POLITICAL PROCESSES STRENGTHENING ACTIVITY

Political Processes Strengthening is a seven year, $13.8 million activity to bolster political pluralism in Serbia by strengthening the capacity of political actors, increasing citizen-driven dialogue with political actors, and supporting long-standing efforts to improve the transparency and integrity of the electoral process, thus increasing Serbia’s commitment to democratic values.

ACTIVITIES

- Conduct public opinion research to support political parties, movements, elected officials, and other political and civic actors to better understand citizens’ interests and communicate with them.
- Provide technical assistance to strengthen the capacity of political parties and citizen groups to advance the accountability of leaders and parties.
- Provide support to domestic election management and oversight bodies to increase the integrity and transparency of the election process.
- Support the Central Election Commission to improve poll worker training and voter education and information, increase accessibility of polls, and enhance trust in the elections process.
- Work with the Anti-Corruption Agency to improve their campaign monitoring methodology and strengthen the capacity of their finance oversight department to oversee political party expenses during the upcoming elections.

RESULTS

- The International Republican Institute (IRI) and the National Democratic Institute (NDI) have carried out capacity building activities with ten political parties and movements across the political spectrum in Serbia.
- The International Foundation for Electoral System (IFES) provided key, targeted assistance to election administration authorities to plan and communicate appropriate COVID-19 safety measures during the 2020 elections through nationwide voter information services. IFES conducted an overarching assessment of core elements of the electoral process that is central to election administration delivery. The assessment identified key recommendations designed to improve election administration, management, access, and adjudication.
Since November 2019, NDI has conducted eight public opinion polls to identify trends in citizens’ priorities, level of satisfaction with the government and political actors, receptivity to disinformation, and attitudes about upcoming elections and the COVID crisis. Poll results are always presented to interested political parties and movements, government stakeholders and international stakeholders.

IRI runs a leadership academy (Advanced Leadership in Politics Institute - ALPI) for young political leaders. In 2019/2020, ALPI gathered 26 young political leaders from six different political parties who started a joint ALPI blog, YouTube channel and monthly podcast. In late 2021, the second generation of 26 ALPI leaders joined the program.

The Government of Serbia granted observer status to IFES and NDI in the voter list verification working group.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

PROJECT FUNDING
United States Agency for International Development (USAID)

PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION
Consortium for Elections and Political Processes Strengthening (CEPPS), composed of three equal partners: International Foundation for Electoral Systems (IFES), International Republican Institute (IRI), and National Democratic Institute for International Affairs (NDI).

KEY COUNTERPARTS
Political parties and movements, Central Election Commission, Anti-Corruption Agency, select CSOs, select media, select universities, select municipalities

WHERE WE WORK
Nationwide

PROJECT DURATION
July 2019 – July 2026

TOTAL FUNDING
$13,800,000

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https://www.ndi.org/CEPPS
https://www.iri.org/program/consortium-elections-political-process-strengthening
https://www.ifes.org/cepps