



Supporting Engagement in European Elections and Democratic Societies

Ensuring the integrity of the 2024 European Parliament elections: Citizens-to-citizens capacity building

Wednesday, 6 December – Friday, 8 December 2023

[SQ Louise, Meeting Room Agora \(1st floor\), Avenue Louise 523, 1050 Brussels](#)

In view of the upcoming elections to the European Parliament (EP) in 2024, civil society commitment to defending democracy is more important than ever. The EP elections offer a chance to strengthen citizen participation, improve trust and promote identification with democratic values.

The run-up to the 6-9 June 2024 EP Elections will provide an opportunity to build a collective advocacy agenda with EU policy makers, improve inclusion and address equality issues for women, youth, voters with disabilities and other underrepresented groups. At the same time, innovative approaches on citizen election observation, social media monitoring, youth engagement or citizenship education are already being tested in the EU Member States.

The Supporting Engagement in European Elections and Democratic Societies (SEEEDS) project in-person workshop brings together a transnational European network of election experts and observers to exchange ideas and lessons learned of how best to coordinate and focus active citizen participation across the EU Member States and contribute to the integrity of the 2024 EP elections.

A transnational European network of citizens active on electoral and democracy issues is strengthened in its capacity to observe and report on the EP elections and to increase public awareness across EU 27 Member States.



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AGENDA

Wednesday, 6 December 2023

Arrival Day

Venue: [SQ Louise, Meeting Room Agora \(1st floor\), Avenue Louise 523, 1050 Brussels](#)

14:45 – 15:00 Registration & Coffee

15:00 – 15:10 Welcome and introduction to SEEEDS and workshop programme
Armin Rabitsch, Election-Watch.EU

Exchange of ideas & preparation for the three-day seminar

15:10 – 15:40 Round of introductions – ice breaker with interviews – 30 min
Brief update about electoral developments in respective EU Member States
Moderator: Michael Lidauer, Election-Watch.EU

15:40 – 16:30 Input presentations on changing electoral practices & role of observers
Moderator: Tatyana Hilscher-Bogusevich, Election-Watch.EU

“Citizen-led election observation of the 2023 Polish parliamentary elections”
Anna Frydrych-Depka from Political Accountability Foundation / Poland:

“Citizen-led election observation of the 2023 Slovak parliamentary elections”
Ivan Godarsky from MEMO98 / Slovakia

16:30 – 16:45 Health Break

16:45 – 17:45 Input presentations on new regulations and practices in the online space
Moderator: Armin Rabitsch, Election-Watch.EU

“Transparency and Targeting of Political Advertising (TPPA) Regulation” 10 min
Sofia Calabrese, Digital Policy Manager, EPD

“Code of Practice against Disinformation and Social Media Monitoring” 10 min
Jan Nicola Beyer, Digital Democracy Research Coordinator, DRI

“Mal-intended foreign interference in elections” 10 min
Adam Busuleanu, European Exchange Senior Program Officer, EPDE



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17:45 – 19:00 Free time

19:00 – 20:30 [Brasserie Surrealiste, Pl. du Nouveau Marché aux Grains 23, 1000 Bruxelles](#)

Thursday, 7 December

Full Workshop Day

Venue: [SQ Louise, Meeting Room Agora \(1st floor\), Avenue Louise 523, 1050 Brussels](#)

8:45 – 9:00 Registration & Coffee

9:00 – 9:15 Welcome and Recap Day 1
Michael Lidauer, Election-Watch.EU

9:15 – 9:30 Update about European Parliament elections and ongoing/pending EU-level legislative developments & upcoming SEEEDS activities
Armin Rabitsch, Election-Watch.EU

9:30 – 10:30 **European Parliament Elections Voter Information Strategy – together.eu**
Philipp Schulmeister, European Parliament Director Communications
Moderator: Armin Rabitsch, Election-Watch.EU

10:30 – 10:45 Health Break

Exchange of ideas & brainstorming on essential topics to cover by an EAM to the 2024 EP elections

10:45 – 11:45 Bloc 1: Break-out group discussion with rapporteurs
Legal Framework & Electoral System, Election Administration
Input: Tatyana Hilscher-Bogusevich, Election-Watch.EU – 10 min
Moderator: Michael Lidauer, Election-Watch.EU

