

Elections Division

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**ACTIVITIES OF THE PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY IN THE ELECTORAL FIELD
(8 October – 11 December 2025)**

Observation of elections by PACE, with legal support from the Venice Commission

- Presentation of the [report](#) on the observation of the parliamentary elections in the Republic of Moldova (28 September 2025) to the Standing Committee (Chisinau, 21 November 2025)
- Observation of the early parliamentary elections in the Kyrgyz Republic (30 November 2025): [statement](#) and [preliminary findings](#)

Activities of PACE Committees and others

- Meeting of the [ad hoc committee on the New Democratic Pact](#) (Chisinau, 20 November 2025) and hearing on Safeguarding Democracy: Elections and Foreign Interference with the participation of Martin Kuijer, Vice-President of the Venice Commission of the Council of Europe, member in respect of the Netherlands; Angelica Caraman, President of the Central Electoral Commission of the Republic of Moldova; Chris Said (Malta, EPP/CD), Chairperson of the ad hoc committee for the observation of the parliamentary elections in the Republic of Moldova (28 September 2025) and member of the Parliamentary Alliance for Free and Fair Elections.

Conferences and seminars

- World Forum for Democracy 2025: Strasbourg, 6 November 2025: PACE co-organised with the Council of Europe Committee on Artificial Intelligence (CAI) a [session titled “AI at the ballot box: threat or opportunity for democratic elections?”](#). It was facilitated by Mr George Papandreou (Greece, SOC), PACE’s General Rapporteur on Democracy, with the participation of Ms Laura Castel (Spain, UEL), member of the Parliamentary Alliance for Free and Fair Elections; Mr Mario Hernández Ramos, Chair of the CAI; and Ms Laura Silver, Associate Director of Global Research, PEW Research Center.

PACE electoral co-operation programmes

“Strengthening Electoral Integrity in Albania” (SEI)	
Albania	<p>10-12 October 2025 Tirana, Albania</p> <p>The Council of Europe supported the Central Election Commission (CEC) of Albania in organising a <u>Training of Trainers programme</u> for the local by-elections for mayors on 9 November 2025. The training focused on enhancing skills and knowledge of trainers and supervisors responsible for the Electronic Identification Device (EID) operators. These individuals played a critical role in ensuring the smooth functioning of the election administration for the partial mayoral elections in Vlorë, Tepelenë, Berat, Mat and Cërrik. The capacity-building initiative targeted participants in key positions within the Commissions of Electoral Administration Areas, Voting Centre Commissions, Ballot Counting Teams, and EID operators, aiming to ensure the integrity and transparency of the electoral process.</p>
	<p>24 October 2025 Tirana, Albania</p> <p>The Council of Europe, in collaboration with the Central Election Commission (CEC) of Albania, organised a <u>Round table to present and discuss the Complaint Tracking and Monitoring (CTM) Platform</u>. This platform, supported by the Council of Europe, was designed to enhance the transparency and efficiency of handling electoral complaints. It allows denunciations and complaints to be submitted online, enabling the CEC to track, register and analyse them throughout the electoral process. The round table gathered key stakeholders, including representatives from the CEC, political parties, civil society organizations, and international partners. During the event, the functionalities of the CTM Platform were demonstrated, highlighting its capacity to track the status of complaints and provide transparency for all users. Discussions focused on gathering feedback and recommendations for further improvements to the platform’s effectiveness and user-friendliness with the aim to enhance support to the resolution of electoral disputes and contribute to the overall integrity of the electoral process.</p>
	<p>3 November 2025 Tirana, Albania</p> <p>The Council of Europe supported the Central Election Commission (CEC) in hosting a <u>Round table of the First-time voters (FTV) programme</u>, implemented by the Academy of Political Studies in cooperation with the National Agency for Pre-University Education (AKAP). The programme aims at engaging young voters in the democratic process. The Round table provided a platform to discuss the outcomes of the programme and the way forward for enhancing electoral education for future generations. Data presented during the event highlighted that 47% of first-time voters exercised their right to vote in the May 2025 parliamentary elections, marking an increase in youth voter turnout compared to previous elections. Additionally, for the first time, young voters from the Albanian diaspora participated, with 4,356 votes cast from abroad.</p>

