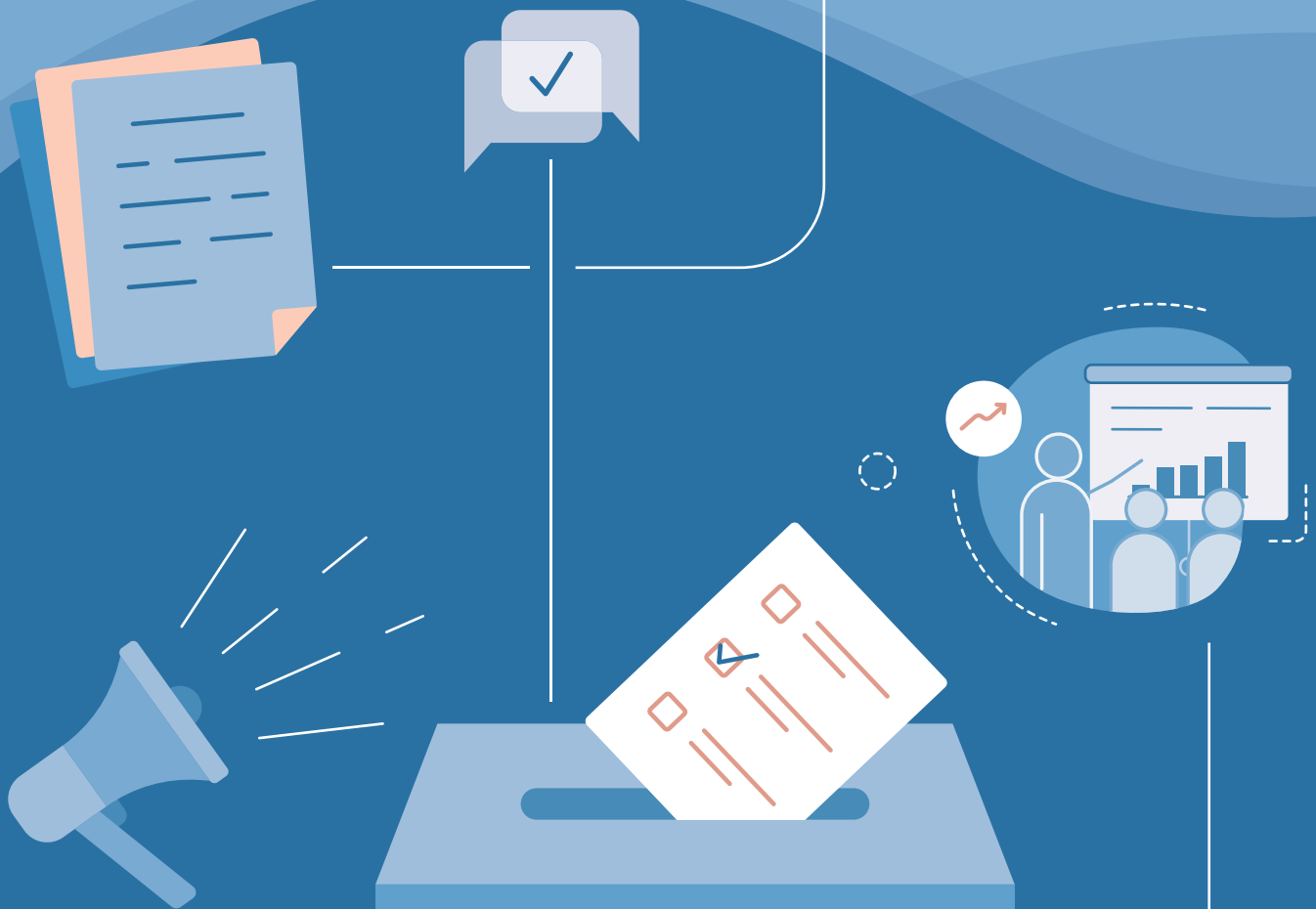# DEMOCRACY REPORTING INTERNATIONAL

2019

ANNUAL REPORT

DEMOCRACY REPORTING INTERNATIONAL

2019 ANNUAL REPORT

ABOUT DRI

We believe that people are citizens, not subjects. DRI works to build, preserve and defend democracy and its institutions. After all, people make change but democratic and accountable institutions preserve it.

We work with local actors to protect and expand our shared democratic space in this polarised world, regardless of political opinions or personal beliefs.

INTRODUCTION

The last year was marked by widespread protests that swept countries on every continent. From the streets of Beirut and Khartoum to those of Santiago, Hong Kong and Algiers, people took to the streets to demand a stronger say in how they are governed.

As an organisation dedicated to sustaining and promoting democracy, we continued to focus on helping shape and strengthen the institutions that make democracy sustainable. Far from the headlines, the daily work of governance continues and makes real changes in people's lives. The importance of democratically accountable, functional and efficient governments is only further highlighted by the covid-19 pandemic when choices made by policy-makers have an impact on the life and death of their citizens. This situation has also emphasized the importance of local authorities, who are in the frontline of the fight against the coronavirus.

Our approach rests on two key components: reporting and capacity-building. Through our networks of country offices and partners, DRI is in a unique position to report on developments in countries across Asia, Europe, the Middle East and North Africa. We report to make the real-world ramifications of seemingly abstract concepts concrete. We also recommend how to make improvements on the ground.

We could do this thanks to our network of country offices, from monitoring the implementation of Tunisia's constitution to governance solutions to Lebanon's longstanding solid waste problems. We also work closely with local governments and civil society to identify their needs so that they can better serve their citizens and work together to find local solutions to local problems.

The year 2019 kept us busy across the countries where we work. Elections in Sri Lanka, Tunisia and Ukraine led to changes in governments and featured significant social media activity, which we monitored closely. Meanwhile, our team in Myanmar busily laid the groundwork for the 2020 parliamentary elections. We continued our work with local governments and civil society in Libya despite the renewal in fighting that engulfed the country throughout the year, while in Lebanon we worked to increase youth political participation and strengthen municipalities. In Pakistan, we worked with local representatives, officials and civil society to promote human rights awareness. We also renewed our efforts on the rule of law and government accountability in the European Union, driving home the importance of supporting democracy everywhere, as no country is beyond reproach.

WHERE WE WORK

Democracy has to be reinforced from the ground up.
That is why we work across the world, through our local
offices or with local partners.

Headquarters

DRI Ukraine

DRI Tunisia

DRI Pakistan

DRI Libya

DRI Lebanon

DRI Myanmar

DRI Sri Lanka

1 - Armenia	7 - Kyrgyzstan
2 - Bolivia	8 - Moldova
3 - Cabo Verde	9 - Mongolia
4 - Democratic Republic of Congo	10 - Nigeria
5 - European Union	11 - Paraguay
6 - Georgia	12 - Philippines

HIGHLIGHTS

2019

We are guided by the international framework that enshrines democracy and human rights in international law. Equal rights and fundamental freedoms for all, democratic elections, an independent judiciary, and free media are all essential components of democracy that we pursue. We work on five thematic areas that form essential components of democracy.

