

SUMMARY OF
ELECTION OBLIGATIONS
AND STANDARDS FOR
ELECTORAL TRANSPARENCY

THE
CARTER CENTER



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Purpose of This Guide

This document is a short summary supplement to the Carter Center's Election Obligations and Standards (EOS) handbook and database (<https://eos.cartercenter.org>). The EOS handbook provides detailed documentation regarding relevant international obligations, standards, and best practices for 10 main parts of the electoral process.

This supplemental EOS series aims to provide a more targeted view of obligations, standards, and best practices related to several specific topics. In this volume, you will find relevant obligations and standards for elections related to electoral transparency, divided by each part of the election process cycle, followed by endnotes with international documentation and references. (Only the categories with relevant key issues to electoral transparency are included.)

The key issues and related obligations are presented in black text, followed by the relevant assessment criteria with text color based on the level of the source:

Green is used for international and regional treaties.

Blue is used for political commitments, such as declarations and other commitments that indicate state practice or customary law.

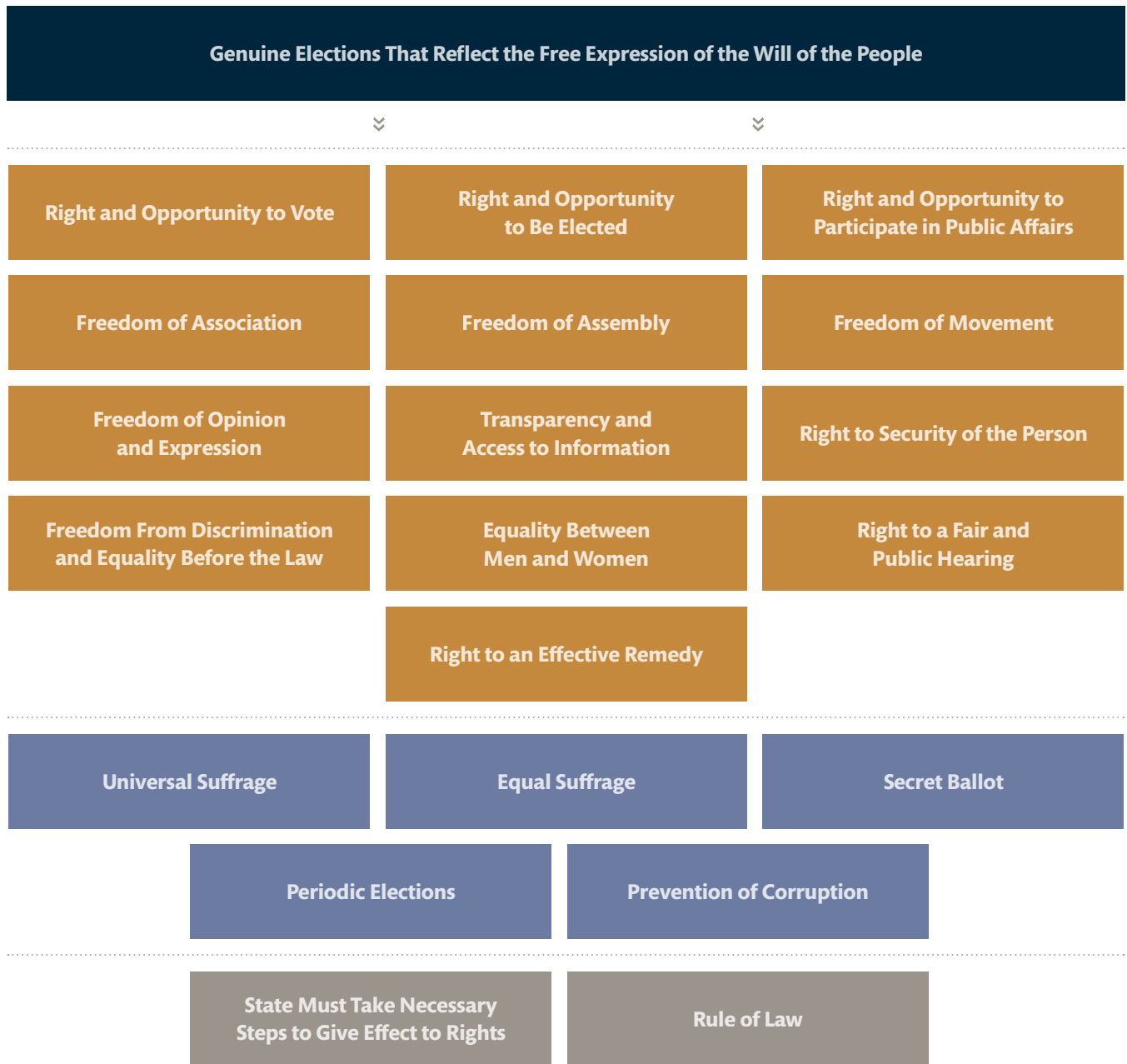
Gold is used for interpretive documents, such as the interpretation of treaty obligations by international courts or treaty monitoring mechanisms.

