	95.6
1963	6 419 964	6 748 611	95.1
1967	7 076 328	7 452 776	94.9
1971	6 364 719	8 048 726	79.1
1972	7 445 287	8 916 947	83.5
1977	8 365 829	9 506 318	88.0
1981	8 738 238	10 040 121	87.0
1982	8 273 631	10 216 634	81.0
1986	9 199 621	10 727 701	85.8
1989	8 919 787	11 112 189	80.3
1994	9 021 144	11 455 924	78.7
1998	8 607 787	11 755 132	73.2
2002	9 515 226	12 035 935	79.1
2003	9 666 602	12 076 711	80.0
<b>New Zealand</b> ES: MMP			
1946	1 055 977	1 081 898	97.6
1949	1 080 543	1 113 852	97.0
1951	1 074 070	1 116 375	96.2
1954	1 105 609	1 169 115	94.6
1957	1 163 061	1 244 748	93.4
1960	1 176 963	1 303 955	90.3
1963	1 205 322	1 345 836	89.6
1966	1 212 127	1 399 720	86.6
1969	1 351 813	1 503 952	89.9
1972	1 410 240	1 569 937	89.8
1975	1 612 020	1 938 108	83.2
1978	1 721 443	2 027 594	84.9
1981	1 860 564	2 034 747	91.4
1984	1 978 798	2 111 651	93.7
1987	1 883 394	2 114 656	89.1
1990	1 877 115	2 202 157	85.2
1993	1 978 092	2 321 664	85.2
1996	2 135 175	2 418 587	88.3
1999	2 127 245	2 509 365	84.8
2002	2 055 404	2 670 030	77.0
2005	2 304 005	3 738 343	61.6
<b>Nicaragua</b> ES: PR			
1947	169 708	N/A	N/A
1950 <sup>17</sup>	202 698	N/A	N/A
1957	355 178	N/A	N/A

Year	Total Votes	Registration	Vote/Registration Voters %
1963	451 064	570 000	79.1
1967	540 714	N/A	N/A
1972 <sup>17</sup>	709 068	970 792	73.0
1974	799 982	1 152 260	69.4
1984 <sup>17</sup>	1 171 102	1 551 597	75.5
1990	1 419 384	1 752 088	81.0
1996	1 865 833	2 421 067	77.1
2001	2 256 770	N/A	N/A
<b>Niger</b> ES: PR and FPTP			
1993	1 282 473	3 878 178	33.1
1995	1 530 198	4 376 021	35.0
1996	N/A	N/A	N/A
1999	4 560 508	4 587 684	99.4
2004 <sup>2</sup>	2 358 168	5 278 598	44.7
<b>Nigeria</b> ES: FPTP			
1959	7 185 555	9 036 083	79.5
1979	15 686 514	48 499 091	32.3
1983 <sup>5</sup>	25 400 000	65 300 000	38.9
1999	49 136 212	57 938 945	84.8
2003 <sup>1</sup>	29 995 171	60 823 022	49.3
<b>Norway</b> ES: PR			
1945	1 498 194	1 961 977	76.4
1949	1 770 897	2 159 005	82.0
1953	1 790 331	2 256 799	79.3
1957	1 800 155	2 298 376	78.3
1961	1 850 548	2 340 495	79.1
1965	2 056 091	2 406 866	85.4
1969	2 162 596	2 579 566	83.8
1973	2 155 734	2 686 676	80.2
1977	2 304 496	2 780 190	82.9
1981	2 462 142	3 003 093	82.0
1985	2 605 436	3 100 479	84.0
1989	2 653 173	3 190 311	83.2
1993	2 472 551	3 259 957	75.8
1997	2 583 809	3 311 215	78.0
2001	2 517 497	3 358 856	75.0
2005 <sup>1</sup>	2 649 735	3 421 741	77.4
<b>Pakistan</b> ES: Parallel			
1977	17 000 000	30 899 152	55.0
1985	17 250 482	32 589 996	52.9
1988	19 903 172	46 206 055	43.1
1990	21 395 479	47 065 330	45.5

Year	Total Votes	Registration	Vote/Registration Voters %
1993	20 293 307	50 377 915	40.3
1997	19 058 131	54 189 534	35.2
2002	29 829 463	71 358 040	41.8
<b>Palau ES: FPTP</b>			
1980	6 425	8 032	80.0
1984	8 067	9 605	84.0
1988	9 195	11 146	82.5
1992	9 726	11 658	83.4
1996	10 223	12 897	79.3
2000	10 744	13 239	81.2
2004 <sup>2</sup>	9 277	12 922	71.8
<b>Palestine ES: Parallel</b>			
1996	780 079	1 035 235	75.4
2006	1 042 424	1 341 671	77.7
<b>Panama ES: PR and FPTP</b>			
1960 <sup>7</sup>	124 924	N/A	N/A
1978	658 421	787 251	83.6
1984	631 908	917 677	68.9
1994	1 105 050	1 500 000	73.7
1999	1 326 663	1 746 989	75.9
2004 <sup>1</sup>	1 524 976	1 999 553	76.3
<b>Papua New Guinea ES: AV</b>			
1964	743 489	1 028 339	72.3
1968	734 118	1 515 119	48.5
1972	829 963	1 386 845	59.8
1977	970 172	1 607 635	60.3
1982	1 194 114	2 309 621	51.7
1987	1 355 477	1 843 128	73.5
1992	1 614 251	1 987 994	81.2
1997	2 244 531	3 414 072	65.7
2002 <sup>23</sup>	2 805 469	N/A	N/A
<b>Paraguay ES: PR</b>			
1953	237 049	N/A	N/A
1958	303 478	N/A	N/A
1963	628 615	738 472	85.1
1968	656 414	897 445	73.1
1973	814 610	1 052 652	77.4
1978	1 010 299	1 175 351	86.0
1983	1 048 996	1 132 582	92.6
1988	1 333 436	1 446 675	92.2
1989	1 157 781	2 226 061	52.0
1993	1 124 986	1 698 984	66.2

Year	Total Votes	Registration	Vote/Registration Voters %
1998	1 649 419	2 049 449	80.5
2003	N/A	N/A	N/A
<b>Peru ES: PR</b>			
1956	1 324 229	1 575 741	84.0
1962	1 969 474	2 222 926	88.6
1963	1 954 284	2 070 718	94.4
1980	5 217 364	6 485 680	80.4
1985	6 673 218	8 290 846	80.5
1990	6 867 170	10 042 599	68.4
1995	7 874 240	12 421 164	63.4
2000	11 942 810	14 567 468	82.0
2001	12 128 969	14 906 233	81.4
2006	14 624 880	16 494 906	88.7
<b>Philippines ES: Parallel</b>			
1967	7 748 900	9 427 532	82.2
1969	1 969 474	2 222 926	88.6
1978	18 355 862	21 463 094	85.5
1987 <sup>5</sup>	23 760 000	26 400 000	90.0
1992 <sup>4</sup>	22 654 194	32 105 782	70.6
1995	25 736 505	36 415 154	70.7
1998	26 902 536	34 163 465	78.7
2001	27 709 510	34 176 376	81.1
2004 <sup>2</sup>	13 241 974	29 240 907	45.3
<b>Poland ES: PR</b>			
1989	16 994 732	27 362 313	62.1
1991	11 886 984	27 516 166	43.2
1993	14 415 586	27 677 302	52.1
1997	13 616 378	28 409 054	47.9
2001	13 559 412	29 364 455	46.2
2005	12 263 640	30 229 031	40.6
<b>Portugal ES: PR</b>			
1975	5 666 696	6 177 698	91.7
1976	5 393 853	6 477 619	83.3
1979	5 915 168	6 757 152	87.5
1980	5 917 355	6 925 243	85.4
1983	5 629 996	7 159 349	78.6
1985	5 744 321	7 621 504	75.4
1987	5 623 128	7 741 149	72.6
1991	5 674 332	8 322 481	68.2
1995	5 904 854	8 906 608	66.3
1999	5 406 946	8 857 173	61.1
2002	5 582 146	8 882 561	62.8
2005	5 747 834	8 944 508	64.3