THEMATIC AREAS

Elections   **Human Rights**   **Justice**   **Local Governance**   **Democratic Discourse**

ACTIVITIES IN NUMBERS

More than

128 Events

106 Workshops

44 Publications

MYANMAR

In 2019, the country's powerful bureaucracy continued to be strongly influenced by the army and Myanmar's politics were dominated by internal armed conflicts. After the highly problematic military operations against the Rohingya minority in Rakhine state in 2018, the situation remained tense with regular flare-ups of violence and the Northern Shan State saw increased fighting and the displacement of local communities.

Notably, Yangon City held its first ever local government elections under universal suffrage. The Union Election Commission introduced changes to increase transparency in military voting, partially addressing a demand that many international and domestic observers were making.

OUR WORK

DRI supported the advocacy coalition of nine domestic election observers, which announced their five key reform demands ahead of Myanmar's general elections, scheduled for late 2020.

DRI supported a series of trainings for candidates and elected officials in the Yangon City Development Committee to increase the number and improve the capacity of women involved in local politics. The

workshops led to the creation of a network of elected officials who regularly exchange on key issues.

In the run-up to the 2020 elections, DRI in Myanmar is focusing on online pluralism and its impact on the offline world by conducting social media monitoring to unveil how hate and violent discourses directed at minorities spread on Facebook.

THEMATIC AREAS

Elections	Human Rights	Justice	Local Governance	Democratic Discourse

OVERVIEW

21 Events

5 Workshops

4 Publications

KEY ACTIVITIES AND PUBLICATIONS

Dialogue event on the ratification of the ICCPR, April 2019
Dialogue with civil society and the Myanmar National Human Rights Commission.

Handbook on Democratic Constitutions, June 2019
Overview of how to build a democratic constitution, using the framework of international law and focusing on real-life challenges.

Building an inclusive federal union, March 2019
We explored ways to protect cultural, religious and political diversity, focusing on the participation of minorities in national-level decision making.

The Role of Social Media in Elections, December 2019
We explored the different threats on social media with local partners ahead of the 2020 elections.

SRI LANKA

THEMATIC AREAS

Elections   Human Rights   Justice   Local Governance   Democratic Discourse

OVERVIEW

32 Events

8 Workshops

2 Publications

CONTEXT

Sri Lanka in 2019 was defined by two pivotal events: the 21 April Easter bombings and the November presidential election. The year started with the Prime Minister naming a minority government in January, in the aftermath of the constitutional crisis that engulfed the country at the end of 2018. Following the April attacks in Christian churches, which killed 250 people, the country saw several anti-Muslim riots in May.

The presidential election, held on 16 November resulted in a victory for the Sri Lankan People's Front (SLPP), with Gotabhaya Rajapaksa elected as President of Sri Lanka.

OUR WORK

DRI Sri Lanka set up two civil society networks to monitor human rights violations across the island. We also helped civil society produce two alternative reports on human and labour rights that were submitted to the EU and discussed with EU officials under the GSP+ trade scheme. We held two workshops for Sinhala and Tamil civil society monitoring networks to build their ability to monitor and advocate on GSP+.

We also monitored social media and provided an assessment of the social media landscape in Sri Lanka through an analysis of data on Facebook pages between 1 January to 31 October 2018. Our social media monitoring continued, focusing on the presidential elections and online discourse on important societal issues.

KEY ACTIVITIES AND PUBLICATIONS

What Facebook Tells Us about Social Cohesion in Sri Lanka, February 2019
Prepared in collaboration with Hashtag Generation, this paper examines political discourse on Facebook in 2018.

Awareness raising workshops on labor rights standards, July to September 2019
We led four awareness raising workshops for members of trade unions as part of our work on GSP+.

Social media monitoring capacity building workshop, December 2019
Workshop with CMEV and PAFFREL on social media monitoring designed to strengthen local civil society groups.

Module on GSP+ and Labour Rights, August 2019
This module was developed as a training tool to raise awareness of GSP+ and labour rights. It was published in Sinhala and Tamil.

PAKISTAN

THEMATIC AREAS

Elections **Human Rights** Justice **Local Governance** **Democratic Discourse**

OVERVIEW

7 Events

8 Workshops

7 Publications

CONTEXT

The government faced important economic challenges throughout the year and 2019 marked a rise in tensions with India over Kashmir when New Delhi revoked the region's autonomous status.

Decentralisation efforts continued with the introduction of local governance legislation for the provinces of Punjab and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP). This devolution provides an opportunity to strengthen human rights through the new institutions. However, space for civil society continued to shrink as NGOs faced difficulties registering, leading to a sector slowdown and closures.

OUR WORK

DRI Pakistan worked with human rights institutions and parliamentary structures, notably with local authorities in the Punjab and KP provinces. We organised two interprovincial exchange visits of parliamentarians and civil servants in Karachi and Lahore, and created and trained district committees in all 36 of Punjab's districts.

We addressed the issue of a shrinking space for civil society in a national conference, agreeing on a key set of recommendations and pushing for a consensus law from a government agency.

We developed a four-part video series to engage with the general public, particularly younger people, and raise awareness of GSP+'s potential to boost economic growth along with human and labour rights.

KEY ACTIVITIES AND PUBLICATIONS

Inter-parliamentary exchanges, October - November 2019
Held in Karachi and Lahore, these events brought together 86 individuals, including 63 men and 23 women.

Workshops on human rights in Punjab, October to December 2019
Held with Punjab's Human Rights and Minorities Affairs Department to monitor and address human rights violations.

Civil Society and Social Development in Pakistan, December 2019
This briefing paper looks at how the State can support its development through effective regulation.

Social Media and Democracy in Pakistan, May 2019
This paper analyses how social media transformed political discourse in Pakistan.
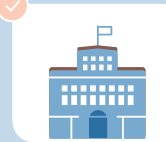
LEBANON

THEMATIC AREAS

| Elections | Human Rights | Justice | Local Governance | Democratic Discourse |

OVERVIEW

14 Events

20 Workshops

5 Publications

CONTEXT

The Lebanese government announced in January 2019, after nine months of deadlock, to work on reforms amid fears of a major economic collapse. Urgent reforms were needed to decrease the outsized budget deficit and unlock 11 billion dollars in loans.

Mass protests have swept across the country since October, when more tax increases were announced.

Prime Minister Saad Hariri and his government resigned after their proposed reform package was rejected by protesters. Lebanon has since been caught in a political deadlock with unemployment and poverty rising at dramatic rates.