Background on Election Obligations and Standards

Public international law is the system of laws governing interactions between states. As such, it creates a framework of commonly recognized norms and standards for democratic elections that states have accepted and voluntarily obligated themselves to, through their signature and ratification of treaties, and through their membership in the community of states. The Carter Center's EOS documents use a public international framework to provide a comprehensive tool to assist in reviewing and assessing key election issues.

The EOS framework can be envisioned as a two-dimensional system, with 21 fundamental rights, obligations, and standards on one side (see Chart 1) and 10 categories or "parts" of the electoral cycle on the other (see Chart 2). Using this system, the EOS database categorizes key content derived from roughly 300 source documents of public international law, along with more than 400 assessment criteria, to aid analysts in their work. Chart 3 illustrates the intersection of the 21 main election obligations with the 10 main parts of the electoral process cycle.

Chart 1: Obligations for Democratic Elections



- Macro-Level Obligation
- Individual Rights and Freedoms
- Process-Focused Obligations
- Foundational Obligations

Chart 3: Relevant Obligations

	LEGAL FRAMEWORK	ELECTORAL SYSTEM AND BOUNDARY DELIMITATION	ELECTION MANAGEMENT	VOTER REGISTRATION	VOTER EDUCATION	CANDIDACY AND CAMPAIGNING	THE MEDIA	VOTING OPERATIONS	VOTE COUNTING AND TABULATION	ELECTORAL DISPUTE RESOLUTION
Genuine Elections That Reflect the Free Expression of the Will of the People	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Right and Opportunity to Vote	●			●	●			●	●	
Right and Opportunity to Be Elected						●		●		
Right and Opportunity to Participate in Public Affairs	●	●	●	●	●	●		●	●	
Freedom of Association	●			●	●	●		●	●	
Freedom of Assembly	●					●				
Freedom of Movement			●	●		●	●	●	●	
Freedom of Opinion and Expression						●	●			
Transparency and Access to Information	●		●	●		●	●	●	●	●
Right to Security of the Person	●		●	●		●	●	●	●	●
Freedom From Discrimination and Equality Before the Law	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Equality Between Men and Women	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Right to a Fair and Public Hearing			●							●
Right to an Effective Remedy	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Universal Suffrage				●	●			●	●	
Equal Suffrage		●		●	●			●	●	
Secret Ballot					●			●	●	
Periodic Elections	●	●	●	●	●	●		●	●	●
Prevention of Corruption	●		●	●		●	●	●	●	●
State Must Take Necessary Steps to Give Effect to Rights	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Rule of Law	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●



Introduction*

For elections to serve as tools that legitimize political representation, citizens must trust that the electoral process is free, fair, and consistent with international obligations and standards. Transparency is a key component of building trust in the democratic process. Transparency is an anti-corruption practice, and transparency around election processes should be a top priority for state actors committed to a fully democratic process. Citizens must have confidence that the public interest is a critical goal of elections and related government activity. In an electoral cycle, the principle of transparency encompasses all phases, from a clear legal framework to the implementation of transparency practices throughout the process.

In the Carter Center's Election Obligations and Standards (EOS) framework, Transparency and Access to Information is considered as an individual right and freedom. Every citizen should have access to information that is relevant to public processes and to their own interests. As such, the principle of transparency and access to information is firmly established in international standards for democratic elections. Norms and obligations related to transparency appear throughout the 10 main parts of the electoral cycle. In most instances, the obligations related to transparency are found in high-level sources of public international law, such as binding international and regional treaties. Through such commitments, States generally agree to conduct elections transparently, with citizens able to hold public officials accountable to relevant norms.