Year	Total Votes	Registration	Vote/Registration Voters %
<b>Republic of The Congo (Brazzaville) ES: TRS</b>			
1992	874 296	1 232 384	70.9
2002	N/A	N/A	N/A
<b>Romania ES: PR</b>			
1992	12 496 430	16 380 663	76.3
1996	13 088 388	17 218 654	76.0
2000	11 559 458	17 699 727	65.3
2004 <sup>1</sup>	10 794 653	18 449 344	58.5
<b>Russian Federation ES: Parallel</b>			
1993 <sup>5</sup>	52 600 000	105 200 000	50.0
1995	69 587 454	107 496 856	64.7
1999	65 370 690	108 073 956	60.5
2003 <sup>1</sup>	60 633 179	108 906 244	55.7
<b>Rwanda ES: PR</b>			
2003	3 818 603	3 958 058	96.5
<b>Saint Kitts and Nevis ES: FPTP</b>			
1952	12 407	12 966	95.7
1957	9 833	N/A	N/A
1961	12 588	18 310	68.7
1966	14 774	20 122	73.4
1971	15 126	17 209	87.9
1975	12 743	17 685	72.1
1980	14 850	19 921	74.5
1984	18 135	23 328	77.7
1989 <sup>4</sup>	17 682	26 481	66.8
1993	19 256	28 987	66.4
1995	21 690	31 726	68.4
2000	21 949	34 166	64.2
2004 <sup>1</sup>	22 922	38 865	59.0
<b>Saint Lucia ES: FPTP</b>			
1951	16 786	28 398	59.1
1954	17 006	34 452	49.4
1957	22 244	39 147	56.8
1961	19 362	N/A	N/A
1964	19 601	37 748	51.9
1969	23 892	44 868	53.2
1974	33 498	39 815	84.1
1979	46 191	67 917	68.0
1982	49 590	75 343	65.8
1987	50 511	83 153	60.7
1987	53 883	83 257	64.7
1992	61 155	97 403	62.8
1997	73 535	111 330	66.1

Year	Total Votes	Registration	Vote/Registration Voters %
2001	64 305	119 844	53.7
<b>Saint Vincent and The Grenadines ES: FPTP</b>			
1951	19 110	27 409	69.7
1954	17 465	29 188	59.8
1957	21 943	30 960	70.9
1961	23 976	31 086	77.1
1966	27 787	33 044	84.1
1967	27 278	33 044	82.6
1972	32 289	42 707	75.6
1974	28 574	45 181	63.2
1979	33 276	52 073	63.9
1984	42 507	47 863	88.8
1989	44 218	61 091	72.4
1994	47 212	71 954	65.6
1998	51 513	76 469	67.4
2001	58 498	84 536	69.2
2005 <sup>2</sup>	57 982	91 045	63.7
<b>Samoa ES: FPTP and BV</b>			
1991 <sup>5</sup>	44 460	57 000	78.0
1996	67 469	78 137	86.3
2001	76 934	93 213	82.5
2006	N/A	79 284	N/A
<b>San Marino ES: PR</b>			
1974	14 086	17 673	79.7
1978	15 491	19 615	79.0
1983	17 204	21 630	79.5
1988	21 139	26 052	81.1
1993	22 637	28 191	80.3
1998	22 673	30 117	75.3
2001	22 648	30 688	73.8
2006	22 815	31 759	71.8
<b>Sao Tome and Principe ES: PR</b>			
1991	39 605	51 610	76.7
1994	29 100	55 862	52.1
1998	32 108	49 639	64.7
2002	40 412	60 961	66.3
2006	53 378	79 849	66.8
<b>Senegal ES: Parallel</b>			
1963 <sup>4</sup>	1 202 294	N/A	N/A
1978	974 826	1 566 250	62.2
1983 <sup>4</sup>	1 079 824	1 928 257	56.0
1988	1 118 246	1 932 265	57.9

Year	Total Votes	Registration	Vote/Registration Voters %
1993 <sup>3</sup>	1 070 539	2 650 000	40.4
1998	1 243 026	3 164 827	39.3
2001 <sup>1</sup>	1 888 911	2 802 253	67.4
<b>Seychelles</b> ES: Parallel			
1993	43 579	50 370	86.5
1998	47 568	54 847	86.7
2002 <sup>2</sup>	52 699	62 350	84.5
<b>Sierra Leone</b> ES: PR			
1968	652 077	N/A	N/A
1977	686 810	N/A	N/A
1996	750 858	1 244 601	60.3
2002	1 950 492	2 342 547	83.3
<b>Singapore</b> ES: PBV and FPTP			
1968	77 984	82 883	94.1
1972	746 219	908 382	82.1
1976	815 130	857 130	95.1
1980	654 195	685 141	95.5
1984	902 980	944 624	95.6
1988	1 373 064	1 449 838	94.7
1991	805 573	847 716	95.0
1997 <sup>18</sup>	734 000	765 332	95.9
2001 <sup>19</sup>	638 903	675 306	94.6
2006	1 149 668	1 222 884	94.0
<b>Slovakia</b> ES: PR			
1990 <sup>9</sup>	10 785 270	11 195 596	96.3
1992 <sup>9</sup>	9 750 978	11 515 699	84.7
1994	2 923 265	3 876 555	75.4
1998	3 389 346	4 023 191	84.2
2002	2 913 267	4 157 802	70.1
2006	2 335 917	4 272 517	54.7
<b>Slovenia</b> ES: PR			
1992	1 280 243	1 490 434	85.9
1996	1 136 211	1 542 218	73.7
2000	1 116 423	1 586 695	70.4
2004	991 123	1 634 402	60.6
<b>Solomon Islands</b> ES: FPTP			
1980	58 136	99 843	58.2
1984	65 637	N/A	N/A
1989	81 239	125 106	64.9
1993	105 351	165 620	63.6
1997	137 787	201 584	68.4
2001 <sup>2</sup>	178 161	287 921	61.9

Year	Total Votes	Registration	Vote/Registration Voters %
2006	N/A	342 119	0.0
<b>Somalia</b> ES: N/A			
1969	879 554	N/A	N/A
<b>South Africa</b> ES: PR			
1994 <sup>20</sup>	19 726 579	N/A	N/A
1999	16 228 462	18 177 000	89.3
2004	15 863 554	20 674 926	76.7
<b>Spain</b> ES: PR			
1977	18 175 327	23 616 421	77.0
1979	18 284 948	26 836 500	68.1
1982	21 439 152	26 855 301	79.8
1986	20 489 651	29 117 613	70.4
1989	20 788 160	29 694 055	70.0
1993	23 907 495	31 030 511	77.1
1996	24 985 097	32 007 554	78.1
2000	23 339 490	33 969 640	68.7
2004	26 155 436	34 571 831	75.7
<b>Sri Lanka</b> ES: PR			
1947	1 701 150	3 048 145	55.8
1952	2 114 615	2 990 912	70.7
1956	2 391 538	3 464 159	69.0
1960	2 827 075	3 724 507	75.9
1965	3 821 918	4 710 887	81.1
1970	4 672 656	5 505 028	84.9
1977	5 780 283	6 667 589	86.7
1989	5 961 815	9 374 880	63.6
1994	8 344 095	10 945 065	76.2
2000	9 128 823	12 071 062	75.6
2001	9 449 813	12 428 762	76.0
2004 <sup>1</sup>	9 797 680	12 899 139	76.0
<b>Sudan</b> ES: FPTP			
1968	1 825 510	3 049 813	59.9
1986	N/A	6 000 000	N/A
1996 <sup>3</sup>	5 525 280	7 652 742	72.2
2000	N/A	N/A	N/A
<b>Suriname</b> ES: PR			
1967	207 119	N/A	N/A
1969	204 041	N/A	N/A
1973 <sup>7</sup>	122 711	161 400	76.0
1977 <sup>7</sup>	123 720	159 082	77.8
1987	177 025	208 356	85.0
1991 <sup>7</sup>	158 809	246 926	64.3
1996	179 416	269 165	66.7