OUR WORK

In 2019, DRI Lebanon focused on decentralisation and citizen participation, promoting evidence-based policies in key areas such as solid waste management. Through specialised workshops and support to parliament, DRI advocated for more inclusive policies related to community participation and transparency in planning and implementing public services.

DRI promoted a unique model of youth engagement by supporting the election of a regional Youth Council.

The Council is set to monitor the work of local government and influence policymaking to meet the needs of young people.

We also advocated for sustainable local government as the backbone of good governance. We looked into how public-private partnerships and fiscal decentralisation reform can make local government more effective.

KEY ACTIVITIES AND PUBLICATIONS

Support to the Lebanese parliament on decentralisation and municipal law reform, June to December 2019
DRI provided technical expertise on a series of legal amendments to restore the autonomy of local authorities, improve representativity and promote gender equality.

A Moment for Change: The Lebanese Uprisings, November 2019
This examines the roots of the ongoing protests in Lebanon and potential outcomes.

Promoting the participation of youth in local governance, August 2019
DRI helped establish a Youth Council with a majority of female members.

Solid Waste Management in Lebanon: Lessons for Decentralisation, July 2019
This looks at how empowering local authorities could help deal with Lebanon's ongoing waste management crisis.

LIBYA

THEMATIC AREAS

Elections	Human Rights	Justice	Local Governance ✓	Democratic Discourse ✓

OVERVIEW

4 Events

22 Workshops

6 Publications

CONTEXT

A planned referendum on the 2017 draft constitution did not take place in January 2019, while elections in dozens of municipalities helped create a sense of democratic accountability between March and April.

Fighting broke out around Tripoli in April and continued until the end of the year as multiple countries intervened to support either the forces of General Haftar's Libyan National Army or the UN-backed Government of National Accord, in violation of the UN arms embargo. Germany announced it would attempt to mediate as violence intensified. Many Libyan citizens remained hostage to local, regional, and international politics, but maintained their aspiration to democratic institutions.

OUR WORK

We worked closely with 30 partners across the country on issues ranging from political participation, particularly empowering women and youth to contribute to local decision-making, the constitutional process and the role of ethnic groups in it, the rights of people with disabilities, local elections, and local governance.

Moreover, DRI has been monitoring Libyan social media since December 2018, examining discourse on the constitution, elections, the UN roadmap, UNSMIL and security issues related to the transformation.

DRI Libya implemented a project on strengthening the involvement of citizens and activists in the political transition. DRI has also begun working with municipalities to improve public services.

KEY ACTIVITIES AND PUBLICATIONS

Libya at a Glance, June 2019
This study looks at key events that took place in Libya between 2011 and 2018, regarding legitimacy, the economy, and the struggle for power.

Social media monitoring reports, January to December 2019
DRI prepared six reports on social media monitoring in Libya to understand the main narratives on the political transition.

Democracy competition for Libyan content creators, October 2019
DRI organised a competition for content creators to submit awareness raising videos and radio spots. The eleven winners attended a workshop in Tunisia and participated in a study trip to Berlin.

TUNISIA

THEMATIC AREAS

Elections Human Rights Justice Local Governance Democratic Discourse

OVERVIEW

25 Events

14 Workshops

8 Publications

CONTEXT

Presidential and parliamentary elections took place during Autumn 2019, shifting Tunisia's political landscape as Kais Saied, a conservative academic outsider, won the presidency with over 72% of the vote while none of the political parties or alliances came out as a clear winner of the parliamentary elections. By the end of 2019, there was still no new government.

The decentralisation process, launched in 2018, moved slowly, as did the implementation of the 2014 constitution. Municipalities are still struggling to adjust to their new role, with insufficient support and accompaniment, as demonstrated by the resignations of many mayors and councils.

OUR WORK

DRI Tunisia supported decentralisation processes, accountability and information flow of institutions. Local democracy assessments in Ariana and El Hencha with citizens and municipal officials will lead to increased support for local civil society initiatives and assisting municipal councils in developing more participatory democracy. Through its Young Leaders project, DRI supported 23 youth from several disadvantaged regions to participate in the decentralisation process.

DRI monitored Facebook before and during the election campaign, focusing on coordinated attempts to manipulate or polarise opinion. Our findings show that, although no major manipulation attempt was detected, Facebook was used by some actors to circumvent electoral law, and that the company had made no attempt to enforce Tunisian electoral regulations.

KEY ACTIVITIES AND PUBLICATIONS

Monitoring Tunisia's Election Campaigns on Social Media, February 2020
This report collects key findings from the monitoring of the 2019 legislative and presidential election campaigns.

Guide on Legislative and Presidential Elections Disputes Observation in Tunisia, August 2019
This guide focuses on the legal, political and sociological impacts of fair trials.

Regular Monitoring reports on the implementation of the Tunisian constitution, January/September 2019
These two reports cover the period from 11 November 2018 to 31 September 2019.

Updated Guide on Local Authorities, August 2019
This guide identifies, explains and simplifies the legal concepts related to the local authorities and elections.
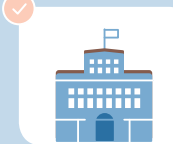
UKRAINE

THEMATIC AREAS

Elections · **Human Rights** · **Justice** · **Local Governance** · Democratic Discourse

OVERVIEW

12 Events

19 Workshops

4 Publications

CONTEXT

Presidential and parliamentary elections transformed Ukraine's political landscape in 2019. Volodymyr Zelensky, a 41-year-old outsider, secured 73% of votes and his "Servant of the People" party was the first to achieve a an absolute parliamentary majority since independence. With this majority in parliament, the government began an intense reform process, launching myriad initiatives to transform the country, often without the necessary time for public discussion. This included the introduction of a new electoral code in December 2019.

The conflict in Eastern Ukraine continued, although diplomatic efforts were revived under the Normandy format, which brought together Ukraine, Russia, France, and Germany to talks in December. The parties recommitted to an existing ceasefire, troop withdrawals, demining efforts, and a new prisoner exchange that was carried out on 29 December.

OUR WORK

DRI Ukraine continued to focus on promoting youth political participation across the country, organising workshops and strengthening young people's political skills to support a new generation of leaders.

In addition to our public events and workshops, which reached more than 800 participants from 20 of Ukraine's regions, we organised a study programme with local government institutions that provided participants with work experience in local government. We also promoted space for civil society activism, holding an international workshop for activists from Ukraine, Georgia and Moldova.

KEY ACTIVITIES AND PUBLICATIONS

Jekyll and Hyde Campaigning – How Ukraine's Presidential Candidates Run Respectable and Dodgy Facebook Pages in Parallel, July 2019
Overview of the use of online political ads during the last presidential election.

Youth in Politics summer school, July 2019
Week-long summer school organised in the Lviv region with the Council of Europe.