While the principle of transparency is reflected in many articles of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR), the U.N. Convention Against Corruption (2004) is one of the key sources that explicitly stipulate transparency as a goal of public service. In addition, other regional sources, such as the African Union's Declaration on the Principles Governing Democratic Elections, the Inter-American Democratic Charter, and the Venice Commission's Code of Good Practice in Electoral Matters, similarly define transparent procedures as fundamental to genuine electoral processes.

The main actor relevant to election transparency standards is the electoral management body (EMB). In the conduct of their work, EMBs must follow clear processes, including open meetings whenever possible, making relevant information accessible to the public, providing voter education that is transparent and accessible to citizens regarding their rights, and guaranteeing that political contestants are subject to the same regulations and with equal application of the law. Independent electoral observation missions, both national and international, provide an important means to assess the EMBs' commitment to transparent processes. The presence of observers allows for an independent assessment of voting operations, and of counting and tabulation processes, against international standards of transparency.

The media also plays a critical role in ensuring that electoral processes are perceived as legitimate. A diversity of media outlets should be able to operate freely, with candidates having sufficient access to media. Media should be free to produce and publicize opinion polls under proper regulation, and media ownership information should be publicly available.

Beyond the key points outlined above, several important gaps exist in public international law regarding the incorporation of transparency into electoral processes. These are related to the regulation and oversight of social media, artificial intelligence models, and internet service. These topics are critically important to electoral integrity and will likely become even more important in the future. Therefore, it is important to have clear international norms and standards regarding transparency on these issues. International norms and obligations clearly establish the importance of electoral transparency. Citizens, political candidates, state agents, and civil society organizations all play an important role in ensuring that electoral authorities adhere to key standards. Greater transparency is fundamental to effective oversight, which in turn is essential for genuinely democratic elections.

*This introduction was written by David Carroll and Ian Batista. David Carroll is senior advisor to the Carter Center's Democracy Program, which he directed from 2003 to 2026. He plays a leading role in the Carter Center's work on democratic election standards and has participated in Carter Center election observation projects in countries across Africa, Latin America, the Middle East, and Asia. Ian Batista has a doctorate in political science from the Federal University of Pernambuco, Brazil. Since 2021, he has provided research and project support to The Carter Center, including a guide titled Model Commitments for Genuine and Credible Elections and election observation missions in Brazil, Venezuela, and Guyana.

Summary of Issues and Assessment Criteria

Legal Framework

Rule of Law and the Legal Framework – Necessary Steps to Rights and Rule of Law

- The laws regulating elections were equally enforced and were not arbitrarily applied.¹

Establishment, Regulation of, and Membership in Political Parties/Internal Party Policies – Freedom of Association

- Regulations and deadlines for legal recognition of political parties were clearly specified.
- Registration requirements were not so stringent that they jeopardized freedom of association.²

Authority and Responsibility of the Electoral Management Body in Interpreting the Law – Rule of Law

- The role of the electoral management body in interpreting and administering the election law was clearly defined in the legal framework.³

Election Calendar and the Enjoyment of Rights – Periodic Election and Necessary Steps to Rights

- The legislative calendar related to the development of electoral laws was published well in advance of deadlines.⁴

Freedom From Discrimination in the Legal Framework – Freedom From Discrimination and Equality Between Men and Women

- The legal framework provided equal access to any place or service intended for use by the public.⁵

Electoral System and Boundary Delimitation

Oversight of Boundary Delimitation – Freedom From Discrimination and Necessary Steps to Rights

- The state took the steps necessary to give effect to rights regarding the boundary delimitation process through effective oversight mechanisms.⁶

Criteria for Boundary Apportionment – Equal Suffrage

- The apportionment criteria were publicly available and included details such as the number of residents, number of registered voters, number of actual voters, or a combination thereof.⁷

Citizen Participation in the Boundary Delimitation Process – Right to Participate

- The boundary delimitation process was subject to independent scrutiny by civil society, candidates, and political parties, or other groups.⁸



Election Management

State Authorities Responsible for Upholding Rights – Access to Information

- An independent, duly resourced body oversaw compliance with data protection principles.⁹

