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CANADEM Elections

A guide to everything you need to know about CANADEM's electoral observation programme

Funded by
Global Affairs Canada

Canada

The current project duration is 6 years

2022 ~ 2028

In partnership with:

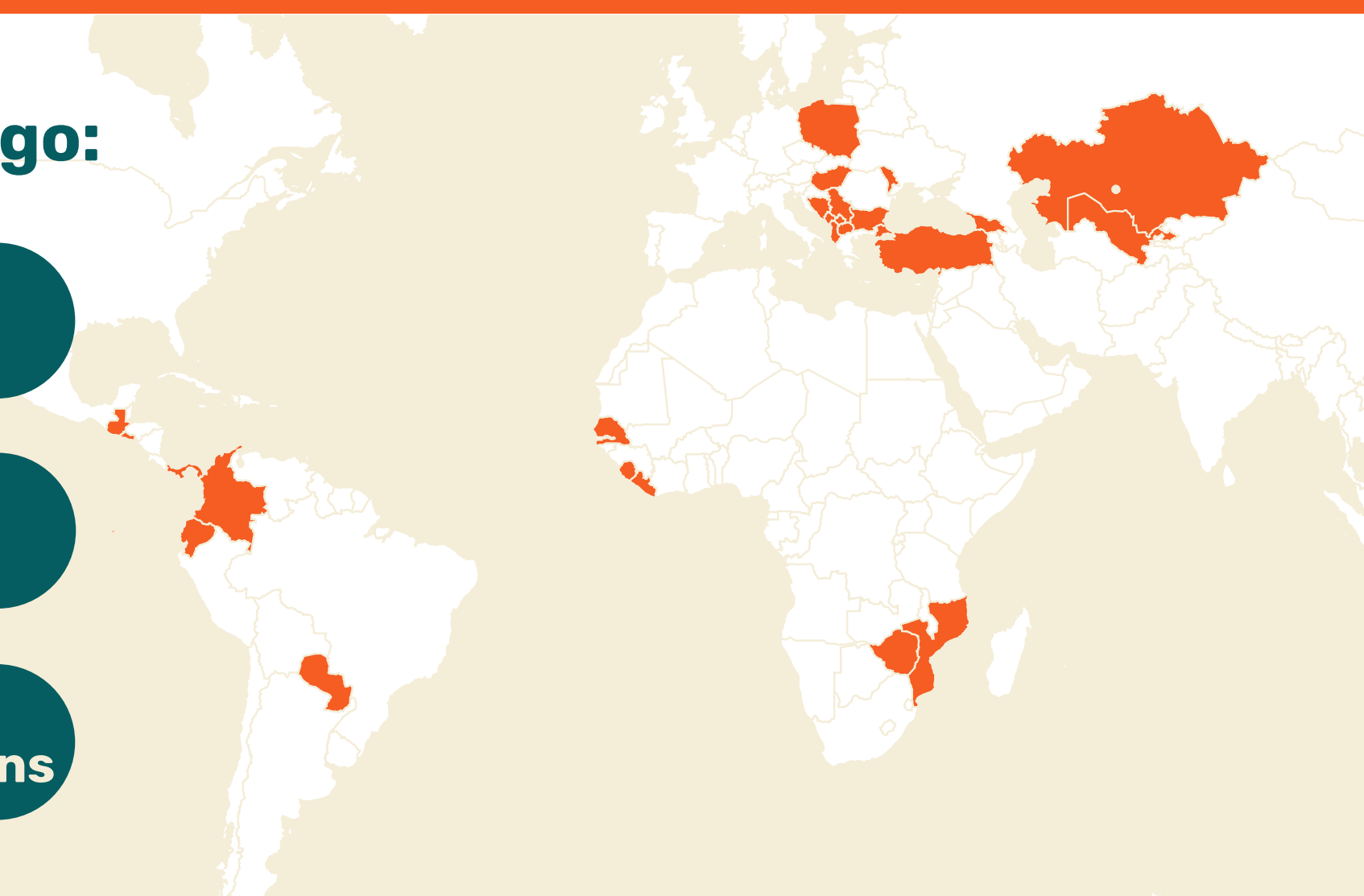
Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights
OSCE ODIHR

EU

ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES

CANADEM deploys Canadian citizens to Electoral Observation Missions (EOMs)

Where they go:



Missions
40 EOMs

Locations
31 countries

Observers
269 Canadians

How the process works

An Election Observation Mission (EOM) is declared by the partner agency (OSCE ODIHR, EU, OAS) after receiving an invitation from the host country and an assessment mission

The partner agency requests a number of Short-Term Observers (STOs) and Long-Term Observers (LTOs) from its member states

Global Affairs Canada (GAC) decides if they will fund Canadian LTOs and/or STOs based on the objectives of the project and Canadian foreign policy

CANADEM recruits from its Electoral Observers Roster for the approved number of LTOs and STOs (OAS recruits directly)

CANADEM deploys the selected LTOs 3-4 weeks before election day to observe the political environment before and during the election

CANADEM deploys the selected STOs 4-5 days before an election to observe the voting process on election day

Breakdown of the latest EOMs

Hungary
- Parliamentary Elections
- April 3rd, 2022
- OSCE ODIHR
- 6 STOs

Bosnia and Herzegovina
- General Election
- Oct. 2nd, 2022
- OSCE ODIHR
- 14 STOs, 2 LTOs