Strengthening youth engagement in local governance, May to August 2019
We brought together 19 participants over four months of weekend workshops and internships in local administrations.

Countering Political Repression of Civil Society in Ukraine, December 2019
This report reviews threats to civil society and provides recommendations to address these.
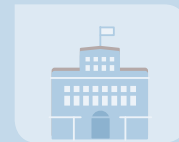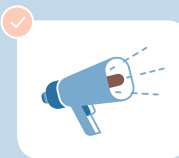
GEORGIA

THEMATIC AREAS

Elections Human Rights Justice

Local Governance **Democratic Discourse**

CONTEXT

Georgian politics remained highly polarised in 2019. This was fuelled by the two main political parties, as they geared up for elections scheduled for autumn 2020. Popular protests demanding a fully proportional election system took place in June, restarting in November after the governing party scraped the reform.

OUR WORK

We continued raising awareness on the consequences of extreme political polarisation with our partners, the Georgian Young Lawyers Association (GYLA) and ForSet. We worked with media, civil society and activists to create tools and media products to popularise the issue. The project reached more than 100,000 people through project activities, publications and social media campaigns, engaging directly with more than 200 people.

KEY ACTIVITIES AND PUBLICATIONS

- **Six regional workshops for journalists, February and March 2019**
- **Media forum in Batumi, May 2019**
- **Extreme Political Polarisation as a Threat to Democratisation: The Case of Georgia, August 2019**
- **Tearing Apart: What Drives Political Polarisation in Georgia? Lessons Learnt From the 2018 Presidential Election, August 2019**

MOLDOVA

THEMATIC AREAS

Elections Human Rights Justice
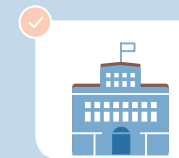
Local Governance Democratic Discourse

CONTEXT

Parliamentary elections held in February 2019 led to a political deadlock, leaving the country without a government for months. A constitutional crisis topped this political crisis in June, when competing politicians claimed key positions and a legal dispute emerged on whether to hold new elections.

OUR WORK

We continued our work to promote democratic principles and human rights with our partner, the Centre for Policies and Reforms Moldova, until the completion of our project in June 2019.

This included providing civil society actors with knowledge and practical skills related to transparency and access to information, as well as advocacy and monitoring local authorities.

KEY ACTIVITIES AND PUBLICATIONS

- **Get out the vote campaign, February 2019**
- **Supporting the implementation of twelve local projects, March to June 2019**
- **Closing forum, June 2019**

EUROPEAN UNION

THEMATIC AREAS

Elections · Human Rights · **Justice** · Local Governance · **Democratic Discourse**

OVERVIEW - RE:CONSTITUTION

3 Events

9 Publications

Elections to the European Parliament, the appointment of a new European Commission and important European Court of Justice rulings all marked 2019.

We work to strengthen democracy across many countries, including in the European Union. The state of democracy and the rule of law have become heated topics across the EU in recent years, with the influence of online discourse on elections and the dismantling of judicial independence in certain states at the top of the agenda.

OUR WORK

The rule of law has emerged from a relatively technical concept to the front pages of media. However, very few people can identify what is meant by the rule of law. It is to help bridge this gap that DRI began work on re:constitution – research and analysis on democracy and the rule of law, a programme implemented with the Berlin-based Forum Transregionale Studien.

This programme promotes better public debate on the rule of law through academic research, led by FTS, and through timely explanations and analysis of rule of law developments led by DRI. We work closely with journalists, officials, and researchers to explain the complex mechanisms that govern the rule of law in the EU and the latest developments in a non-partisan manner.

This is accomplished through publications and briefings designed to break down and explain breaking events such as decisions made by the European Court of Justice or providing overviews of rule of law developments in countries ahead of crucial elections. You can find all our analysis and publications at www.reconstitution.eu.

In 2019, we continued our conversation with conservative parties and opinion-makers, exploring and debating discontent with democracy. When it comes to monitoring social media, we partnered with the Slovak NGO MEMO 98 to help civil society organisations better do this work. We supported organisations in Austria, Portugal, Croatia, Spain, Poland and Romania to monitor social media around their 2019 elections, based on our methodology.

KEY ACTIVITIES AND PUBLICATIONS

Better Late Than Never: the European Union Unveils Its New Approach to the Rule of Law, July 2019
This backgrounder examines the European Commission's strategy to address the rule of law, unveiled during the summer of 2019.

The Rule of Law in the European Union – A Primer, September 2019
This primer explains the main components of the rule of law in the EU, fostering a common understanding of the concept.

One Rule of Law for All EU Member States or Twenty-Eight Different Shades? October 2019
Public debate on the state of the rule of law in the European Union to mark the launch of the re:constitution project.

Will the CJEU give the Polish government a red card? November 2019
Briefing held in Brussels to examine and explain the ECJ's decisions on Polish attempts to transform the country's judiciary.

GLOBAL PROGRAMMES

THEMATIC AREAS

Elections	Human Rights	Justice	Local Governance	Democratic Discourse

Democratic Republic of Congo

DRI continued supporting a network of eleven Congolese citizen election observation groups, the Synergie des missions d'observation citoyenne des élections (SYMOCEL), as part of our EU-funded partnership with the Electoral Institute for Sustainable Democracy in Africa (EISA). We helped strengthen SYMOCEL´s advocacy efforts and build the network as a self-standing entity. We accompanied SYMOCEL in their successful observation of the December 2018 general elections, the 2019 senate and gubernatorial elections, and the polls that had been postponed in locations affected by conflict and the Ebola outbreak.

DRI also continued its DFID-funded partnership with the Westminster Foundation for Democracy and EISA to audit newly introduced and much-debated electronic voting machines, and advise domestic observers on how to discuss lessons learnt from the elections and formulate policy changes.

Supporting Democracy: A Citizen Organisations Programme

DRI continued to test new democracy and governance approaches with its consortium partners Sofreco and the National Democratic Institute under the EU-funded Supporting Democracy project. We continued initiatives to put civic tech initiatives higher on the EU's global democracy support agenda. We promoted social media monitoring at conferences and workshops in Thailand, Malaysia and Lebanon and continued our leadership of a working group with worldwide partners to develop a credible methodology for monitoring political discourse on social media. The programme ended in October 2019.

Nigeria

DRI continued its DFID-funded project, implemented with Stakeholder Democracy Nigeria and Armed Conflict Location & Event Data Project (ACLED), to accompany domestic election observers in the Niger Delta during the presidential and National Assembly polls in February and the Governorship and State House of Assembly elections in March.

Citizen election observers from Niger Delta Watch 2019 submitted nearly 700 incident reports between November 2018 and April 2019, identifying violence against voters and election committee staff, threats, hostile rhetoric, and intimidation as well as tactics to confuse voters online as the key issues of the 2019 Nigerian elections.