Year	Total Votes	Registration	Vote/Registration Voters %
2000	185 064	264 961	69.8
2005 <sup>2</sup>	155 888	333 985	46.7
<b>Sweden ES: PR</b>			
1948	3 895 161	4 707 783	82.7
1952	3 801 284	4 805 216	79.1
1956	3 902 114	4 902 114	79.6
1958	3 864 963	4 992 421	77.4
1960	4 271 610	4 972 177	85.9
1964	4 273 595	5 095 850	83.9
1968	4 861 901	5 445 333	89.3
1970	4 984 207	5 645 804	88.3
1973	5 168 996	5 690 333	90.8
1976	5 457 043	5 947 077	91.8
1979	5 480 126	6 040 461	90.7
1982	5 606 603	6 130 993	91.4
1985	5 615 242	6 249 445	89.9
1988	5 441 050	6 330 023	86.0
1991	5 562 920	6 413 172	86.7
1994	5 725 246	6 496 365	88.1
1998	5 374 588	6 603 129	81.4
2002	5 385 430	6 722 152	80.1
<b>Switzerland ES: PR</b>			
1947	985 499	1 374 740	71.7
1951	986 937	1 414 308	69.8
1955	998 881	1 453 807	68.7
1959	1 008 563	1 473 155	68.5
1963	986 997	1 531 164	64.5
1967	1 019 907	1 599 479	63.8
1971	2 000 135	3 548 860	56.4
1975	1 955 752	3 733 113	52.4
1979	1 856 689	3 863 169	48.1
1983	1 990 012	4 068 532	48.9
1987	1 958 469	4 125 078	47.5
1991	2 076 886	4 510 784	46.0
1995	1 940 646	4 593 772	42.2
1999	2 004 540	4 638 284	43.2
2003	2 161 921	4 757 478	45.4
<b>Syrian Arab Republic ES: BV</b>			
1994	3 693 656	6 037 885	61.2
1998	N/A	N/A	N/A
2003 <sup>2</sup>	4 556 475	7 181 206	63.4
<b>Taiwan ES: parallel</b>			
1991	8 938 622	13 083 119	68.3

Year	Total Votes	Registration	Vote/Registration Voters %
1992	9 666 020	13 421 170	72.0
1995	9 574 388	14 153 424	67.6
1996	10 769 224	14 130 084	76.2
1998	10 188 302	14 961 930	68.1
2001	N/A	N/A	N/A
2004	N/A	N/A	N/A
<b>Tajikistan ES: Parallel</b>			
1995	2 254 560	2 684 000	84.0
2000	2 683 010	2 873 745	93.4
2005 <sup>1</sup>	2 583 919	2 771 528	93.2
<b>Tanzania, United Republic of ES: FPTP</b>			
1995	6 831 578	8 928 816	76.5
2000	7 341 067	10 088 484	72.8
2005 <sup>2</sup>	11 389 530	15 705 223	72.5
<b>Thailand ES: Parallel</b>			
1946	2 091 827	6 431 827	32.5
1948	2 117 464	7 176 891	29.5
1952	2 961 291	7 602 591	39.0
1957	4 370 789	9 917 417	44.1
1969	7 285 831	14 820 180	49.2
1975 <sup>3</sup>	8 695 000	18 500 000	47.0
1976	9 084 104	20 791 018	43.7
1983	12 295 339	24 224 470	50.8
1986 <sup>5</sup>	15 104 400	24 600 000	61.4
1988	16 944 931	26 658 637	63.6
1992	19 224 201	32 432 087	59.3
1995	23 462 746	37 817 983	62.0
1996	24 060 744	38 564 836	62.4
2001	29 909 271	42 759 001	69.9
2005	32 341 330	44 572 101	72.6
2006	29 088 209	44 909 562	64.8
<b>Togo ES: TRS</b>			
1985	1 036 975	1 318 979	78.6
1990 <sup>4</sup>	1 300 000	N/A	N/A
1994	1 302 400	2 000 000	65.1
1997 <sup>4</sup>	1 300 000	N/A	N/A
1999	N/A	N/A	N/A
2002 <sup>2</sup>	1 915 875	2 841 079	67.4
<b>Tonga ES: BV</b>			
1987	25 253	42 496	59.4
1993	28 515	48 487	58.8
1996	27 948	49 830	56.1

Year	Total Votes	Registration	Vote/Registration Voters %
1999	27 867	54 912	50.7
2005 <sup>2</sup>	33 119	65 555	50.5
<b>Trinidad and Tobago ES: FPTP</b>			
1946	137 281	259 512	52.9
1950	198 458	283 150	70.1
1956	271 534	339 028	80.1
1961	333 512	378 511	88.1
1966	302 548	459 839	65.8
1971	118 597	357 568	33.2
1976	315 809	565 646	55.8
1981	415 416	736 104	56.4
1986	577 300	882 029	65.5
1991	522 472	794 486	65.8
1995	530 311	837 741	63.3
2000	597 525	947 689	63.1
2001	561 993	849 874	66.1
2002	609 571	875 260	69.6
<b>Tunisia ES: Parallel</b>			
1981	1 962 127	2 321 031	84.5
1986	2 175 093	2 622 482	82.9
1989	2 073 925	2 711 925	76.5
1994	2 841 557	2 976 366	95.5
1999	3 100 098	3 387 542	91.5
2004 <sup>1</sup>	4 215 151	4 877 905	86.4
<b>Turkey ES: PR</b>			
1950	7 815 000	8 906 107	87.7
1961	10 522 716	12 925 395	81.4
1969	9 516 035	14 788 552	64.3
1973	11 223 843	16 798 164	66.8
1977	14 785 814	21 000 000	70.4
1983	18 214 104	19 740 500	92.3
1987	24 603 541	26 376 926	93.3
1991	25 157 123	29 979 123	83.9
1995	29 101 469	34 155 981	85.2
1999	32 656 070	37 495 217	87.1
2002	31 892 117	41 452 823	76.9
<b>Tuvalu ES: BV</b>			
1977	2 256	2 862	78.8
1981	2 862	3 368	85.0
1998	N/A	N/A	N/A
2002	7 751	N/A	N/A
2006	N/A	N/A	N/A

Year	Total Votes	Registration	Vote/Registration Voters %
<b>Uganda ES: FPTP</b>			
1962	1 052 534	1 553 233	67.8
1980	4 179 111	4 899 146	85.3
1996 <sup>7</sup>	5 027 166	8 477 320	59.3
2001	7 576 144	10 775 836	70.3
2006	N/A	N/A	N/A
<b>Ukraine ES: PR</b>			
1994	28 963 982	38 204 100	75.8
1998	26 521 273	37 540 092	70.6
2002	25 874 859	35 852 251	72.2
2006	24 409 135	37 173 544	65.7
<b>United Kingdom ES: FPTP</b>			
1945	24 117 191	33 240 391	72.6
1950	28 771 124	34 412 255	83.6
1951	28 596 594	34 919 331	81.9
1955	26 759 729	34 852 179	76.8
1959	27 862 652	35 397 304	78.7
1964	27 698 221	35 894 054	77.2
1966	27 314 646	35 957 245	76.0
1970	28 386 145	39 342 013	72.2
1974	31 382 414	39 753 863	78.9
1974	29 226 810	40 072 970	72.9
1979	31 233 208	41 095 490	76.0
1983	30 722 241	42 192 999	72.8
1987	32 566 523	43 180 573	75.4
1992	33 653 800	43 240 084	77.8
1997	31 289 097	43 784 559	71.5
2001 <sup>7</sup>	26 365 192	44 403 238	59.4
2005 <sup>7</sup>	27 148 510	44 245 939	61.4
<b>United States ES: FPTP</b>			
1946 <sup>7</sup>	34 279 158	N/A	N/A
1948 <sup>7</sup>	45 839 622	N/A	N/A
1950 <sup>7</sup>	40 253 267	N/A	N/A
1952 <sup>7</sup>	57 582 333	N/A	N/A
1954 <sup>7</sup>	42 509 905	N/A	N/A
1956 <sup>7</sup>	58 434 811	N/A	N/A
1958 <sup>7</sup>	45 966 070	N/A	N/A
1960 <sup>7</sup>	68 838 204	N/A	N/A
1962 <sup>7</sup>	53 141 227	N/A	N/A
1964 <sup>7</sup>	70 644 592	N/A	N/A
1966 <sup>7</sup>	56 188 046	N/A	N/A
1968 <sup>7</sup>	73 211 875	81 658 180	89.7