Recruitment of Electoral Management Body Staff – Freedom From Discrimination, Prevention of Corruption, Necessary Steps to Rights, and Rule of Law

- The recruitment and appointment of electoral management body staff was transparent, efficient, and equitable and instilled public confidence in the body.¹⁰

Provision of Voter Education by the Electoral Management Body – Access to Information

- The state took the steps necessary to give effect to rights during voter education.¹¹

Access to Information and Electoral Management Body Documents – Access to Information and Equality Between Men and Women

- The electoral management body provided citizens with access to information throughout the electoral process.¹²
- The state proactively put in the public domain government information of public interest, including electoral information.¹³

Transparency in Electoral Management Body Decision-Making and Procurement – Access to Information, Right to Participate, and Prevention of Corruption

- The electoral management body ensured transparency in its decision-making; for example, through open meetings and the use of public and competitive tenders.¹⁴

Freedom of Movement for EMB Personnel – Freedom of Movement

- Electoral management body staff and officials were able to move freely throughout the country to administer the election and, at the same time, did not prevent or hinder the free movement of citizens during the election process.¹⁵

Hearings by Impartial and Independent Tribunals – Right to Hearing

- The proceedings of any complaints were transparent, and all parties to the complaint were given an equal opportunity to present evidence.¹⁶

Protection of Personal Data – Access to Information

- Citizens that offered proof of identity had the right to rectify information about them that was inaccurate.¹⁷
- Personal data collected was not used for other purposes.¹⁸
- Personal data could be collected and processed based on informed consent.¹⁹
- Personal data controllers complied with data minimization, accuracy, confidentiality, integrity, and storage limitation obligations.²⁰
- An independent, duly resourced body oversaw compliance with data protection principles.²¹
- Everyone had the right to know whether information about themselves was processed and to obtain such information in an accessible format.²²
- Personal data controllers provided clear and accessible information about their data collection and processing policies and practices.²³



Voter Registration

Voter Registration in Minority Languages – Access to Information, Freedom From Discrimination, and Necessary Steps to Rights

- Linguistic minorities were able to use their own language, and voter registration procedures were available in minority languages.²⁴

Transparency in Creating and Maintaining the Voter List – Access to Information

- There was transparency in the creation and maintenance of the voter list.²⁵

Voter Access to Registration Information – Access to Information and Necessary Steps to Rights

- The state proactively put information regarding voter registration in the public domain.²⁶
- Citizens had access to information regarding their inclusion on the voter list, and this information was provided to them in an intelligible format.²⁷
- Voters had the ability to correct errors in the voter list.²⁸
- The voter list was publicly displayed, and there was adequate time for public inspection of the list, including time for objections and the adjudication of disputes.²⁹

Privacy and Voter Registration – Access to Information and Freedom From Discrimination

- Personal data collected was not used for other purposes.³⁰
- The voter list did not include information beyond that necessary to identify a voter and establish his or her eligibility.³¹
- Personal data controllers complied with data minimization, accuracy, confidentiality, integrity, and storage limitation obligations.³²

Protection of Personal Data – Access to Information

- Citizens who offered proof of identity had the right to rectify information about them that was inaccurate.³³
- Personal data controllers complied with data minimization, accuracy, confidentiality, integrity, and storage limitation obligations.³⁴

- Everyone had the right to know whether information about themselves was processed and to obtain it in an accessible format.³⁵

- Personal data controllers provided clear and accessible information about their data collection and processing policies and practices.³⁶

Transparency in Decision-Making and Procurement in the Voter Registration Process – Prevention of Corruption

- The electoral management body promoted transparency in its decision-making and procurement processes, including with regard to voter registration processes.³⁷

Voter Education on Voter Registration – Right to Vote and Universal Suffrage

- Voter education campaigns included information regarding voter registration processes.³⁸
- Voter education campaigns included information about the voting and registration process.³⁹

Partisan and Nonpartisan Observation of the Voter Registration Process – Right to Participate and Access to Information

- Citizen observers were able to access and comment on all parts of the electoral process, including voter registration.⁴⁰
- International observers were accredited and were able to access and comment on all parts of the electoral process.⁴¹
- Candidates and parties were able to monitor the elections and had access to the voter list without undue impediments.⁴²