CSO Roadmaps

DRI continued to partner with the consortium led by EPRD Poland and comprising CIDEAL, the Coalition Factory and the ECNL to provide strategic support and guidance to EU Delegation staff in the process of developing, implementing and monitoring the first generation of "EU country roadmaps for engagement with civil society organizations".

Lot 3 – Human Rights, Democracy and Peace

DRI continued its engagement under an EU Framework Contract (Lot 3 – Human Rights, Democracy and Peace) under the lead of ARS Progetti, particularly through a long-term mission to support the EU Delegation in Myanmar to roll out a strategy of strengthening citizen groups.

SOCIAL MEDIA MONITORING

THEMATIC AREAS

Elections   Human Rights   Justice   Local Governance   Democratic Discourse

OVERVIEW

13
Events

10
Workshops

8
Publications

CONTEXT

Social media lowers the barrier for participation in public debate and political action. It can contribute to a more inclusive debate, but it can also be abused to polarise society through disinformation and hate speech, using paid advertising or inauthentic accounts to push narratives in a manipulative fashion.

Past uses of social media to manipulate voters' perceptions are indicators of the harm that the unregulated use of technology can cause in society. The fast pace with which technology advances and the new tactics call for more analysis on how such tools are impacting democracies. An evidence-based and inclusive understanding of the threats and vulnerabilities should be the basis of effective legislation to counter such threats in the future.

OUR WORK

We have been strengthening the abilities of local partners to monitor social media during elections, creating evidence in different countries, gathering expert organisations, producing methodologies, and facilitating discussions and exchanges to inform policy-making.

We also conducted social media monitoring of political events in most countries where DRI works, notably Libya, Myanmar, Pakistan, Tunisia, Sri Lanka, the European Union and Ukraine.

KEY ACTIVITIES AND PUBLICATIONS

Social Media Monitoring During Elections: Cases and Best Practice to Inform Electoral Observation Missions, June 2019
This report examines the challenges and advantages that social media monitoring brings to traditional election observation.

Guide for Civil Society on Monitoring Social Media During Elections, October 2019
This is a methodology on how to monitor social media during elections for civil society organisations. These guidelines are also a basis for our own social media monitoring.

The EU Framework against Disinformation: What Worked, What Changed and the Way Forward, August 2019
This report examines initiatives to prevent disinformation during the 2019 European Parliament elections.

Study of the Social Media Landscape in Pakistan and Its Impact on Political Discourse, March 2019
This study provides concrete recommendations to legislators to limit the abuse of social media in democratic politics.

PROMOTING HUMAN AND LABOUR RIGHTS THROUGH GSP+

THEMATIC AREAS

Elections **Human Rights** Justice Local Governance Democratic Discourse

CONTEXT

The GSP+ scheme allows eligible developing countries to pay no duties on a wide range of exports to the European Union in exchange for adhering to 27 international conventions regarding human and labour rights, good governance, and the environment.

With the scheme's mixed economic impact across many of the beneficiary countries, as well as competing markets with less stringent barriers to entry, GSP+ faces some challenges when being leveraged by civil society as a tool to promote human and labour rights.

OUR WORK

In 2019 our partners and country offices worked in the eight GSP+ countries.

In Kyrgyzstan, the Coalition for Democracy and Civil Society conducted a nationwide survey to gauge public awareness of GSP+ and the conventions. In Pakistan, DRI developed a four-part video series to engage with the public, particularly younger people, and raise awareness of the potential of GSP+. In the Philippines, the Philippine Alliance of Human Rights Advocates (PAHRA) held town hall meetings across the country with workers, trade union officials and labour activists.

In Sri Lanka, DRI continued to develop the grassroots network of human rights activists and advocates which it had begun in 2018. In Armenia, the Eurasia Partnership Foundation (EPF) supported local NGOs to produce reports on human and labour rights issues affecting different parts of the country. It completed its activities in October 2019.

Our partner in Bolivia, the Centro de Estudios para el Desarollo Laboral y Agrario (CEDLA), launched a case study in July on issues of labour and human rights in the sector of Amazon (or Brazil) nuts, one of Bolivia's main GSP+ exports. In Cabo Verde, the National Commission for Human Rights and Citizenship (CNDHC) mounted a nation-wide human rights education campaign which was also supported by the United Nations.

In Mongolia, project implementation was concluded in May 2019. The Globe International Center (GIC) worked with the Mongolian Bar Association and the Media Council of Mongolia on issues related to the safety of journalists, freedom of expression and the right to information. In Paraguay, the Centro de Análisis y Difusión de la Economía Paraguaya (CADEP) produced several studies throughout the year on topics related to trade and human rights, completing its activities in December 2019.

KEY ACTIVITIES AND PUBLICATIONS

GSP+ workshop with partner organisations, 18 September 2019
We met with partner organisations for a workshop in Berlin, enabling shared learning and training on positive communications and reporting labour rights violations.

How to Promote Human Rights Through the EU's GSP+?, January 2019
This briefing paper looks at how effectively fundamental rights are strengthened through the EU's scheme.

DRI IN THE MEDIA

УКРАЇНСЬКА ПРАВДА

Who will young people vote for president - and why?

https://www.pravda.com.ua/articles/
2019/02/20/7207112/
By Roman Koval, February 2019

AN-NAHAR

Access to information law:
A weapon to fight corruption in Lebanon

https://en.annahar.com/article/946626-access-to-information-
law-a-weapon-to-fight-corruption-in-lebanon
By Maria Mata and Zeina Nasser, March 2019

euobserver

Manfred Weber and the art of passive resistance

https://euobserver.com/opinion/144500
By Michael Meyer-Resende, April 2019

CARNEGIE EUROPE

Is German democracy back to normal?

https://carnegieeurope.eu/2019/06/
05/is-german-democracy-back-to-normal-pub-79252
By Michael Meyer-Resende, June 2019

The Guardian

Europe learned from its mistakes in Hungary. It's protecting the
law in Poland

https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2019/jun/28/europe-
mistakes-hungary-law-poland-ruling-retirement-polish-judges
By Michael Meyer-Resende, June 2019

GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

UEC, CSOs discuss successful holding of 2020 general elections

https://www.globalnewlightofmyanmar.com/uec-csos-discuss-successful-
holding-of-2020-general-elections/
Myanmar News Agency, July 2019

THE NEWS

Authorities urged to review laws on women's rights

https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/494332-authorities-urged-to-review-
laws-on-women-s-rightS
Bureau Report, July 2019

Frankfurter Allgemeine

Fake news are not the only problem
https://www.faz.net/aktuell/feuilleton/debatten/demokratie-und-
internet-fake-news-sind-nicht-das-einzige-problem-16331742.html
By Michael Meyer-Resende, August 2019

RZECZPOSPOLITA

Polish courts are right to refer cases on judicial independence to the
CJEU

https://www.rp.pl/Opinie/311189970-Polskie-sady-slusznie-kieruja-
pytania-do-TSUE-ws-niezaleznosci-sedziowskiej.html
By Jakub Jaraczewski and Barbara Grabowska-Moroz, November 2019

euronews.