Year	Total Votes	Registration	Vote/Registration Voters %
1970 <sup>7</sup>	58 014 338	82 496 747	70.3
1972 <sup>7</sup>	77 718 554	97 328 541	79.9
1974 <sup>7</sup>	55 943 834	96 199 020	58.2
1976 <sup>7</sup>	81 555 789	105 037 989	77.6
1978 <sup>7</sup>	58 917 938	103 291 265	57.0
1980 <sup>7</sup>	86 515 221	113 043 734	76.5
1982 <sup>7</sup>	67 615 576	110 671 225	61.1
1984 <sup>7</sup>	92 652 680	124 150 614	74.6
1986 <sup>7</sup>	64 991 128	118 399 984	54.9
1988 <sup>7</sup>	91 594 693	126 379 628	72.5
1990 <sup>7</sup>	67 859 189	121 105 630	56.0
1992 <sup>7</sup>	104 405 155	133 821 178	78.0
1994 <sup>7</sup>	75 105 860	130 292 822	57.6
1996 <sup>7</sup>	96 456 345	146 211 960	66.0
1998 <sup>7</sup>	73 117 022	141 850 558	51.5
2000 <sup>7</sup>	99 738 383	156 421 311	63.8
2002 <sup>7</sup>	73 844 526	N/A	N/A
2004 <sup>7</sup>	114 413 842	N/A	N/A
<b>Uruguay ES: PR</b>			
1946 <sup>7</sup>	670 229	993 892	67.4
1950 <sup>7</sup>	828 403	1 168 206	70.9
1954 <sup>7</sup>	879 242	1 295 502	67.9
1958 <sup>7</sup>	1 005 362	1 410 105	71.3
1962 <sup>7</sup>	1 171 020	1 528 239	76.6
1966 <sup>7</sup>	1 231 762	1 658 368	74.3
1971 <sup>7</sup>	1 726 049	1 878 132	91.9
1984 <sup>7</sup>	1 930 931	2 197 503	87.9
1989 <sup>7</sup>	2 056 355	2 319 022	88.7
1994 <sup>7</sup>	2 130 618	2 330 154	91.4
1999 <sup>7</sup>	2 202 884	2 402 014	91.7
2004 <sup>2</sup>	2 229 583	2 487 816	89.6
<b>Uzbekistan ES: TRS</b>			
1994	10 526 654	11 248 464	93.6
1999	11 873 065	12 703 488	93.5
2004	N/A	N/A	N/A
<b>Vanuatu ES: SNTV</b>			
1983	44 726	59 712	74.9
1987 <sup>5</sup>	58 100	70 000	83.0
1991	62 527	87 695	71.3
1995	76 522	105 631	72.4
1998	42 778	107 297	39.9
2002	80 657	127 069	63.5

Year	Total Votes	Registration	Vote/Registration Voters %
2004	93 862	133 497	70.3
<b>Venezuela ES: MMP</b>			
1947 <sup>4</sup>	1 183 764	N/A	N/A
1958	2 684 949	2 913 801	92.1
1963	3 059 434	3 367 787	90.8
1968	3 907 823	4 134 928	94.5
1973	4 572 187	4 737 152	96.5
1978	5 449 790	6 223 903	87.6
1983	6 825 180	7 777 892	87.8
1988	7 500 085	9 185 647	81.7
1993 <sup>3</sup>	6 000 000	10 000 000	60.0
1998	5 792 391	11 002 589	52.6
2000	6 573 663	11 623 547	56.6
2002	49 211 275	49 783 769	98.9
<b>Virgin Islands, British ES: FPTP and BV</b>			
1999	N/A	N/A	N/A
2003 <sup>1</sup>	7 362	10 180	72.3
<b>Yemen ES: FPTP</b>			
1993 <sup>3</sup>	2 179 942	2 700 000	80.7
1997	2 792 675	4 600 000	60.7
2003	6 071 209	8 097 162	75.0
<b>Zambia ES: FPTP</b>			
1968	962 150	2 981 895	32.3
1991	1 325 038	2 981 895	44.4
1996	1 779 607	2 267 382	78.5
2001	1 785 485	2 604 761	68.5
<b>Zimbabwe ES: FPTP</b>			
1979 <sup>3</sup>	1 852 772	2 900 000	63.9
1980	2 702 275	N/A	N/A
1985	2 972 146	N/A	N/A
1990	2 235 425	N/A	N/A
1995	1 485 660	4 822 289	30.8
2000	2 556 261	5 288 804	48.3

## Presidential Elections

Year	Total Votes	Registration	Vote/Registration Voters %
<b>Afghanistan</b> ES: TRS			
2004 <sup>1</sup>	8 128 940	9 716 413	83.7
<b>Algeria</b> ES: TRS			
1995	12 087 281	15 969 904	75.7
1999 <sup>7</sup>	10 652 623	17 488 757	60.9
2004	10 508 777	18 097 225	58.1
<b>Angola</b> ES: TRS			
1992	4 401 339	4 828 486	91.2
<b>Argentina</b> ES: TRS			
1946	2 839 507	3 405 173	83.4
1951	7 593 948	8 633 998	88.0
1958	9 088 497	10 002 327	90.9
1963	9 717 677	11 353 936	85.6
1973	11 897 443	14 302 497	83.2
1983	14 927 572	17 929 951	83.3
1989 <sup>6</sup>	17 021 951	20 022 072	85.0
1995	17 939 156	22 158 612	81.0
1999	18 953 456	24 109 306	78.6
2003	19 594 166	25 479 366	76.9
<b>Armenia</b> ES: TRS			
1996	1 333 204	2 210 189	60.3
1998	1 567 702	2 300 816	68.1
2003	1 595 438	1 595 702	100.0
<b>Austria</b> ES: TRS			
1951	4 373 194	4 513 597	96.9
1957	4 499 565	4 630 997	97.2
1963	4 654 657	4 869 928	95.6
1965	4 679 427	4 874 928	96.0
1971	4 787 706	5 024 324	95.3
1974	4 733 016	5 031 772	94.1
1980	4 779 054	5 215 875	91.6
1986	4 745 849	5 436 846	87.3
1992	4 592 927	5 676 903	80.9
1998	4 351 272	5 848 584	74.4
2004	4 318 439	6 030 982	71.6
<b>Azerbaijan</b> ES: TRS			
1993	3 966 327	4 620 000	85.9
1998	3 359 633	4 255 717	78.9
2003	3 164 348	4 442 338	71.2
<b>Bangladesh</b>			
1981	21 677 560	38 951 014	55.7
1986	25 916 291	47 912 443	54.1

Year	Total Votes	Registration	Vote/Registration Voters %
<b>Belarus</b> ES: TRS			
1994	5 032 800	7 200 000	69.9
2001	6 169 087	7 356 343	83.9
2006	6 630 653	7 133 978	92.9
<b>Benin</b> ES: TRS			
1991	1 315 123	2 052 638	64.1
1996	1 958 855	2 517 970	77.8
2001 <sup>1</sup>	N/A	3 152 365	N/A
2006	3 032 356	4 286 045	70.7
<b>Bolivia</b> ES: TRS			
1956	958 016	1 126 528	85.0
1960	987 730	1 300 000	76.0
1964	1 297 319	1 411 560	91.9
1966	1 099 994	1 270 611	86.6
1978	1 971 968	1 921 556	102.6
1979	1 693 233	1 871 070	90.5
1980	1 489 484	2 004 284	74.3
1985	1 728 365	2 108 458	82.0
1989	1 563 182	2 136 587	73.2
1993	1 731 309	2 399 197	72.2
1997	2 321 117	3 252 501	71.4
2002	2 994 065	4 155 055	72.1
2005 <sup>1</sup>	3 102 417	3 671 152	84.5
<b>Bosnia and Herzegovina</b> ES: FPTP			
1996 <sup>30</sup>	1 333 204	2 210 189	60.3
1998 <sup>30</sup>	1 879 339	2 656 758	70.7
2002 <sup>30</sup>	1 298 811	2 342 141	55.5
<b>Brazil</b> ES: TRS			
1945	6 200 805	7 459 849	83.1
1950	8 254 979	11 455 149	72.1
1955	9 097 014	15 243 246	59.7
1960	12 586 354	15 543 332	81.0
1989	72 280 909	82 074 718	88.1
1994	77 971 676	91 803 851	84.9
1998	83 297 773	106 101 067	78.5
2002	91 664 259	115 254 113	79.5
<b>Bulgaria</b> ES: TRS			
1992	5 154 973	6 857 942	75.2
1996	3 358 998	6 746 056	49.8
2001	3 784 036	6 889 638	54.9
<b>Burkina Faso</b> ES: TRS			
1991	1 256 381	3 564 501	35.2



