

Our Value Proposition

International IDEA is the leading intergovernmental organization dedicated to supporting democracy worldwide.

The Institute produces and shares knowledge, develops capacity at country and regional level, convenes dialogues, and advocates for democracy on the international stage.

Expertise. Agility. Credibility.

Our Strengths

Democracy faces existential challenges, including weak public trust in institutions, high polarization, and rising authoritarianism. International IDEA helps democracies respond with the following assets:



We are truly global. As an intergovernmental organization, our membership includes 35 countries that respect democratic values and principles, from all continents. Our Member States represent a quarter of humanity, from South Africa and India to Sweden and Uruguay. Our reach extends even further, with 20 offices on all continents and activities in 60 countries. Our global presence gives us strong North-South, regional, and country-level insights that guide our capacity development work. We continue to grow our network of Member States, offices, and activities, especially in the Global South.



We have world-leading expertise. Our staff and networks are the world's top experts on democracy, and we apply this expertise through our capacity development work around the world. Policymakers and practitioners come to us for insights and advice on election management, constitutional design, inclusive politics, and much more. We have 25+ years of experience supporting democratic reforms in countries as diverse as Barbados, The Gambia, Nepal, and The Netherlands. We have a record leading innovation in areas from parliamentary gender quotas to the relationship between climate change and democracy. Our Global State of Democracy Initiative is a globally trusted reference for assessing democratic performance.



We are trusted partners. We amplify our efforts by working in partnerships – with Member States, other governments, UN agencies, regional organizations (EU, AU, ASEAN, OAS, etc.), civil society, academics, and the private sector. We are a highly flexible intergovernmental organization: equally effective taking the podium as a UN Permanent Observer; implementing projects as an EU pillar-assessed partner; or working with 100+ civil society groups we co-lead in the Global Democracy Coalition.



We are conveners for democracy. Among our Member States, International IDEA is a top forum for discussion of democracy issues by peer countries across the Global South and Global North. More broadly, the Institute holds the trust of governments, international organizations, and civil society. Our partners value our ability to build coalitions and gather diverse stakeholders for policy-relevant dialogues, including on complex topics like artificial intelligence and conflict prevention.



We give democracy a strong voice. At a time when democracy faces growing challenges, from economic inequality to disinformation, it is also too often taken for granted. With our mandate to promote democracy, we bring a democratic lens to other global agendas, from the Sustainable Development Goals to peace and security. And since we cannot advance democracy alone, we mobilize the capacities of our Member States and partners. Our voice is highly valued: the U.S. President has quoted our research findings and we appear regularly in the world's major media.

An Effective Investment in Democracy

Investing in International IDEA delivers:

- ✓ A credible, expert partner in development assistance and democracy support.
- ✓ A connection to diverse partners and Member States for dialogue and learning.
- ✓ A political signal that human rights, fairness, and choice in government matter, and that democracy is a universal aspiration that must be asserted and improved.