The European Court of Justice once again looks at Poland's
reform of the judiciary

https://fr.euronews.com/2019/11/18/la-justice-de-l-ue-se-penche-
une-nouvelle-fois-sur-la-reforme-judiciaire-polonaise
By Stephan Grobe, November 2019

TNS
the news on sunday

The rights approach
https://www.thenews.com.pk/tns/detail/579977-the-rights-approach
By Shahzada Irfan Ahmed, December 2019

DRI SHAREHOLDERS AND BOARD

SHAREHOLDERS

Michaela Küfner
Geoffrey Weichselbaum
Nils Meyer-Ohlendorf
Richard Chambers
Andrew Bruce
Duncan Pickard

SUPERVISORY BOARD

Ilkka Uusitalo
Herta Däubler-Gmelin
Gabriele Geertz
Ghassan E. Moukheiber
Axel Kullick

OUR TEAM IN 2019

HEADQUARTERS (BERLIN)

Michael Meyer-Resende, Executive Director
Nicola Schmidt, Director of Programmes
Janine Meyer, Director Finance and Administration
Laura Meyer, Deputy Director of Finance & Administration
Kalliopi Kountouri, Finance Manager
Selma Kukuruzovic, Programme Finance Coordinator
Jonche Manevski, Programme Finance Coordinator
Joseph Lee, Project Assistant Finance
Gerrit Zauke, Programme Finance Assistant
Inge Ullrich, Finance Officer
Claire Albiez, Human Resources Officer
Diana Ogorzelska, Human Resources & Finance Assistant
Hans Felber-Charbonneau, Communications Coordinator
Ciaran O'Reilly, Programme Manager, GSP+ Global
Natalia Carrusca, Programme Associate GSP+
Frederike Schmitz, Programme Coordinator Asia
Cartney Pacheco, Programme Associate Asia
Katharina Jautz, Programme Coordinator MENA
Flora Cresswell, Programme Coordinator MENA
Hannah Becker, Programme Coordinator MENA
Oumaima Laaraki, Programme Associate MENA
Ruslana Vovk, Programme Manager Europe
Anastasia Pociumban, Programme Officer Europe
Jakub Jaraczewski, Legal Officer Europe
Christoph Reinke, Project Assistant Europe
Rafael Goldzweig, Research Coordinator Democracy &
Social Media
Madeline Brady, Programme Assistant Democracy &
Social Media
Kyra Wider, Programme Assistant
Sarah Grunert, Intern
Tim Bittiger, Senior Adviser

MYANMAR
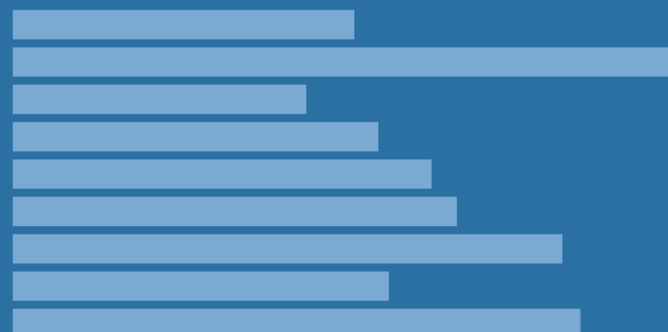
SRI LANKA

Jehan Jegatheesan, Project and Finance Manager
Sabra Zahid, Program Officer
Rebeca Alexander, Finance Assistant
Ashfath Ifham, Social Media Analyst

PAKISTAN

Javed Ahmed Malik, Country Representative
Muhammad Nasir, Head of Finance and Administration
Muhammad Rafique, Senior Human Rights and Advocacy Expert
Shafaq Kiani, Senior Human Rights and Governance Expert
Anam Akram, Programme Officer
Shaheera Syed, Programme Associate (Communications)
Touseef Ahmad Jan, Logistics and Procurement Associate
Muhammad Imran, Finance Associate
Hania Aftab, Project Assistant
Qurban Ali, Project Assistant
Muhammad Farman, Driver
Muhammad Riaz, Office Assistant
Saalem Khan Kakar, Provincial Coordinator, Baluchistan
Naghma Iqtidar, Provincial Coordinator, Sindh
Summiya Yousaf, Provincial Coordinator, Punjab
Khalfan Ahmed, Khattak Province Coordinator, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa

LEBANON

André Sleiman, Country Representative
Sara Audi, Finance and Administration Manager
Dory Abou Jaoude, Project Manager
Gaelle Youssef, Project Coordinator
Elie Haddad, Procurement and Logistics Coordinator
Joseph Sokhon, Programme Associate Communications

LIBYA

Rouba Beydoun, Libya Programme Director
Isam Saidi, Community Outreach Coordinator
Marwa Farid, Project Manager
Mohamed Zouaoui, Project Assistant
Walid El-Rageiag, Finance and Administration Manager
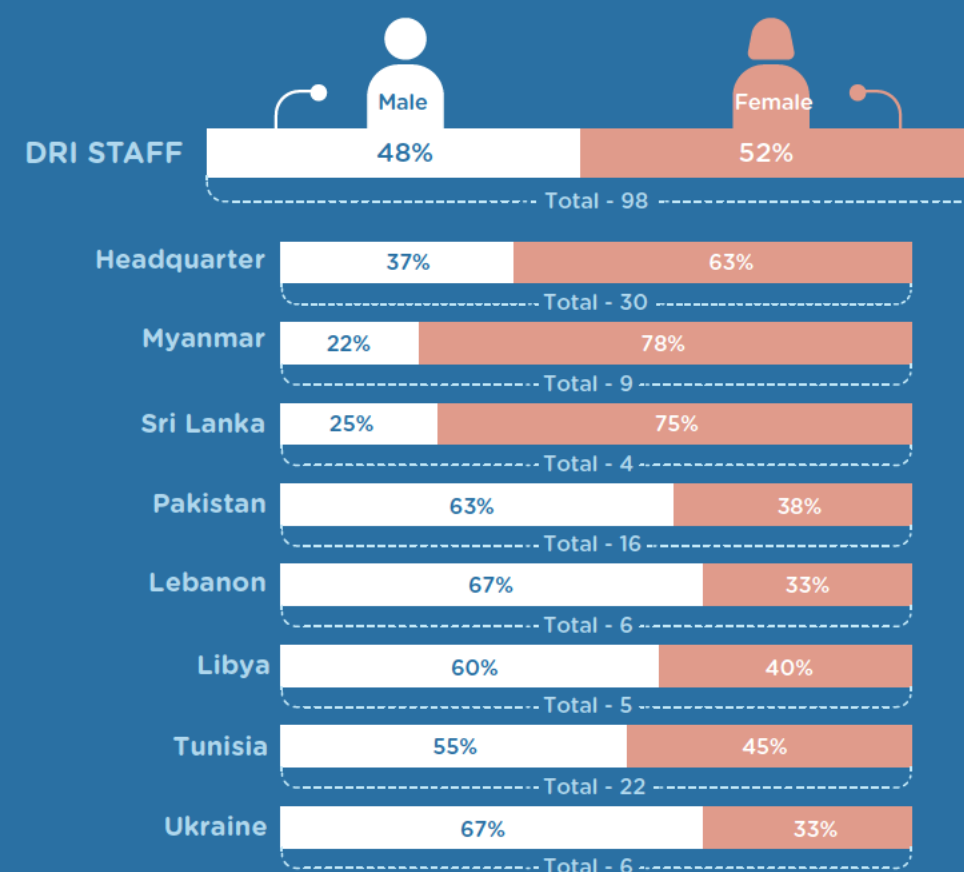
TUNISIA