Year	Total Votes	Registration	Vote/Registration Voters %
1998	2 361 294	4 210 234	56.1
2005	2 262 899	3 924 328	57.7
<b>Burundi</b>			
1993	2 291 746	2 355 126	97.3
<b>Cameroon ES: FPTV</b>			
1988	N/A	N/A	N/A
1992	3 015 440	4 195 687	71.9
1997	N/A	N/A	N/A
2004 <sup>1</sup>	3 738 759	4 701 953	79.5
<b>Cape Verde ES: TRS</b>			
2001	153 407	260 275	58.9
2006	171 819	323 554	53.1
<b>Central African Republic ES: TRS</b>			
1993	809 298	1 191 374	67.9
1999	1 010 744	1 709 086	59.1
2005	946 616	1 302 930	72.7
<b>Chad ES: TRS</b>			
1996	2 672 358	3 567 913	74.9
2001	2 487 215	4 069 099	61.1
<b>Chile ES: TRS</b>			
1946	479 310	631 257	75.9
1952	957 102	1 105 029	86.6
1958	1 250 350	1 497 493	83.5
1964	2 530 697	2 915 121	86.8
1970	2 954 799	3 539 747	83.5
1989	7 157 725	7 556 613	94.7
1993	7 314 890	8 085 439	90.5
1999	7 326 753	8 084 476	90.6
2006	7 162 345	8 220 897	87.1
<b>Colombia ES: TRS</b>			
2002 <sup>1</sup>	11 244 288	24 208 150	46.4
2006	12 041 737	26 731 700	45.1
<b>Comoros ES: FPTP</b>			
1990	190 074	315 391	60.3
1996	179 655	290 000	62.0
2006	177 601	310 177	57.3
<b>Congo (Brazzaville) ES: TRS</b>			
2002	N/A	N/A	N/A
<b>Costa Rica ES: TRS</b>			
1948 <sup>7</sup>	99 369	165 564	60.0
1953	197 489	293 670	67.2
1958	229 543	354 779	64.7

Year	Total Votes	Registration	Vote/Registration Voters %
1962	391 406	483 980	80.9
1966	451 490	554 627	81.4
1970	562 766	675 285	83.3
1974	699 340	875 041	79.9
1978	860 206	1 058 455	81.3
1982	991 679	1 261 127	78.6
1986	1 261 300	1 486 474	84.9
1990	1 384 326	1 692 050	81.8
1994	1 525 979	1 881 348	81.1
1998	1 431 913	2 045 980	70.0
2002	1 372 943	2 279 851	60.2
<b>Croatia ES: TRS</b>			
1992	2 677 764	3 575 032	74.9
1997	2 218 448	4 061 479	54.6
2000	2 589 120	4 252 921	60.9
2005 <sup>1</sup>	2 241 760	4 392 220	51.0
<b>Cyprus ES: TRS</b>			
1993	367 474	393 993	93.3
1998	417 406	447 046	93.4
2003	431 690	476 758	90.5
<b>Côte d'Ivoire ES: TRS</b>			
1990	3 086 166	4 408 809	70.0
1995 <sup>3</sup>	1 722 506	3 800 000	45.3
2000	2 049 018	5 475 143	37.4
<b>Djibouti ES: TRS</b>			
1993	75 635	150 487	50.3
1999	96 368	171 232	56.3
2005 <sup>1</sup>	156 484	198 332	78.9
<b>Dominican Republic ES: TRS</b>			
1947	840 340	840 340	100.0
1952	1 098 816	N/A	N/A
1957	1 265 681	N/A	N/A
1962 <sup>7</sup>	1 054 954	N/A	N/A
1966 <sup>7</sup>	1 345 404	N/A	N/A
1970 <sup>7</sup>	1 238 205	N/A	N/A
1974	1 518 297	2 006 323	75.7
1978	1 655 807	2 283 784	72.5
1982	1 922 367	2 601 684	73.9
1986 <sup>7</sup>	2 112 101	3 039 347	69.5
1990	1 958 509	3 275 570	59.8
1996	2 871 487	3 750 502	76.6

Year	Total Votes	Registration	Vote/Registration Voters %
2000	3 236 906	4 251 218	76.1
2004	3 656 850	5 020 703	72.8
<b>East Timor ES: TRS</b>			
2002	378 548	446 256	84.8
<b>Ecuador ES: TRS</b>			
1948	281 713	455 524	61.8
1952	357 654	550 997	64.9
1956	614 423	836 955	73.4
1960	767 105	1 009 280	76.0
1968	928 981	1 198 874	77.5
1978	1 521 412	2 088 874	72.8
1979	1 681 286	2 088 874	80.5
1984	2 964 298	3 794 149	78.1
1988	3 612 635	4 649 684	77.7
1992	4 174 097	5 710 363	73.1
1996	4 777 547	6 662 007	71.7
1998	4 960 075	7 072 496	70.1
2002	5 807 109	8 154 425	71.2
<b>Egypt ES: N/A</b>			
2005 <sup>1</sup>	7 305 036	31 826 284	23.0
<b>El Salvador ES: TRS</b>			
1945	313 694	N/A	N/A
1950	647 666	N/A	N/A
1956	711 931	N/A	N/A
1962	400 118	N/A	N/A
1967 <sup>7</sup>	491 894	1 266 587	38.8
1972	806 357	1 119 699	72.0
1977 <sup>7</sup>	1 206 942	N/A	N/A
1984	771 454	N/A	N/A
1989	1 003 153	1 834 000	54.7
1994	1 246 220	2 700 000	46.2
1999	1 223 215	3 171 224	38.6
2004 <sup>1</sup>	2 277 473	3 442 515	66.2
<b>Finland ES: TRS</b>			
1950	1 585 835	2 487 230	63.8
1956	1 905 449	2 597 738	73.4
1962	2 211 441	2 714 883	81.5
1968	2 048 784	2 930 635	69.9
1978	2 470 339	3 844 279	64.3
1982	3 188 056	3 921 005	81.3
1988	3 141 360	4 036 169	77.8
1994	3 193 825	4 150 000	77.0

Year	Total Votes	Registration	Vote/Registration Voters %
2000	3 200 580	4 167 204	76.8
2006	3 163 667	4 272 537	74.1
<b>France ES: TRS</b>			
1965 <sup>7</sup>	23 744 400	28 200 000	84.2
1969 <sup>7</sup>	22 200 000	28 800 000	77.1
1974 <sup>7</sup>	25 100 000	29 800 000	84.2
1981	30 350 568	36 398 762	83.4
1988	32 164 400	38 200 000	84.2
1995 <sup>5</sup>	31 852 695	39 976 944	79.7
2002	32 832 295	41 191 169	79.7
<b>Gabon ES: TRS</b>			
1993	426 594	484 319	88.1
1998	337 113	626 200	53.8
2005	352 263	554 967	63.5
<b>Gambia ES: TRS</b>			
1996	394 537	493 171	80.0
2001	404 343	450 706	89.7
<b>Georgia ES: TRS</b>			
1995	2 139 369	3 106 557	68.9
2000	2 343 176	3 088 925	75.9
2004	1 963 556	2 231 986	88.0
<b>Ghana ES: TRS</b>			
1992	4 127 876	8 229 902	50.2
1996	7 257 984	9 279 605	78.2
2004 <sup>7</sup>	8 625 785	10 296 970	83.8
<b>Guatemala ES: TRS</b>			
1950	417 570	583 300	71.6
1958	492 274	736 400	66.8
1966	531 270	944 170	56.3
1970	640 684	1 190 449	53.8
1974	727 174	1 566 724	46.4
1978 <sup>7</sup>	652 073	1 785 764	36.5
1982	1 079 392	2 355 064	45.8
1985 <sup>7</sup>	1 657 823	2 753 572	60.2
1990	1 808 718	3 204 955	56.4
1991	1 450 603	3 204 955	45.3
1995	1 369 828	3 711 589	36.9
1999	1 800 676	4 458 744	40.4
2003 <sup>1</sup>	2 373 469	5 073 282	46.8
<b>Guinea (Conakry) ES: TRS</b>			
1993	2 236 406	2 850 403	78.5

