

Online Course for International Electoral Observers

13 – 17 October 2025

Faculty



Alice Colombi
Election Observation Expert

Alice is a Media and digital communications analyst with over 15 years of experience in the fields of elections, democracy and governance in Europe, Latin America, Africa and Central Asia. She has participated in over 25 election observation missions with the European Union and the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights, as well as UNDP technical assistance projects in Africa and Latin America. She collaborated with UNESCO in the implementation of the 'Social Media

4 Peace' project in Kenya, Colombia, Bosnia and Indonesia. Over the last eight years, she has specialized in analyzing the role of digital communications in electoral processes, researching the impact of social media on political campaigns in the context of election observation. A member of the Italian Professional Order of Journalists since 2010, she has worked with numerous international institutions and organizations. She holds a degree in Foreign Languages and Intercultural Mediation and is currently pursuing a master's degree in Political Communication and Marketing at the International University of La Rioja.



Charlemagne Gomez
Election Observation Expert

Charlemagne Gomez has a degree in European Law and a masters degree in Human Rights and Democratisation from EIUC. She has a second masters degree in Evaluation of public policies and programmes in Madrid with a specialisation in gender responsive evaluations.

She has over 20 years experience of working in democracy and gender mainly in a post-conflict setting. She has participated in over 25 election observation missions

both as an observer as well as a core team member for the EU, OSCE, the Carter Center and a Dutch NGO. She has also provided technical assistance to the Electoral Commissions of Afghanistan, Sierra Leone and South Sudan, the Human Rights Commission in South Sudan and worked as a Gender and Legal Advisor to the National Parliament of Timor-Leste and has recently finalised a meta evaluation of the United Nations Trust Fund on Violence against women. She has just finished working on an independent evaluation of OSCE 's work in the field of elections and is now working on an evaluation of the electoral project in the Solomon Islands.

Since 2013 she has worked as freelance consultant, conducting trainings on election observation, female political participation and carries out evaluations of democratic governance projects and projects on gender on behalf of the UN, EU and other key international organisations working on these issues.



Demetrio Lazagna
Election Observation Expert

Demetrio Lazagna has extensive experience in international relations particularly focused on Technical Assistance and Electoral Observation worldwide. After his Civil Service as Legal Assistant in an Immigration Center and following his Master Degree in Social Anthropology at the University of Genova, he has coordinated development programmes in Bosnia Herzegovina and emergency relief projects in Albania. He has provided strategic advice and direct technical assistance to

National Stakeholders in transitional and sensitive political environments on behalf of EU, OSCE and IFES.

Since 2000 he has designed, planned and executed elections observation missions worldwide and contributed to elections operations in the Balkans, West Africa, Middle East and North Africa, Central and South America, Southern Asia, providing managerial support, political analyses and punctual recommendations on reforming to national stakeholders. He was Head of the OSCE Antifraud Unit during the 2004 General Assembly election. He worked for the foundation (IFES) in South Sudan as referendum adviser (2011) and in Tunis as elections operations adviser to the Libyan EMB (2014-2016). Most recently, on behalf of EU, he was providing direct Technical Assistance to Electoral Management Bodies, National Civil Registries, Constitutional Assemblies and Civil Society organizations in Tunisia, Libya, Cambodia and Honduras contributing to fostering stakeholders dialogue and promoting institutional reforms based on sustainability and rights. Since 2012 he is the scientific coordinator of the in-presence training course for International Electoral Observers at the Global Campus of Human Rights in Venice.



Ronan McDermott

International Consultant on Elections and Technology

Ronan McDermott has worked with elections management bodies in developing and post-conflict countries on four continents for over a quarter of a century. He has participated in regional and global electoral support initiatives and has contributed to many publications and competence development efforts. He has developed and delivered voter registration, election results and poll-worker management systems. He has helped elections management bodies and their international partners to

specify, develop, procure, deploy, secure and support a variety of technologies, including biometrics, in support of electoral processes, particularly voter registration and results management systems. He was lead author of a joint EU/UNDP publication on results management systems. He co-authored "Pakistan's Internet Voting Experiment", which was Best Paper – Practitioner Track at the 2019 eVoteID conference, Bregenz, Austria. In 2022, he was a member of a team conducting research for the European Union on the cost of elections procurement. He was lead author on an IFES guide on cybersecurity and election results managements systems. In 2025, he has clients in the Caribbean, Africa, Central Asia and Europe. Until February 2022, he lived in Kyiv, Ukraine, he now lives in Bern, Switzerland.