Bulgaria
- Early Parliamentary Elections
- Oct. 2nd, 2022
- OSCE ODIHR
- 25 STOs

Kazakhstan
- Presidential Election
- Nov. 20th, 2022
- OSCE ODIHR
- 15 STOs

Kazakhstan
- Parliamentary Elections
- March 19th, 2023
- OSCE ODIHR
- 19 STOs

Montenegro
- Presidential Election
- March 19th, 2023
- OSCE ODIHR
- 4 STOs

Bulgaria
- Parliamentary Elections
- April 2nd, 2023
- OSCE ODIHR
- 10 STOs

Paraguay
- General Elections
- April 30th, 2023
- European Union
- 2 STOs, 1 LTO

Albania

Local Elections

May 14th, 2023

OSCE ODIHR

5 STOs, 1 LTO

Türkiye

General Election rounds 1 & 2

May 14th & May 28th, 2023

OSCE ODIHR

21 STOs, 2 LTOs

Montenegro

Parliamentary Elections

June 11th, 2023

OSCE ODIHR

3 STOs

Sierra Leone

General Election

June 24th, 2023

European Union

2 STOs, 1 LTO

Guatemala

General Election

June 25th, 2023

European Union

2 STOs, 1 LTO

Guatemala

General Election

June 25th, 2023

Organization of American States

6 STOs

Uzbekistan

Early Presidential Election

July 9th, 2023

OSCE ODIHR

2 STOs

Guatemala

General Election 2nd Round

Aug 20th, 2023

Organization of American States

6 STOs

Ecuador

General Election rounds 1 & 2

Aug. 20th & Oct 15th, 2023

Organization of American States

5 STOs/6 STOs

Zimbabwe

General Election

Aug. 23rd, 2023

European Union

1 STO, 1 LTO

Maldives

Presidential Election

Sep. 9th, 2023

European Union

1 STO

Liberia

General Election

Oct. 10th, 2023

European Union

1 STO, 1 LTO

Poland

General Election

Oct. 15th, 2023

OSCE ODIHR

3 LTOs

Moldova

Local Elections

Nov. 5th, 2023

OSCE ODIHR

5 STOs, 2 LTOs

Serbia

Early Parliamentary Elections

Dec. 17th, 2023

OSCE ODIHR

10 STOs

Azerbaijan

Presidential Election

Feb. 7th, 2024

OSCE ODIHR

5 STOs

Colombia

Local Election

Oct. 29th, 2023

OAS

2 STOs

Senegal

Presidential Election

March 24th, 2024

EU

1 STO, 1 LTO

El Salvador

General Election

Feb. 4th, 2024

OAS

6 STOs

North Macedonia

Presidential & Parliamentary

Apr. 25th & May 15th, 2024

OSCE ODIHR

10 STOs, 1 LTO

Panama

General Election

May 5th, 2024

OAS

2 STOs

Mozambique

General Election

Oct. 9th, 2024

EU

2 STOs, 1 LTO

Georgia

Parliamentary Election

Oct. 26th, 2024

OSCE ODIHR

5 STOs, 2 LTOs

Moldova

Presidential Election

Oct. 20th, 2024

OSCE ODIHR

5 STOs, 2 LTOs

Moldova

Presidential Election 2nd Round

Nov. 3rd, 2024

OSCE ODIHR

3 STOs

Ecuador

General Election Rounds 1 & 2

Feb. 9th & Apr 13th, 2025

EU

1 STO, 1 LTO

Kosovo

Parliamentary Election

Feb. 9th, 2025

EU

1 STO

Philippines

General Election

May 12th, 2025

EU

2 STOs

Albania

Parliamentary Election

May 11th, 2025

OSCE ODIHR

2 STOs

Malawi

General Election

Sept. 16th, 2025

EU

1 STO

Moldova

Parliamentary Election

Sept. 28th, 2025

OSCE ODIHR

2 STOs

Bangladesh

Parliamentary Election

Feb. 12th, 2026

EU

2 STOs, 1 LTO

Peru

Parliamentary Election

May 12th, 2026 & June 7th, 2026

EU

4 STOs, 2 LTOs

Hungary

Parliamentary Election

April 12th, 2026

OSCE ODIHR

6 STOs, 1 LTO

Bulgaria

Parliamentary Election

April 19th, 2026

OSCE ODIHR

2 STOs

Armenia

Parliamentary Election

June 7th, 2026

OSCE ODIHR

6 STOs, 1 LTO

CANADEM plans to continue deploying election observers to OSCE ODIHR, EU, and OAS electoral observation missions through 2028 and beyond

CANADEM's EOM Partner Missions

CANADEM has deployed most of its observers to the OSCE ODIHR - but the others are catching up!

Why do we do this?

The objective of this programme is to promote democracy and support for electoral rights worldwide, including the rights of women, minorities and Indigenous Peoples, through the deployment of Canadian observers to international EOMs.

Who can be an election observer?

You don't need to be an elections expert to be a **Short-Term Observer**! You just need to be a Canadian citizen, over the age of 18, and have a commitment to democratic values, peace, and human rights around the world.

Long-Term Observers usually have a few STO deployments under their belt.

What are the qualities of a good election observer?

Ideal election observers have:

- An ability to think quickly, adapt to new situations, and live and work in difficult, fast-paced environments
- Cultural and gender sensitivity, and excellent interpersonal skills
- A strong commitment to democracy and free & fair elections for all people
- Domestic election experience is an asset, but not a requirement

Observers are recruited based on these factors and selected observer teams are **gender balanced** and reflect the diversity of Canada across ages, regions, with an emphasis on ensuring the representation of **visible minorities** and **Indigenous Canadians**.

Are election observers paid?

Short-Term Observers are volunteers, but all expenses are covered by CANADEM and the partner agency.

Long-Term Observers are paid a daily fee for their work and their expenses are covered by CANADEM and the partner agency.

Do you want to be an election observer?

For more information on election observation and to register as a candidate click the link below!

CANADEM.ca/elections-roster

CANADEM

In partnership with Canada