



Interparliamentary Assembly of Member Nations of the Commonwealth of Independent States

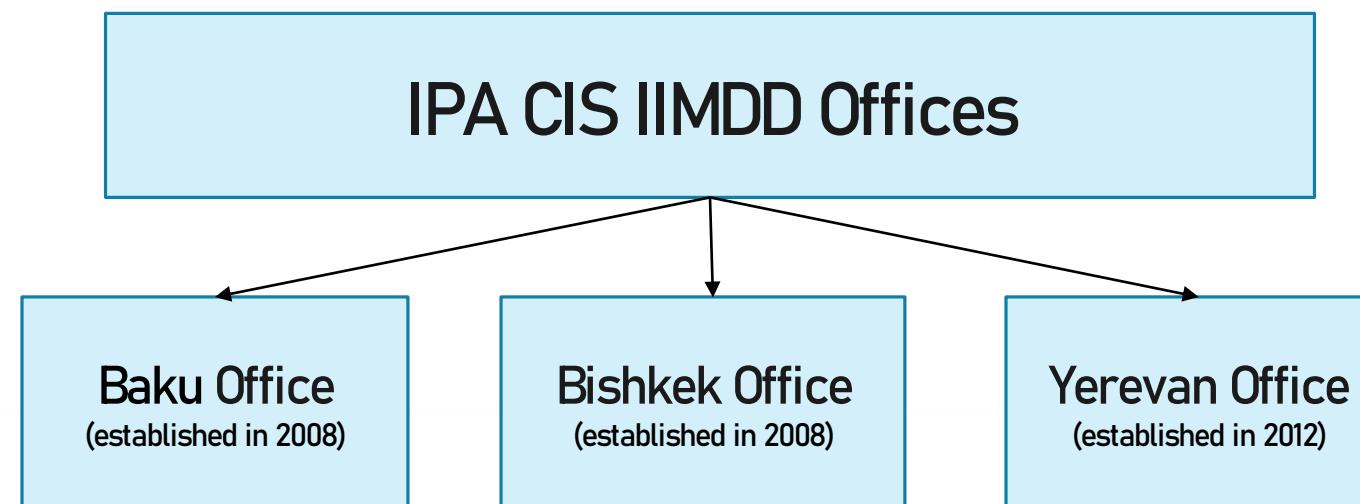


International Institute for Monitoring the Democracy Development, Parliamentarianism and Suffrage Protection of Citizens of the IPA CIS Member Nations

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In accordance with the Regulations on the IPA CIS IIMDD, the Institute is a subsidiary advisory body of the CIS Interparliamentary Assembly.

The IPA CIS IIMDD was established in 2006 with the aim of facilitating information exchange, compiling best practices in promoting democracy and parliamentarism, and ensuring the observance of citizens' electoral rights.



The IPA CIS IIMDD carries out analytical, methodological, educational and advisory activities, participates in research work, organizes and supports the activities of CIS international observers during elections and referendums.

ENSURING THE ACTIVITIES OF CIS INTERNATIONAL OBSERVERS

On the basis of the provisions of the Convention on the Standards of Democratic Elections, Electoral Rights and Freedoms in the Member States of the Commonwealth of Independent States, the Declaration of the Interparliamentary Assembly of Member Nations of the Commonwealth of Independent States on Principles of International Observation of Elections and Referendums in the CIS Member Nations, the Recommendations for CIS International Observers on Elections and Referenda Monitoring (revised, 2022) and in accordance with the principles of international observation: respect for state sovereignty, transparency, universality, reciprocity, professionalism, impartiality, provision of effective assistance, legality, security, non interference in the electoral process, prohibition of foreign interference in elections, objectivity, the IPA CIS IIMDD supports the activities of the CIS Observer Mission and the IPA CIS group of international observers.