Right to an Effective Remedy and Voter Registration – Right to Remedy

- There was a clear timeline for complaints regarding voter registration that ensured that complaints were resolved prior to election day and in time for the election.⁴³

Voter Education

Content of Voter Education Campaigns – Right to Participate, Access to Information, Prevention of Corruption, and Necessary Steps to Rights

- Voter education efforts included information about all electoral rights, including equal suffrage, the right to vote and be elected, the right to an effective remedy, and the secret ballot.⁴⁴
- Voter education campaigns included information on restrictions that may be applied to participatory rights.⁴⁵

- Voter education campaigns included information about the voting and registration process.⁴⁶

Partisan and Nonpartisan Observation of Voter Education – Right to Participate

- Observers, citizen and international, were given access to the voter education process.⁴⁷

Candidacy and Campaigning

Establishment of, Regulation of, and Membership in Political Parties – Right to be Elected, Freedom of Association, and Freedom From Discrimination

- Regulations and deadlines for legal recognition of political parties were clearly specified.
- Registration requirements were not so stringent that they jeopardized freedom of association.⁴⁸

Equal Access to Public Places – Freedom From Discrimination

- Public places were accessible to all in a nondiscriminatory fashion.⁴⁹

Freedom of Opinion and Expression for Political Candidates and Their Supporters – Freedom of Expression

- Political parties were able to communicate their opinions to the electorate.⁵⁰

Observation of the Campaign Period – Right to Participate and Access to Information

- Election observers were able to observe the campaign process.⁵¹
- International observers were accredited and were able to access and comment on all parts of the electoral process.⁵²

Protection of Personal Data – Access to Information

- Personal data collected was not used for other purposes.⁵³

- Personal data could be collected and processed based on informed consent.⁵⁴

- Personal data controllers complied with data minimization, accuracy, confidentiality, integrity, and storage limitation obligations.⁵⁵

Transparency and Access to Electoral Documents – Access to Information

- The right of access to information was protected for everyone.⁵⁶
- The state proactively put in the public domain government information of public interest.⁵⁷

Regulation of Campaign Contributions – Freedom of Expression and Prevention of Corruption

- There was a balanced and transparent system for political party financing.⁵⁸
- There were clear rules and regulations regarding the acceptable sources of financial donations.⁵⁹

Disclosure of Campaign Finances – Access to Information and Prevention of Corruption

- The funding received by a political party and/or candidate was disclosed in regular reports.⁶⁰
- Disclosure provisions should clearly identify what counts as a campaign expenditure.⁶¹
- Campaign finance reporting requirements were realistic, and disclosure requirements struck a balance between transparency and the privacy of donors.⁶²

Key: **Green** = International and regional treaties; **Blue** = Political commitments; **Gold** = Interpretive documents

- Limits on advertising spending (as political speech) were instituted only in the interests of promoting equality between candidates or parties.⁶³

Misuse of State Resources – Right to Security and Prevention of Corruption

- There was a balanced and transparent system for political party financing.⁶⁴

The Media

Pluralistic and Balanced Media – Access to Information, Freedom From Discrimination, and Freedom of Expression

- A pluralistic media promoted citizen access to information, and the media was free to play an impartial and objective role in covering electoral issues.⁶⁶

Independent Body to Regulate Broadcasting During Elections – Necessary Steps to Rights

- The appointment and functioning of regulatory authorities of the media were transparent, and they were independent and protected from political interference. The media regulatory body acted in a transparent and impartial manner.⁶⁷

Freedom of Expression and the Media – Freedom of Expression

- Paid content in media and other information sources, including online, was clearly marked and distinguishable from editorial and user-generated content.⁶⁸

Opinion Polls – Freedom of Expression

- The release of opinion polls was subject only to reasonable restrictions.⁶⁹
- The media aired debates between candidates and provided voter education.⁷⁰

Access to Electoral Information – Access to Information and Freedom of Expression

- The right of access to information was respected throughout the electoral process, including as it relates to the media.⁷¹
- The state proactively put in the public domain government information of public interest.⁷²

Independent Body to Monitor Campaign Finances – Necessary Steps to Rights

- The state took steps to provide for independent monitoring of campaign and political financing.⁶⁵

- Voters were able to form opinions independently on the basis of information from a plurality of sources and free from any manipulative interference.⁷³