11:45 – 12:45 Bloc 2: All-group discussion
Voter registration, mobile EU citizens
Input: Srd Kisevic & Cristian-Alexandru Leahu, European Commission DG JUST
Moderators: Armin Rabitsch & Tatyana Hilscher-Bogusevich, Election-Watch.EU



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12:45 – 13:45 Lunch break – delivery of sandwiches, wraps, salads, fruits & juices

13:45 – 13:55 Energiser – Michael Lidauer, Election-Watch.EU

13:55 – 15:30 Bloc 3: Break-out group discussion with rapporteurs
Persons with Disabilities, Women, Youth, National Monitories, Civic Space
Inputs:
On persons with disabilities' participation: Alejandro Moledo, Deputy Director, European Disability Forum
On youth, national minorities, civic space: Michael Lidauer, Election-Watch.EU
On women participation: Tatyana Hilscher-Bogussevich, Election-Watch.EU
Moderator: Armin Rabitsch, Election-Watch.EU

15:30 – 15:45 Health Break

15:45 – 16:45 Bloc 4: All-group discussion
European political parties (PP) and campaign finance
Input: Septimius Parvu, Expert Forum, Romania
EUPPs, Authority for Political Parties and Foundations (APPF), lead candidates, national regulations
Moderator: Michael Lidauer, Election-Watch.EU

16:45 – 17:35 Bloc 5: Break-out group discussion with rapporteurs
Social media, political advertising and online campaigning
Input: Jan Nicola Beyer, Digital Democracy Research Coordinator, Democracy Reporting International (TBC)
Digital Services Act, Transparency and Targeting of Political Advertising (TTPA), AI in elections, disinformation and deep fakes
Moderator: Armin Rabitsch, Election-Watch.EU

17:35 – 17:45 Wrap up Day 2
Moderator: Tatyana Hilscher-Bogussevich, Election-Watch.EU

17:45 – 19:00 Free time

19:00 – 20:30 [Ristorante Antas, Rue General Leman 5, Etterbeek, Brussels 1040 Belgium](#)
close to place Jourdan



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Friday, 8 December

Half-Day workshop - Departure Day

Venue: [SQ Louise, Meeting Room Agora \(1st floor\), Avenue Louise 523, 1050 Brussels](#)

8:45 – 9:00

Coffee

9:00 – 9:10

Welcome and Recap Day 1 & 2
Armin Rabitsch, Election-Watch.EU

9:10 – 10:30

Bloc 6: Break-out group discussion with rapporteurs
Input: Armin Rabitsch, Election-Watch.EU
→ Operational and logistical aspects
→ Reporting & data collection
→ EU MS team building, communication and information
→ Structure & time frame
→ Costs and funding
Moderator: Michael Lidauer, Election.Watch.EU

10:30 – 10:45

Health Break

10:45 – 11:30

Bloc 7: All-group discussion
Continued from Bloc 6 & preparation of the Election-Watch.EU Election
Assessment Mission
Exchange on good practices & young voter outreach
Moderators: Armin Rabitsch, Michael Lidauer Election-Watch.EU

11:30 – 12:15

Way forward and next steps
Moderators: Armin Rabitsch, Michael Lidauer, Election-Watch.EU

12:15

End and departure



About SEEEDS:

The EU-funded project “Supporting Engagement in European Elections and Democratic Societies” (SEEEDS) aims on raising awareness about the European elections and bridging the gap between active European citizens and EU decision makers.

The SEEEDS project pursues five interlinked objectives:

1. To expand and strengthen civil society engagement in electoral processes;
2. to strengthen the network of electoral experts for an assessment of the European elections in 2024;
3. to develop practical recommendations at European level;
4. to contribute to the fight against disinformation, and;
5. to encourage citizen participation, in particular of women, youth, voters with disabilities, and mobile European citizens.

The SEEEDS project brings together four civil society partners, the European Partnership for Democracy (EPD), Election-Watch.EU (EW), Democracy Reporting International (DRI), and European Platform for Democratic Elections (EPDE).