Year	Total Votes	Registration	Vote/Registration Voters %
1998	2 650 790	3 796 293	69.8
2003 <sup>1</sup>	4 146 027	5 009 780	82.8
<b>Guinea-Bissau ES: TRS</b>			
1994	316 861	396 938	79.8
1999	361 609	503 007	71.9
2005	N/A	N/A	N/A
<b>Haiti ES: TRS</b>			
1950	527 625	N/A	N/A
1957	940 445	N/A	N/A
1988	1 063 537	N/A	N/A
1990	1 640 729	3 271 155	50.2
1995	994 599	N/A	N/A
2000	2 547 000	4 245 384	60.0
2006	2 093 947	3 533 430	59.3
<b>Honduras ES: FPTP</b>			
1948	258 345	300 496	86.0
1954	252 624	411 354	61.4
1971	608 342	900 658	67.5
1981	1 214 735	1 558 316	78.0
1985	1 597 841	1 901 757	84.0
1989	1 799 146	2 366 448	76.0
1993	1 776 204	2 734 000	65.0
1997	2 091 733	2 901 743	72.1
2001	2 280 526	3 437 454	66.3
2005	1 833 710	3 988 605	46.0
<b>Iceland ES: FPTP</b>			
1952	70 457	85 887	82.0
1968	103 900	112 737	92.2
1980	129 595	143 196	90.5
1988	126 535	173 800	72.8
1996	167 319	194 784	85.9
2004 <sup>1</sup>	134 374	213 553	62.9
<b>Indonesia ES: TRS</b>			
2004 <sup>7</sup>	116 662 705	153 312 416	76.1
<b>Iran, Islamic Republic of ES: TRS</b>			
1993	16 796 787		N/A
2001	N/A	N/A	N/A
2005 <sup>1</sup>	27 959 253	46 786 418	59.8
<b>Ireland ES: AV</b>			
1945	1 086 338	1 803 463	60.2
1959	980 167	1 678 450	58.4
1966	1 116 915	1 709 161	65.3

Year	Total Votes	Registration	Vote/Registration Voters %
1973	1 279 688	2 688 316	47.6
1974	N/A	N/A	N/A
1976	N/A	N/A	N/A
1983	N/A	N/A	N/A
1990	1 584 095	2 471 308	64.1
1997	1 279 688	2 739 529	46.7
<b>Israel</b>			
1996 <sup>28</sup>	3 121 270	3 933 250	79.4
1999 <sup>28</sup>	3 373 748	4 285 428	78.7
<b>Kazakhstan ES: TRS</b>			
1999	7 221 408	8 419 283	85.8
2005 <sup>1</sup>	6 871 571	8 949 199	76.8
<b>Kenya ES: TRS</b>			
1992	5 248 596	7 855 880	66.8
1997	4 273 595	5 095 850	83.9
2002 <sup>1</sup>	5 975 910	10 451 150	57.2
<b>Kiribati ES: FPTP</b>			
2003	N/A	N/A	N/A
<b>Korea, Republic of ES: FPTP</b>			
1992	23 775 409	N/A	N/A
1997	26 041 889	32 290 416	80.6
2002	24 784 963	34 991 529	70.8
<b>Kyrgyzstan ES: TRS</b>			
1995	1 943 077	2 254 348	86.2
2000	1 960 201	2 537 247	77.3
2005 <sup>1</sup>	2 002 004	2 670 530	75.0
<b>Liberia ES: TRS</b>			
2005	825 716	1 352 730	61.0
<b>Lithuania ES: TRS</b>			
1993	2 019 013	2 568 016	78.6
1997	1 937 786	2 630 681	73.7
2002	1 466 536	2 719 608	53.9
2003	1 436 322	2 727 805	52.7
2004 <sup>21</sup>	1 395 103	2 659 211	52.5
<b>Macedonia ES: TRS</b>			
1994	1 058 130	1 360 729	77.8
1999	1 120 087	1 610 340	69.6
2004	909 289	1 695 103	53.6
<b>Madagascar ES: TRS</b>			
1992	4 436 351	5 941 427	74.7
1993	4 302 663	6 282 564	68.5

Year	Total Votes	Registration	Vote/Registration Voters %
1996	2 167 634	3 557 352	60.9
2001	4 256 508	N/A	N/A
<b>Malawi ES: FPTP</b>			
1994	3 040 665	3 775 256	80.5
1999	4 755 422	5 071 822	93.8
2004	3 296 711	5 184 086	63.6
<b>Maldives ES: Indirectly elected</b>			
1998 <sup>29</sup>	96 698	126 128	76.7
<b>Mali ES: TRS</b>			
1997	1 542 229	5 428 256	28.4
2002 <sup>1</sup>	2 216 185	5 746 202	38.6
<b>Mauritania ES: TRS</b>			
1992	551 356	1 184 372	46.6
1997	899 444	1 203 668	74.7
2003 <sup>1</sup>	673 591	N/A	N/A
<b>Mexico ES: FPTP</b>			
1946 <sup>7</sup>	2 294 728	N/A	N/A
1952 <sup>7</sup>	3 651 483	N/A	N/A
1958 <sup>7</sup>	7 463 403	N/A	N/A
1964 <sup>7</sup>	9 422 185	13 589 594	69.3
1970 <sup>7</sup>	13 915 963	21 654 217	64.3
1976 <sup>7</sup>	16 727 993	25 913 215	64.6
1982 <sup>7</sup>	23 592 888	31 526 386	74.8
1988 <sup>7</sup>	19 091 843	38 074 926	50.1
1994 <sup>7</sup>	35 545 831	45 279 053	78.5
2000 <sup>7</sup>	37 603 923	58 789 209	64.0
<b>Moldova, Republic of</b>			
1996	1 748 688	2 441 054	71.6
<b>Mongolia ES: TRS</b>			
1993	1 250 000	1 348 000	92.7
1997	1 403 204		N/A
2001	N/A	N/A	N/A
2005	N/A	N/A	N/A
<b>Mozambique ES: TRS</b>			
1994	5 412 940	6 148 842	88.0
1999	4 934 352	7 099 105	69.5
2004 <sup>5</sup>	3 144 377	9 142 429	34.4
<b>Namibia ES: TRS</b>			
1994	485 295	654 189	74.2
1999	545 465	878 869	62.1
2004 <sup>1</sup>	83 598	984 587	8.5
<b>Nicaragua ES: TRS</b>			

Year	Total Votes	Registration	Vote/Registration Voters %
1947	169 708	N/A	N/A
1950	202 698	N/A	N/A
1957	355 178	N/A	N/A
1963	451 064	570 000	79.1
1967	540 714	N/A	N/A
1974	799 982	1 152 260	69.4
1984	1 170 142	1 551 597	75.4
1990	1 510 838	1 752 088	86.2
1996	1 849 362	2 421 067	76.4
2001	N/A	N/A	N/A
<b>Niger ES: TRS</b>			
1993	1 325 152	4 482 096	29.6
1996	2 525 019	3 064 550	82.4
1999	1 815 411	4 587 684	39.6
2004 <sup>1</sup>	2 363 692	5 255 232	45.0
<b>Nigeria ES: TRS</b>			
1979	17 098 267	48 499 091	35.3
1993	14 039 486	N/A	N/A
1999	30 280 052	57 938 945	52.3
2003 <sup>1</sup>	42 018 735	60 823 022	69.1
<b>Palau ES: TRS</b>			
1980	6 425	8 032	80.0
1984	8 067	9 605	84.0
1988	9 195	11 146	82.5
1992	9 726	11 658	83.4
1996	10 223	12 897	79.3
2000	10 744	13 239	81.2
2004 <sup>1</sup>	9 664	12 922	74.8
<b>Palestine ES: FPTP</b>			
1996	745 902	1 035 235	72.1
2005	802 077	1 760 481	45.6
<b>Panama ES: FPTP</b>			
1948	216 214	305 123	70.9
1952	231 848	343 353	67.5
1956	306 770	386 672	79.3
1960	258 039	435 454	59.3
1964	326 401	486 420	67.1
1968	327 048	544 135	60.1
1984	674 075	917 677	73.5
1989	757 797	1 184 320	64.0
1994	1 105 388	1 499 848	73.7