Hervé de Baillenx, North Africa Regional Representative
Mohamed Wassim B'chir, Office Director
Mehdi Foudhaili, Legal Expert
Bilel Ayari, Operations Coordinator
Mejda Souissi, Civil Society & Legal Officer
Emna Mouelhi, Civil Society Officer
Ali Mhenni, Civil Society Officer

Ilhem Saadi, Human Resources Officer
Ferdaous Ben Sassi, Senior Expert Rule Of Law
Amine Thabet, Senior Legal Liaison
Aymen Allani, Youth Engagement Expert
Manel Lahrabi, Finance & Administration Officer
Zoubeir Daly, Senior Decentralization Expert
Sayfeddine Abidi, Project Officer Decentralization
Josselin Léon, Project Director
Saoussen Houidi, Senior Finance Officer
Amira Kridagh, Project Officer Rule Of Law
Seifallah Aissa, Logistics Officer
Amel Hanchi, Finance & Administration Officer
Marwa Ferchichi, Senior Monitoring, Evaluation &
Learning Officer
Yasmine Chaouch, Project Assistant
Houssemeddine Trabelsi, Logistic Assistant

UKRAINE

Dmytro Filipenko, Country Representatives
Maryana Kuzio-Ruetsche, Senior Project Manager
Bohdan Bernatskyi, Legal Expert
Dmytro Koval, Programme and Legal Officer
Anastasia Kudasheva, Administration Officer
Dmytro Drizhd, Finance &Administration Officer

STAFF BREAKDOWN BY GENDER

	Male	Female
DRI STAFF	48%	52%
	Total - 98	
Headquarter	37%	63%
	Total - 30	
Myanmar	22%	78%
	Total - 9	
Sri Lanka	25%	75%
	Total - 4	
Pakistan	63%	38%
	Total - 16	
Lebanon	67%	33%
	Total - 6	
Libya	60%	40%
	Total - 5	
Tunisia	55%	45%
	Total - 22	
Ukraine	67%	33%
	Total - 6	

FINANCIAL REVIEW 2019

INCOME BY DONOR

2%
114,393€
Swiss Federal
Department of
Foreign Affairs

5%
258,814€
Deutsche Gesellschaft
für Internationale
Zusammenarbeit (GIZ)

1%
40,112€
British Foreign &
Commonwealth Office

7%
367,165€
Dutch Ministry of
Foreign Affairs

8%
430,942€
Foundations, NGOs
& Others

23%
1,260,615€
European Union

TOTAL INCOME
5,544,718€

55%
3,072,675€
German Federal
Foreign Office
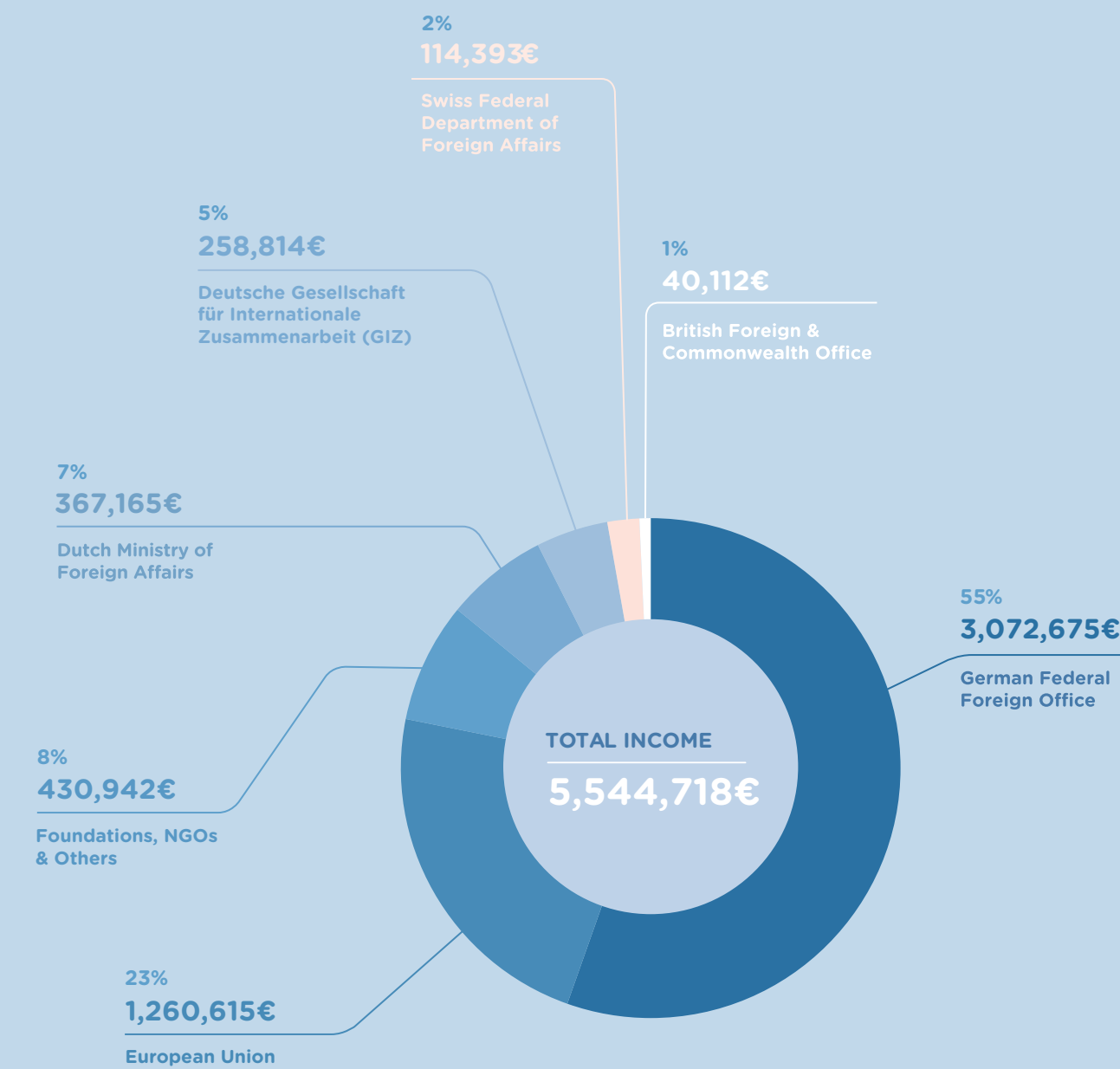
FINANCIAL DATA