Protection of Sources – Access to Information

- The media was able to report on electoral issues, including from confidential sources, without government interference.⁷⁴
- The media was given access to information, particularly with regard to allegations of corruption and related offenses.⁷⁵

Free Airtime and Paid Advertising – Freedom From Discrimination and Access to Information

- Paid advertising on public media was identified as such, and the costs and conditions involved were reasonable and equally applied to all candidates and parties.⁷⁶
- Paid content in media and other information sources, including online, was clearly marked and distinguishable from editorial and user-generated content.⁷⁷

Internet and Exercise of Rights Online – Freedom of Assembly

- Internet intermediaries were transparent and provided easy access to their policies and practice on online content management, distribution, and automated processing.⁷⁸

Protection of Personal Data – Access to Information

- Personal data could be collected and processed based on informed consent.⁷⁹
- Personal data controllers complied with data minimization, accuracy, confidentiality, integrity, and storage limitation obligations.⁸⁰

- Personal data controllers provided clear and accessible information about their data collection and processing policies and practices.⁸¹
- Internet intermediaries were transparent and provided easy access to their policies and practice on online content management, distribution, and automated processing.⁸²

Disclosure of Campaign Finances – Prevention of Corruption

- Paid content in media and other information sources, including online, was clearly marked and distinguishable from editorial and user-generated content.⁸³



Voting Operations

Protection of Personal Data – Transparency and Access to Information

- Personal data collected was not used for other purposes.⁸⁷
- Personal data controllers complied with data minimization, accuracy, confidentiality, integrity, and storage limitation obligations.⁸⁸

Freedom of Movement and Voting Operations – Freedom of Movement

- Freedom of movement was respected throughout the electoral process.⁸⁹

Partisan and Nonpartisan Observation of Voting Operations – Right to be Elected, Right to Participate, Freedom of Association, and Access to Information

- The state accredited citizen observer organizations and facilitated their ability to conduct their activities.⁹⁰
- Candidates and their representatives were able to observe polling and counting as means of protecting their right to be elected.⁹¹

Business and Protection of Human Rights – Access to Information and Freedom From Discrimination

- Personal data controllers provided clear and accessible information about their data collection and processing policies and practices.⁸⁴
- Internet intermediaries were transparent and provided easy access to their policies and practice on online content management, distribution, and automated processing.⁸⁵
- Business enterprises embraced, in policy and practice, their international and/or national human rights obligations. Accessible and effective complaint and redress mechanisms were established to protect these rights.⁸⁶

- Observers were able to access places used for voting.⁹²
- Candidates and their representatives, as well as observers, were able to observe polling and counting.⁹³
- If electronic voting systems were used, there was an open and comprehensive audit.⁹⁴

Election Observation – Access to Information

- Observers were able to access places used for voting.⁹⁵
- International observers were accredited and were able to access and comment on all parts of the electoral process.⁹⁶

Access to Information and Electoral Documents – Access to Information

- The right to access to information was respected throughout the voting process.⁹⁷
- Documents regarding the electoral process, including voting operations, were publicly accessible and accurate.⁹⁸

Vote Counting and Tabulation

Determining Voter Intent – Necessary Steps to Rights

- The state took the steps necessary to give effect to rights during the vote counting process.⁹⁹

Transparency in the Reporting, Transmission, and Publishing of Election Results – Access to Information and Prevention of Corruption

- Access to information was guaranteed throughout the electoral process, including during the counting and tabulation process.¹⁰⁰
- The state proactively put in the public domain government information of public interest.¹⁰¹
- Votes were counted and reported honestly.¹⁰²
- The counting process was verifiable, and the ballots preserved for later review.¹⁰³
- Results were published in a timely manner, were publicly announced, and were posted at the counting station.¹⁰⁴
- Tallies were transmitted to higher levels of tabulation in a transparent and open manner.¹⁰⁵
- International observers were accredited and were able to access and comment on all parts of the electoral process.¹⁰⁶

Partisan and Nonpartisan Observation of Vote Counting and Tabulation – Right to be Elected, Right to Participate, Freedom From Discrimination, Freedom of Association, Access to Information, Prevention of Corruption, and Necessary Steps to Rights