Year	Total Votes	Registration	Vote/Registration Voters %
1999	1 330 730	1 746 989	76.2
2004	1 537 714	N/A	N/A
<b>Paraguay ES: FPTP</b>			
1953	237 049	N/A	N/A
1958	303 478	N/A	N/A
1963	628 615	738 472	85.1
1968	656 414	897 445	73.1
1973	814 610	1 052 652	77.4
1978	1 010 299	1 175 351	86.0
1983	1 048 996	1 132 582	92.6
1988	1 333 436	1 446 675	92.2
1989	1 202 826	2 226 061	54.0
1993	826 834	N/A	N/A
1998	1 650 725	2 049 449	80.5
2003 <sup>1</sup>	1 544 172	2 405 108	64.2
<b>Peru ES: TRS</b>			
1945 <sup>7</sup>	456 310	776 572	58.8
1950 <sup>7</sup>	550 779	776 132	71.0
1956	1 324 229	1 575 741	84.0
1962	1 969 474	2 222 926	88.6
1963	1 954 284	2 070 718	94.4
1980	5 307 465	6 485 680	81.8
1985	7 557 182	8 290 846	91.2
1990	7 999 978	10 042 599	79.7
1995	9 062 512	12 421 164	73.0
2001	12 128 969	14 906 233	81.4
2006	14 468 049	16 494 906	87.7
<b>Philippines ES: FPTP</b>			
1992 <sup>7</sup>	22 654 194	N/A	N/A
1998	27 782 735	34 163 465	81.3
2004 <sup>1</sup>	36 613 800	43 536 028	84.1
<b>Poland ES: TRS</b>			
1990	14 703 775	27 535 159	53.4
1995	19 146 496	28 062 205	68.2
2000	17 798 791	29 122 304	61.1
2005	15 439 684	30 279 209	51.0
<b>Portugal ES: TRS</b>			
1976	4 885 624	6 477 484	75.4
1980	5 834 789	6 931 641	84.2
1986	5 939 311	7 600 001	78.1
1991	5 099 092	8 235 151	61.9
1996	5 762 978	8 693 636	66.3

Year	Total Votes	Registration	Vote/Registration Voters %
2001	4 468 442	8 932 106	50.0
2006	5 590 132	9 085 339	61.5
<b>Republic of The Congo (Brazzaville) ES: TRS</b>			
2002 <sup>1</sup>	1 295 319	1 733 943	74.7
<b>Romania ES: TRS</b>			
1996	13 078 883	17 230 654	75.9
2000 <sup>7</sup>	10 020 870	17 699 727	56.6
2004 <sup>1</sup>	10 112 262	18 449 676	54.8
<b>Russian Federation ES: TRS</b>			
1991	79 498 240	106 484 518	74.7
1996	74 800 449	108 589 050	68.9
2000	75 070 006	109 372 046	68.6
2004 <sup>1</sup>	69 581 761	108 064 281	64.4
<b>Rwanda ES: FPTP</b>			
2003	3 812 567	3 948 749	96.6
<b>Saint Kitts and Nevis</b>			
1958	14 738	N/A	N/A
<b>Sao Tome and Principe ES: TRS</b>			
1991	30 966	51 610	60.0
1996	38 841	50 256	77.3
2001	47 535	67 374	70.6
<b>Senegal ES: TRS</b>			
1983	1 099 074	1 888 444	58.2
1988	1 134 239	1 932 265	58.7
1993	1 313 095	2 549 699	51.5
1996	399 300	N/A	N/A
2000	1 694 828	2 741 840	61.8
<b>Seychelles ES: TRS</b>			
1993	43 584	50 370	86.5
1998	47 550	54 847	86.7
2001	51 145	54 847	93.3
2006	56 787	64 026	88.7
<b>Sierra Leone ES: TRS</b>			
1996	1 028 851	1 500 000	68.6
2002	1 907 455	2 342 547	81.4
<b>Singapore ES: FPTP</b>			
1993	1 659 482	1 756 517	94.5
<b>Slovakia ES: TRS</b>			
1999	2 981 957	4 038 899	73.8
2004 <sup>1</sup>	1 827 282	4 204 899	43.5
<b>Slovenia ES: TRS</b>			
1990	1 153 335	N/A	N/A

Year	Total Votes	Registration	Vote/Registration Voters %
1992	1 280 252	1 491 374	85.8
1997	1 064 532	1 550 775	68.6
2002	1 050 533	1 610 234	65.2
<b>Sri Lanka</b> ES: SV			
1982	6 602 617	8 145 015	81.1
1988	5 186 233	9 375 742	55.3
1994	7 709 084	10 937 279	70.5
1999	8 635 290	11 779 200	73.3
2005	9 717 039	13 327 160	72.9
<b>Sudan</b> ES: TRS			
1996	5 525 280	7 652 742	72.2
<b>Syrian Arab Republic<sup>29</sup></b>			
<b>Taiwan</b> ES: FPTP			
1996	10 883 279	14 313 288	76.0
2000	12 786 671	15 462 625	82.7
2004 <sup>1</sup>	13 251 719	16 507 179	80.3
<b>Tajikistan</b> ES: TRS			
1994	2 338 356	2 647 398	88.3
<b>Tanzania, United Republic of</b> ES: TRS			
1995	6 846 681	8 929 969	76.7
2000	8 517 648	10 088 484	84.4
2005 <sup>7</sup>	11 346 189	N/A	N/A
<b>Togo</b> ES: TRS			
1998	1 587 027	2 273 190	69.8
2003 <sup>1</sup>	N/A	3 233 353	N/A
2005 <sup>1</sup>	2 288 279	3 599 306	63.6
<b>Tunisia</b> ES: FPTP			
1994	2 989 880	3 150 612	94.9
2004 <sup>1</sup>	4 464 337	4 877 905	91.5
<b>Uganda</b> ES: TRS			
1996	6 163 678	8 489 915	72.6
2001	7 576 144	10 775 836	70.3
2006 <sup>1</sup>	7 230 456	10 450 788	69.2
<b>Ukraine</b> ES: TRS			
1994	26 883 642	37 531 666	71.6
1999	28 231 774	37 680 581	74.9
2004	29 068 309	37 613 022	77.3
<b>United States</b> ES: FPTP			
1948	48 692 442	N/A	N/A
1952	61 551 118	N/A	N/A
1956	62 026 908	N/A	N/A
1960	68 838 219	N/A	N/A

Year	Total Votes	Registration	Vote/Registration Voters %
1964	70 644 592	73 715 818	95.8
1968	73 211 875	81 658 180	89.7
1972	77 718 554	97 328 541	79.9
1976	81 555 889	105 037 986	77.6
1980	86 515 221	113 043 734	76.5
1984	92 652 842	124 150 614	74.6
1988	91 594 809	126 379 628	72.5
1992	104 600 366	133 821 178	78.2
1996	92 712 803	146 211 960	63.4
2000	105 404 546	156 421 311	67.4
2004	122 295 345	210 421 000	54.9
<b>Uruguay</b> ES: TRS			
1946	649 405	993 892	65.3
1950	823 829	1 168 206	70.5
1954	879 242	1 295 502	67.9
1958	1 005 362	1 410 105	71.3
1962	1 171 020	1 528 239	76.6
1966	1 231 762	1 658 368	74.3
1971	1 664 119	1 878 132	88.6
1984	1 886 756	2 200 086	85.8
1989	1 970 586	2 319 022	85.0
1994	2 130 618	2 330 154	91.4
1999	2 206 112	2 402 135	91.8
2004 <sup>1</sup>	2 196 491	2 487 816	88.3
<b>Uzbekistan</b> ES: TRS			
1991	9 870 000	10 500 000	94.0
2000	N/A	N/A	N/A
<b>Venezuela</b> ES: FPTP			
1947 <sup>7</sup>	1 172 543	N/A	N/A
1958	2 722 053	2 913 801	93.4
1963	3 107 563	3 367 787	92.3
1968	3 999 617	4 134 928	96.7
1973	4 571 561	4 737 152	96.5
1978	5 448 801	6 223 903	87.5
1983	6 792 208	7 777 892	87.3
1988	7 518 663	9 185 647	81.9
1993	5 829 216	10 000 000	58.3
2000	6 600 196	11 681 645	56.5
<b>Yemen</b>			
2006 <sup>7</sup>	5 376 788	9 247 370	58.1
<b>Zambia</b> ES: FPTP			
1991	1 325 155	2 981 895	44.4