Armin Rabitsch

Election Observation Expert

Armin Rabitsch is the chairperson and co-founder of Election-Watch.EU (wahlbeobachtung.org), a non-partisan CSO, which conducted the first comprehensive election assessment mission to the European Parliament elections, and is advocating for participatory electoral reforms and young voter education in the Europe.

Armin has been working on democratisation and strengthening human rights with a focus on electoral assistance, political assessment, human rights and conflict mitigation. Armin held various fixed-term assignments as IFES Country Director, OSCE/ODIHR Senior Election Adviser and UNDP Governance Analyst. He worked as democracy support & election expert in more than 30 countries (African, American, Arab, Asian, and Pacific) for various international organisations, most recently as Deputy Chief Observer of the EU EOM to Lesotho. Armin has co-authored several election related publications, most recently the UNESCO handbook for electoral practitioners on elections in digital times.

Armin holds a PhD in international relations and an LL.M. in international Human Rights Law. He has lectured on electoral assistance in Europe and abroad, within the Masters Program in Peace Studies at the University of Innsbruck/Austria, at Universities in Baghdad and Erbil/Iraq, as well as at the Global Campus of Human Rights in Venice/Italy.

Sending authorities



Ambra Longatti
EEAS

Ambra Longatti holds a degree in International and Diplomatic Sciences, a MA in European Studies and a MA in War Studies. She has worked for the EU since 2004, first for the European Commission and then for the European External Action Service (EEAS). She was posted in few EU Delegations and in Bruxelles. She is currently an election policy officer in the EEAS Division Democracy and Electoral Observation.



Frederik Schumann
FPI

Frederik Schumann is a Programme Manager in the Election Observation (EOM) Team at the Service for Foreign Policy Instruments (FPI) of the European Commission. In this role, he oversees the implementation of EOMs, focusing on operations and security. Prior to this, Frederik worked in the Field Security Division of the European External Action Service. Before joining the European institutions, he served as a project manager in various private sector consultancies. He has a background in the German Armed Forces and holds degrees from the College of Europe, Bruges, and the Ludwig-Maximilians University, Munich.



Lusine Badalyan
ODIHR Senior Election Adviser

Lusine Badalyan is a Senior Election Adviser with OSCE/ODIHR, where she works for over 11 years. She served as an Election Adviser with responsibility for Ukraine, Russia, Belarus, and the Kyrgyz Republic, among other countries in her portfolio. She then served as an ODIHR Senior Election Adviser and Acting Deputy Head of the Elections Department. Lusine participated in a number of election observation activities with the ODIHR, serving as Election Analyst, Deputy Head of Mission, and Team Leader. Before joining ODIHR, she was working at the Central Election Commission of the Republic of Armenia as the Head of the Foreign Relations Department. Lusine has also experience of working in a number of international organizations, such as the National Democratic Institute (NDI) and the International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance (IDEA).



Goran Petrov
ODIHR Election Adviser

Goran is an election adviser at ODIHR covering a portfolio of several OSCE participating States. Prior to joining ODIHR full time, Goran had 25 years of experience working in the field of in election observation and electoral assistance. Since 1998, Goran has observed elections with the ODIHR and EU in various capacities in more than seventy observation missions, including as the deputy head of mission in Bulgaria, the United States, Belarus, Kazakhstan and Armenia between 2017 and 2020. Goran has conducted technical assistance working for various international organizations in voter registration, the use of new voting technologies, introducing biometric voter identification, and verification of permanent residence records. In 2018, Goran helped the CEC of Ukraine in increasing its capacity in terms of electoral cybersecurity.



Jean Costedoat-Miossec

INTPA - Election assistance & Youth political participation

Jean Costedoat-Miossec has been working for the European institutions for more than ten years. He has held assignments in both EU Delegations and Brussels HQ (Foreign Policy Instruments, International Cooperation and Development, International Partnerships).

He is currently a policy and program officer at the European Commission on inclusive political participation and election assistance. Within the coordination

team of the EU program WYDE (Women and Youth Democratic Engagement), Jean looks more specifically at civic and political participation. In his work and programs he helps to design upon partner countries' requests, Jean tries to apply a holistic approach to election assistance by combining institutional support to the EMB, support to domestic election observation, budget support programs where applicable, and democratic reforms advocacy by political parties, women caucuses, civil society organisations. Jean has also worked on other international cooperation sectors: Education, Health, Public Finance Management, Justice and DDDR.