- Candidates and their representatives, as well as observers, were able to observe polling and counting.¹⁰⁷
- The vote-counting process was transparent and observable.¹⁰⁸

- Party agents and accredited observers were given copies of the protocols and tabulation sheets from the results center.¹⁰⁹
- Observers were able to access places used for vote counting and tabulation.¹¹⁰
- If electronic voting systems were used, there was an open and comprehensive audit.¹¹¹

Protection of Personal Data – Access to Information

- Personal data controllers complied with data minimization, accuracy, confidentiality, integrity, and storage limitation obligations.¹¹²

Election Observation – Access to Information

- Candidates and their representatives, as well as observers, were able to observe polling and counting.¹¹³
- The vote-counting process was transparent and observable.¹¹⁴
- International observers were accredited and were able to access and comment on all parts of the electoral process.¹¹⁵

Access to Information and Electoral Management Body Documents – Right to Participate

- The electoral management body provided citizens with access to information throughout the electoral process.¹¹⁶

Right to an Effective Remedy and Vote Counting and Tabulation – Right to Remedy

- There was impartial scrutiny of the counting and tabulation process, and it was subject to judicial review.¹¹⁷

Electoral Dispute Resolution

Transparent Dispute Resolution Processes – Access to Information and Right to Hearing

- Transparency and access to information were respected during the dispute resolution process.¹¹⁸
- The judgments, findings, and evidence of judicial proceedings, and legal reasoning for judgments, were made public.¹¹⁹
- The state proactively put in the public domain government information of public interest.¹²⁰

- Potential complainants were informed of the means of filing a complaint and the time frame of its resolution.¹²¹
- Parties to the complaints had access to factual information regarding the alleged violations.¹²²
- Complaint processes were transparent, and the opportunity to present evidence in support of a complaint existed.¹²³

Key: **Green** = International and regional treaties; **Blue** = Political commitments; **Gold** = Interpretive documents

References

- 1 U.N., ICCPR, art. 26; OAS, ACHR, art. 24; AU, AfCHPR, art. 8 and 13 (3); CIS, Convention on Human Rights, art. 20(1); EU, Charter on Fundamental Rights, art. 20; LAS, Arab Charter, art. 3; ASEAN, Human Rights Declaration, art. 3; U.N. (CCPR), General Comment 25, para. 4; OSCE (ODIHR), Legal Framework (Ed. 1), p. 6
- 2 OIF, Bamako Declaration, art. 2(5); OSCE (ODIHR), CoE (Venice Commission), Guidelines on Political Party Regulation (Ed. 2), para. 22, 28
- 3 OSCE (ODIHR), Legal Framework (Ed.1), p. 6; AU, Declaration on the Principles Governing Democratic Elections, art. IV.13
- 4 Merloe, Promoting Legal Framework, p. 38
- 5 U.N., ICERD, art. 5(f); U.N., CRPD, art. 6.1, 9; AU, Protocol to the AfCHPR on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, arts. 9.1(a-c), 15(1), 21(2)c
- 6 U.N., ICCPR, art. 2(3)(a); AU, AfCHPR, art. 1; OAS, ACHR, art. 2; CoE, ECHR, art. 1; CIS, Convention on Human Rights, art. 1; ECOWAS, Protocol on Democracy and Good Governance, art. 33(1); CoE (Venice Commission), Code of Good Practice, sec. I.2.2.13; CoE (Venice Commission), Code of Good Practice, sec.II.2.b; U.N., Center for Human Rights, Handbook on the Legal, Technical, and Human Rights Aspects of Elections, para. 129;
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- 12 U.N., ICCPR, art. 19(2); AU, Convention on Corruption, art. 9; OAS, ACHR, art. 13(1); CoE, ECHR, art. 10(1)
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- 14 U.N., UNCAC, art. 13(1)(a); AU, Convention on Corruption, art. 12(2); CIS, Convention on Democratic Elections, arts. 7 and 13; U.N., Declaration of Principles for International Election Observation and Code of Conduct for International Election Observers, para. 12; UN (CRPD), General Comment No. 6, para. 70.d; OIF, Bamako Declaration, para. 2.6; CoE (PACE), Resolution 2226(2018) on New Restrictions on NGO Activities, para. 10.5; CoE (Venice Commission), Code of Good Practice, sec. II.3.1.80
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