ODIHR Election Follow-up Activities

ODIHR has so far conducted more than 370 observation activities across the OSCE region to support democratic processes

ODIHR election reports make specific recommendations

All OSCE countries have committed to promptly follow up on ODIHR’s recommendations

How can ODIHR help?

Legal reviews, expert opinions, comparative studies
Expert meetings and roundtables
Technical advice

ODIHR election follow-up principles

- Remain impartial and independent
- Promote political pluralism
- Assist in implementation of recommendations
- Stay open and transparent
- Increase participation of under-represented groups
- Co-ordinate with other organizations to prevent duplication
- Prioritize assistance according to local needs and resources available
- Regularly review effectiveness of follow-up practices
- Refrain from follow-up activities during election observation
- Encourage countries to report on follow-up

Keys to sustainable follow-up

- Agreed framework and responsibilities
- Early reform
- Political will and dialogue
- Co-ordination, responsibility and cohesion
- Consultation and inclusion

How ODIHR can help: examples

- Legal opinions on draft and adopted election-related laws
- In-depth expert support to parliamentary and governmental committees
- Database of electoral recommendations and status of implementation
- Review of draft code of conduct for media coverage of election campaigns
- Study trips for election officials
- Advice on increasing election participation of under-represented groups including women, people with disabilities, and national minorities

Want to learn more? Check out ODIHR Election Handbooks https://www.osce.org/odih/hr/elections/handbooks