EXPENSES BY COUNTRY

Country	%	Amount
TUNISIA	26.5%	1.399.922,42€
LIBYA	10.9%	578.423,48€
CROSS COUNTRY	10.9%	574.003,64€
LEBANON	10.8%	571.280,91€
MYANMAR	10.7%	567.714,37€
PAKISTAN	8.9%	467.876,42€
UKRAINE	8.3%	436.293,54€
EUROPE	4.3%	227.021,10€
GEORGIA	0.8%	40.492,93€
SRI LANKA	0.6%	31.667,60€
CONGO	0.5%	26.179,00€
NIGERIA	0.4%	19.034,54€
MOLDOVA	0.2%	9.164,30€
OTHER	0.1%	4.969,15€
NEPAL	0.003%	141,43€
ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS	6.3%	331.237,87€

TOTAL EXPENDITURE
5.285.422,7€

TURNOVER

Year	Grants	Service Contracts	
2015	91%	9%	Total - 3.555.232€
2016	90%	10%	Total - 4.036.489€
2017	93%	7%	Total - 5.084.326€
2018	85%	15%	Total - 3.851.120€
2019	95%	5%	Total - 5.544.718€

■ Grants
■ Service Contracts

OUR PARTNERS AND DONORS

DONORS

civitates — European Union

SKL International — Lebanon

giz Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH — Myanmar, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Tunisia,

Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft Confédération suisse Confederazione Svizzera Confederaziun svizra — Tunisia, Sri Lanka

ENGAGEMENT GLOBAL Service für Entwicklungsinitiativen — Lebanon

Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Netherlands — Tunisia

European Union — GSP+, Libya, Myanmar, Pakistan, Sri Lanka

Foreign & Commonwealth Office — Moldova, Pakistan, Tunisia

Federal Foreign Office — Georgia, Lebanon, Libya, Pakistan, Tunisia, Ukraine, Sri lanka

STIFTUNG MERCATOR — European Union

PARTNERS

Headquarters

- Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ)
- ElectionWatch.edu
- Forum Transregionale Studien (FTS)
- Global Focus
- GONG
- Komonos
- Media Lab at Instituto Universitário de Lisboa (ISCTE)
- MEMO 98
- National Democratic Institute (NDI)
- Open Society Foundations (OSF)
- Political Accountability Foundation

Myanmar

- Athan
- Bago Observation Group - BOG
- Can Myanmar – Civil Authorize Negotiate Organization
- Danish Institute for Parties and Democracy
- DEMO Finland
- Hanns Seidel Foundation (HSF)
- Humanity Institute
- IDEA
- Kanaung Institute
- Loka Ahlinn
- Mosaic Myanmar
- Myanmar Fifth Estate
- Myanmar Independent Living Initiative (MILI)
- Myanmar Institute for Democracy (MID)
- Myanmar Journalist Network (MJN)
- Myanmar National Human Rights Commission (MNHRC)
- NCA EAO Office
- Netherlands Institute for Multiparty Democracy
- New Myanmar Foundation (NMF)
- Phantee Eain (Creative Home)
- Pyidaungsu Institute
- Rain Maker – Myanmar Election Observation Network
- Union Election Commission (UEC)

Sri Lanka

- Centre for Monitoring Election Violence (CMEV)
- Hashtag Generation
- National Collaboration Development Foundation
- People's Action for Free and Fair Elections (PAFFREL)
- Shramabhimani Kendraya

Pakistan

- Department of Law, Parliamentary Affairs and Human Rights, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa
- Federal Parliament of Pakistan
- Human Rights and Minority Affairs Department of Punjab
- Local government departments of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Punjab
- Provincial Assembly, Balochistan
- Provincial Assembly, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa
- Provincial Assembly, Punjab
- Provincial Assembly, Sindh

Lebanon

- Gherbal Initiative
- Leadership for Sustainable Development
- Media Association for Peace
- NAHNOO
- Partnership Centre for Development and Democracy
- Women's Section of the Azm Movement Party
- Youth Council of Jabal El-Sheikh Union of Municipalities
- Youth Energy for Development

Libya

- A4 Group
- Al-Attaa Organisation for the Expatriate Workforce living in Southern Libya
- Al-Waha Development Organization
- Deutsche Welle Akademie
- Enmaa for the support of Women and Youth
- Forum of Libyan Women
- Idea Drivers for Development and Consulting Benghazi
- International Humanitarian Law Centre
- Judicial Organisation for Transitional Justice - Musrata
- Leaders Organisation for Community Development
- Libyan but my son is treated as an alien - Ghatt
- Libyan Development Organisation - Benghazi
- Libyan National Organisation for Persons with Disabilities Tripoli
- Masarat Organisation for Peace and Development Zawiya
- Nana Marne Development Organization
- Why Me Organization for Women's Rights

OUR PARTNERS AND DONORS

Tunisia

• Access to Information Authority
• Administrative Tribunal
• Al Kawakibi Democracy Transition Center
• Article-19
• Association des Magistrats Tunisiens
• Association for Democratic Transitions Research
• Association Tunisienne des Jeunes Magistrats
• Association Tunisienne pour l'Intégrité et la Démocratie des Elections
• Audit Court
• I WATCH
• Jeunesse Sans Frontières
• Ministry of local affairs and environment
• Mourakiboun
• Regional decentralisation authorities
• Tunisian Association for the Defence of Individual Liberties
• Tunisian Association of Administrative Sciences
• All municipalities in the following governorates: Ariana, Sfax, Tunis, Sidi Bouzid, Jendouba, Siliana, Kef, Kairouan, Kasserine, Béja.

Ukraine

• Institute of International Relations, Kyiv Taras Shevchenko National University

Georgia

• ForSet
• Georgian Young Lawyers Association (GYLA)

Moldova

• Centre for Policies and Reforms (CPR) Moldova

All DRI flights in 2019 were CO_2-offset as certified by:

atmosfair