

## Purpose of this e-learning course

- To assist OSCE participating States in training their potential election observers;
- To further enhance the preparation and the professionalism of election observers;
- To explain the OSCE/ODIHR election observation methodology to anyone interested.

## Language of the course

The e-learning course for OSCE/ODIHR observers (STOs and LTOs) is available in two languages: English and Russian. Since English is the working language of OSCE/ODIHR EOMs, the Russian-language course is available primarily for the purposes of familiarization with the OSCE/ODIHR methodology. Contents of both language versions are identical, with spoken text dubbed in both languages. The main differences between the two language versions include:

- Quizzes are only available in the English-language course.
- In the Russian-language version of the course, participants are able to browse any module and lesson without a requirement to pass preceding modules.

## Course Structure

The course contains seven modules, which cover broad methodological issues, methodology of election observation by the STOs and practical aspects of their work, as well as long-term observation methodology and practical aspects of the LTOs' work.

Each module contains three to six thematic lessons:

### Module 1: Introductory Framework

- Lesson 1: OSCE and ODIHR
- Lesson 2: Democracy and Human Rights: OSCE and Other International Standards Related to Elections
- Lesson 3: Elections - Introduction to Basic Election Concepts (Electoral Cycle and Stakeholders)

### Module 2: Election Observation

- Lesson 1: Definition and Principles of Election Observation
- Lesson 2: The Purpose of Election Observation: Credibility, Transparency, Accountability, Confidence-building, Democracy Promotion
- Lesson 3: Types of Election Observers: International and Domestic Organisations
- Lesson 4: Declaration of Principles for International Electoral Observation
- Lesson 5: The Election Observation Mission: Structure, Functions, Phases of an EOM, Information Flow, LTO Preparation for STOs
- Lesson 6: The Role of the STO: Observation and Reporting, Direct vs. Indirect Observation

### **Module 3: Code of Conduct**

Lesson 1: Practical Implications of the Code of Conduct

- Lesson 2: Contacts with the Media
- Lesson 3: Safety Awareness and Responsibilities
- Lesson 4: The STO Team: Working with Driver and Interpreter

### **Module 4: The Work of an STO**

- Lesson 1: STO Day-to-Day Activities, from Pre-mission Preparations to End of Mission
- Lesson 2: Observing and Reporting Tools
- Lesson 3: Polling Station Set-up and People Present

### **Module 5: The Work on of STO: Election Day**

- Lesson 1: Opening Procedures
- Lesson 2: Voting Procedures
- Lesson 3: Closing and Counting Procedures
- Lesson 4: Tabulation Procedures
- Lesson 5: Final Steps for an STO in the Host Country

### **Module 6: Work of an LTO: Timeline and Long-Term Observation**

- Lesson 1: LTO Duties and Calendar
- Lesson 2: LTO teamwork: practicalities and sharing responsibilities
- Lesson 3: Security of LTOs
- Lesson 4: Establishing contacts with key interlocutors in the AoR
- Lesson 5: Holding successful meetings with interlocutors
- Lesson 6: LTO Reporting

### **Module 7: Practical preparations for STOs and LTOs' role on election day**

- Lesson 1: STO deployment: perspective of the LTOs
- Lesson 2: Tips for logistical preparations for the STOs
- Lesson 3: The role of LTOs on election day
- Lesson 4: LTOs after election day

## **Knowledge Control and Quizzes**

- Each module and lesson is opened and closed with summaries of the learning objectives and lessons learned. While learning objectives are formulated in a more general way with

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the purpose of guiding the learner through the process, lessons learned reiterate the main points of each lesson or module.

- Participants are asked to pass a quiz at the end of each module. Quiz questions address each lesson and are based on the information contained in the lessons of a corresponding module.
- Each participant can try to pass any quiz an unlimited number of times.

## Certificate

- Each participant who passes all quizzes will receive a Certificate of Completion of the Comprehensive E-learning Course for OSCE/ODIHR observers.
- Certificates received in the previously available STO E-learning course (on [www.stoelearning.org](http://www.stoelearning.org)) can be uploaded by the user through the parallel course 'Comprehensive E-learning Course for OSCE/ODIHR observers - Submit your previous certificate'. This would allow those who have previously completed the STO E-learning course to continue from Module 6, complete the course and obtain the new certificate. The validity of old certificates submitted by the users will be verified by ODIHR.
- As there is no knowledge control of the participants' progress, students of the Russian-language version of the course will not receive certificates.

## Technical requirements

In order to use the OSCE/ODIHR E-learning Course for Election Observers, please make sure your technical equipment is compatible with the following requirements:

Your browser is one of the following:

- Google Chrome;
- Mozilla Firefox; or
- Safari.

You run the browser on one of the following operating systems:

- Windows XP SP2 or greater
- Mac OS X 10.4 or greater, or
- Linux-based system

The Course can be also run on most mobile devices.

If you need any assistance, please contact ODIHR at [support.electionexpert@odihr.pl](mailto:support.electionexpert@odihr.pl).