Comprehensive E-learning Course for OSCE/ODIHR election observers
www.odihrobserver.org

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

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 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.