	5-7 November 2025 Strasbourg, France	The Albanian initiative “I Vote Too!” was presented at the 2025 World Forum for Democracy at the Council of Europe raising the issue “ <u>Democracy at risk: how can we revive it?</u> ”. Featured in the session “Beyond the ballot: youth-led innovations boosting Democracy”, the initiative highlights how young people are reshaping democratic participation beyond traditional voting.
	“Support to the Electoral Cycle in Albania” (SECA)	
	13 November 2025 Tirana, Albania	The official <u>launching event of the action “Support to Electoral Cycle in Albania” (SECA)</u> took place in Tirana, back-to-back with the constitutive Steering Committee Meeting. Organised in co-operation with the State Election Commissioner, the event brought together senior representatives of public institutions, diplomatic corps, international organisations, experts, civil society and the media. Participants engaged in valuable discussions on key challenges affecting the electoral process and reaffirmed their commitment to inclusive, credible and transparent elections. Co-funded by the European Union and the Council of Europe, the SECA action is implemented by the Council of Europe, with the Parliamentary Assembly overseeing its implementation. The action will run for 36 months, from July 2025 to July 2028.
Bosnia and Herzegovina	29-30 November 2025 Banja Luka	The second module of the Academy for Women Candidates took place on 29–30 November in Banja Luka, bringing together 22 women from across the political spectrum who will likely run in the elections. Over two days, participants had the opportunity to deepen their knowledge on the regulatory framework and to strengthen their ability to develop and lead an impactful campaign.
	10-11 December Jahorina	Capacity building training for CEC Audit and Legal Department on identification and reporting of criminal offences in the context of the Law on Political Party Financing. The Audit Department within the CEC BiH is responsible for reviewing and auditing the financial reports of political parties. The Department may encounter potential irregularities during their audits that could represent criminal offences. According to the Law, when indications of criminal offences are detected, CEC is obliged to submit reports to competent prosecution offices. However, auditors often face difficulties in distinguishing between administrative violation of the Law and acts that may constitute criminal offences.
Republic of Moldova	10 and 29 October 2025 Chisinau	Two webinars on the mid-term assessment of the implementation of the Strategic programme 2024-2026 of the CEC and the Strategic programme 2024-2027 of the CICDE (Training Centre) based on the CoE URSO (Useful, Relevant, Sustainable, Owned) methodology were organised for the project beneficiary institutions (CEC and CICDE) and for the CoE local consultants.
	20 October 2025 Chisinau	Post-electoral report on youth participation on 28 September 2025 Parliamentary election, including youth turnout, total youth candidates and those elected, the youth-focused

		priorities in the programs of parties that entered Parliament, as well as recommendations was produced by CoE local consultant.
	24 October 2025 Chisinau	A report on monitoring of the sexist speech and behavior by the electoral candidates during election period of September 2025 Parliamentary election in the Republic of Moldova, focusing only on online media outlets was produced and presented.
	November 2025 Chisinau	A methodological Guide on carrying out the audit for political parties with expenditure or revenue over 1 million lei reporting to the CEC was produced and publicly consulted and is to be approved by the CEC.
	4 - 5 December 2025 Chisinau	A validation workshop on the mid-term assessment results of the CEC and CICDE strategic programmes, based on the Council of Europe URSO methodology, is to be held.
	11 December 2025 Chisinau	Project Steering Committee meeting is to be held, aiming to present the key achievements for 2025 and the activities planned for 2026.
Ukraine	28 October 2025, 17 November 2025, 25 November 2025 Kyiv	Meetings of the Group of Experts working on elaboration of the list of criteria with quantity and quality indicators and methodology of collection and assessment of respective data/information to assess pre-conditions necessary for the conduct of democratic post-war elections in Ukraine and to define possibility/impossibility of calling, organisation and conduct of elections on some territories. The work of the Group of Experts is conducted in cooperation with the Central Election Commission of Ukraine.
	9-12 December 2025 Chernivtsi	Cyber Exercise on "Election Interference: Response, Investigation, Forensics and Interagency Cooperation" combined with a Cybersecurity Crisis Communication Workshop. The activity is organised for representatives of the Central Election Commission of Ukraine, as well as law-enforcement, criminal justice and security agencies (State Security Service of Ukraine; National Security and Defense Council of Ukraine; State Service of Special Communications and Information Protection of Ukraine; Cyber Police, Prosecutor's General Office). The main goal is to strengthen the capacity of the Central Election Commission of Ukraine, as well as other national authorities concerned in counteracting and efficiently coordinating their response measures, including crisis communication, to elections interference made through cyberattacks/incidents and accompanying large-scale disinformation campaigns in the context of the preparation for post-war elections and related challenges. The Cyber Exercise and Cybersecurity Crisis Communication Workshop is organised in cooperation with the CyberEast+ project implemented by the Cybercrime Programme Office of the Council of Europe.