Year	Total Votes	Registration	Vote/Registration Voters %
1996	1 258 805	2 267 382	55.5
2001	1 766 356	2 604 761	67.8
<b>Zimbabwe ES: TRS</b>			
1990	2 587 204	N/A	N/A
1996	1 557 558	4 822 289	32.3
2002	3 046 891	5 607 795	54.3

## Annex D. About the Contributors

**Jon H. Pammett** is Associate Dean of the Faculty of Public Affairs and Professor of Political Science at Carleton University in Ottawa, Canada. He is also co-Director of the Carleton University Survey Centre, and Canadian delegate to the International Social Survey Programme. He is co-author of *Political Choice in Canada* (1979, with Harold D. Clarke et al.) and *Absent Mandate* (1996)—books about voting behaviour in Canadian elections. He is co-editor of, and contributing author to, *The Canadian Federal Election of 2006*, as well as several volumes in this series on earlier elections. He has published journal articles on public opinion and voting behaviour in Canada and Russia, and has also worked in the field of political education. He is currently engaged in a study of voter turnout in Canada compared to other countries, and is working on a book on Canadian elections through history.

**Erin Thiessen** is a graduate of the BA programme in political science and history at Carleton University. During her studies there she also spent one academic year as an intern at the Canadian and British parliaments, returning to Carleton University to earn an MA in political science. She currently works as a freelance researcher and writer. She is interested in a variety of areas, and her recent work has come to focus on voter turnout issues.

**Maria Gratschew** is a graduate of the University of Uppsala, Sweden. She joined International IDEA in 1999 as Project Manager responsible for International IDEA's Voter Turnout Project (<<http://www.idea.int/turnout>>) and now is a member of IDEA's Electoral Processes Team. She works mainly on voter turnout, election administration, external voting and compulsory voting, and has published extensively on these issues. Together with Rafael López Pintor she served as lead writer and editor for IDEA's *Voter Turnout since 1945: A Global Report* (2002) and *Voter Turnout in Western Europe: A Regional Report* (2004), and she is the author of several journal articles, chapters in IDEA handbooks and other papers.

**Andrew Ellis** is currently the head of the Electoral Processes Team at International IDEA in Stockholm.

He has wide experience as a technical adviser on electoral and institutional matters in democratic transitions. He acted as senior adviser for the National Democratic Institute (NDI) in Indonesia from 1999 to 2003, working with members of the Indonesian legislature on constitutional amendment and reform of the electoral and political laws, and with NGOs and political commentators. His other recent assignments include acting as chief technical adviser to the Palestinian Election Commission under the European Commission's support for all aspects of the preparation of the first Palestinian elections in 1996, and design and planning for the Commission's electoral assistance programme in Cambodia for the 1998 elections. He is co-author of *Electoral System Design: The New International IDEA Handbook*, *Electoral Management Design: The International IDEA Handbook*, and of numerous materials on political system reform in Indonesia and more widely.

**Ivo Balinov** holds an MA in European and Russian Studies from Carleton University and an MA in international affairs from the University of National and World Economy, Sofia, Bulgaria. He specializes in parliamentary development issues in Eastern Europe, including research and the design and implementation of projects aimed at assisting in reforms in this field. He is currently employed with the Parliamentary Centre of Canada where he is the Program Officer responsible for the centre's work in Eastern Europe and the Commonwealth of Independent States.

**Sean W. Burges** specializes in Brazilian foreign policy and inter-American affairs and is the 2006 Cadieux-Léger Fellow with the Canadian Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade. He has a PhD in politics and international studies from the University of Warwick, UK, has held a Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) postdoctoral fellowship at Carleton University's Norman Paterson School of International Affairs, and has taught the politics of developing areas at the University of Wales, Aberystwyth.

**Laura Chrabolowsky** has a BA in comparative development studies from Trent University, Peterbor-



ough, Canada, and an MA in international political economy from the Norman Paterson School of International Affairs, and is currently a doctoral candidate in political science at Carleton University. Her main research interests are women, new social movements, and trade unions in Argentina, and the subject of her doctoral dissertation is the relationship between social movement unionism and women's political participation within the context of neo-liberal globalization and financial crisis in Argentina. She works as a policy analyst at the Canadian Department of Human Resources and Social Development.

**Juraj Hocman** is a PhD candidate at the University of Ottawa and holds an MA in Central European and Russian Studies from Carleton University. His specialization is modern European history and the history of East–Central Europe.

**Kristina Lemón** is a Senior Administrative Officer at the Election Authority in Sweden where she works in information strategy and international relations. Her international work includes acting as one of Sweden's representatives involved in working out the Council of Europe's Recommendation (2004) 11 on Electronic Voting; participation in annual EMB meetings under the Venice Commission; appearing as a panel participant at the Venice Commission's UniDem seminar in Belgrade, 2005; working as a short-term election observer for Sweden in the Ukrainian parliamentary election in March 2006; and membership of the Swedish parliamentary delegation to East Timor in November 2005 under the theme Free and Fair Elections and Election Law. In Sweden she is the chair of a polling station committee in general elections and national referendums.

**David McGrane** is a PhD candidate in political science at Carleton University. His dissertation topic is a comparison of social democratic ideas in the Canadian provinces of Québec and Saskatchewan during the 20th century. He also teaches in the area of political parties, political culture, political ideas and Canadian politics.

**Svitozar Omelko** is a graduate of the University of Toronto, Canada, and is currently completing his MA at Carleton University. He has worked as a research officer at the Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada and as a researcher at the Centre for European Policy Studies (CEPS) in Brussels, Belgium. The primary focus of his research is energy security and social policy.

## Annex E. About International IDEA

### **Supporting democracy worldwide**

Created in 1995, the International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance – IDEA – is an intergovernmental organization that supports sustainable democracy. Working globally, but with a current focus on Africa and the Middle East, Latin America and South Asia, IDEA seeks to improve the design and effectiveness of democratic institutions, and to strengthen democratic processes. IDEA:

- provides researchers, policy makers, activists and media representatives with a forum in which to discuss democratic principles;
- blends research and field experience, develops methodologies and provides training to improve democratic processes; and
- promotes transparency, accountability and efficiency in managing elections.

### **Its main areas of activity include:**

*Democracy building and conflict management.* IDEA's work in this area focuses on constitution building, reconciliation, inclusive dialogue and human security. It targets societies in transition, particularly those emerging from periods of violence and weak governance.

*Electoral processes,* including ensuring the professional management and independence of elections, adapting electoral systems, improving access and building public confidence. IDEA develops training modules and materials for election officials and provides comparative data and analyses on both the political and the technical aspects of designing, organizing and running elections.

*Political parties,* political equality and participation (including women in politics). IDEA's work includes the review of political parties' external regulations, public funding, their management and relations with the public. It also includes identifying ways to build commitment to inclusive politics, especially those related to the inclusion of women in politics, through for example the provision of comparative experiences on the application of special measures like gender quotas.

### **Membership**

Membership of IDEA is open to governments. Currently IDEA has 24 member states: Australia, Barbados, Belgium, Botswana, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, Costa Rica, Denmark, Finland, Germany, India, Mauritius, Mexico, Namibia, the Netherlands, Norway, Peru, Portugal, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and Uruguay. Japan has observer status.

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