

PRESS CONFERENCE

Preliminary Findings and Conclusions of the Election Assessment Mission to the European Parliament Elections 2024

Monday, 10 June, 14:00 hours PRESS CLUB BRUSSELS – Rue Froissart 95

You are kindly invited to attend the press conference held by <u>Election-Watch.EU</u> to present the preliminary findings and conclusions of its Election Assessment Mission. The Mission has been deployed since the beginning of May and assessed specific aspects of the European elections in respect of overall integrity, inclusion, accountability, transparency, equality, and resilience across the 27 EU Member States.

What is Election-Watch.EU?

<u>Election-Watch.EU</u> is an independent and impartial civil society organisation of international election experts and observers. Its' Election Assessment Mission comprises a coordination team in Brussels, and one national chapter in each EU Member States. In total, sixty committed international election experts and observers, as well as eleven like-minded citizen election observer organisations operate across the EU. The Election Assessment Mission follows good practice in <u>observation methodology</u>. The organisation endorsed the <u>Declaration of Global Principles for International Election Observation</u> and is also a member of the <u>Global Network of Domestic Election Monitors</u> and of the <u>European Partnership for Democracy</u>.

Why observe the European elections?

Election-Watch.EU is advocating to strengthen European electoral integrity and enhance democratic electoral processes. The aim is to raise awareness of the importance of the European elections among citizens and to contribute to coherence between the Member States, by highlighting good electoral practices and providing recommendations for further improvement. One of the major objectives is to strengthen civic engagement in the European elections, including citizen election observation, with a special focus on youth participation. The ambition is to contribute to strengthening European democratic practices and future European electoral reforms. To face challenges such as Al-generated online campaigns, mal-intended interference, political polarisation, voter fatigue and anti-European populism, the EU and its Member States would gain from increased cohesion and cooperation in preparing, conducting, and communicating about elections. Non-partisan international and citizen-led election observation missions are essential for strengthening democratic principles and upholding international human rights standards in electoral practices.

More information or questions?

For media inquiries please write to <u>office@election-watch.eu</u> or contact +32 493 639 761. Media interviews can be scheduled following the press conference, until 16:00 hours.