This support includes:

Methodological, analytical, and research support for the CIS Observer Mission;

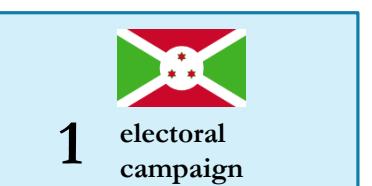
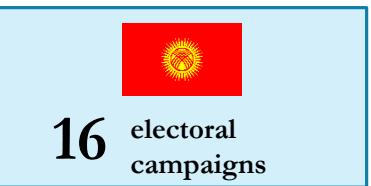
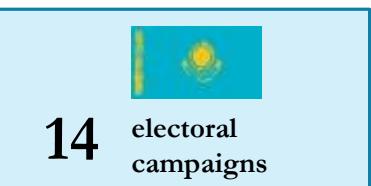
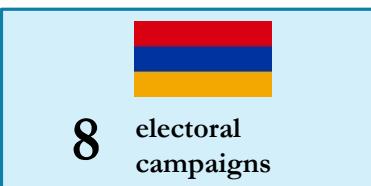
Organizational, methodological, analytical, and research support for the IPA CIS group of international observers;

Organizing long-term observation activities and forming an expert group to prepare documents for IPA CIS international observers;

Submitting a report to the national electoral administration authority of the host state after the completion of electoral procedures and announcement of election results, based on the findings submitted.

INTERNATIONAL OBSERVATION OF ELECTIONS AND REFERENDUMS

Since its establishment, the IPA CIS IIMDD has supported international observer groups in monitoring 123 electoral campaigns, including referendums, presidential, parliamentary and local elections, both in the CIS Member States and beyond the Commonwealth (the Republic of Serbia, Mongolia, the Republic of Nicaragua, the Republic of Burundi, the Republic of Namibia, the Republic of Uganda).



ANALYTICAL AND RESEARCH ACTIVITIES OF THE IPA CIS IIMDD

Monitoring processes that characterize the development of national legislation in the fields of democracy and parliamentarism, citizens' electoral rights, and the conduct of elections and referendums in the IPA CIS Member Nations, as well as related research and development efforts.

Analysing the implementation of IPA CIS Model Laws in national legislation, particularly in the areas of electoral law, regulation of political parties and public organisations and protection of citizens' electoral rights.

Reviewing international practices in parliamentary development, including the work of international parliamentary and non governmental organisations in advancing democracy.

Examining the activities of international organisations in election and referendum observation, and laying the groundwork for developing unified international standards for election observation.

Preparing recommendations on the application of international law in model and national legislation of the CIS Member States.

Cooperating with relevant international organisations to forge common positions on election assessment and observation methodology.

The IPA CIS IIMDD participates in research work, including research on the development of democracy, the advancement of Parliamentarism, the protection of citizens' electoral rights in the IPA CIS Member Nations. The Institute organises and conducts forums, conferences, roundtables, seminars, parliamentary schools, and electoral training programmes, produces publications based on the outcomes of these events.

ANALYTICAL AND RESEARCH ACTIVITIES OF THE IPA CIS IIMDD

International Research and Practice Conference

“TECHNOLOGIES OF ELECTORAL PROCESS AND MONITORING OF ELECTIONS”,

dedicated to the 15th anniversary of the establishment of the IPA CIS IIMDD, organised by the IPA CIS*

(13-14 May 2021).

International Research and Practice Conference

“YOUTH PARTICIPATION IN THE ELECTORAL PROCESS: EXPERIENCE OF THE IPA CIS MEMBER NATIONS”,

organised by the IPA CIS IIMDD jointly with the Youth Interparliamentary Assembly of the CIS Member States

(21 May 2021).

Roundtable

“STUDENT COOPERATION IN THE CIS”,

organised by the IPA CIS IIMDD within the framework of the Youth Interparliamentary Forum “Young Parliamentarians – Looking into the Future of the Commonwealth”

(9 June 2022).

International Research and Practice Conference

“THE CIS CONVENTION ON THE STANDARDS OF DEMOCRATIC ELECTIONS: OPEN SPACE FOR INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION”,

organised by the IPA CIS, the CIS Executive Committee, and the Central Election Commission of the Russian Federation*

(6-7 October 2022).

International Forum

“ST. PETERSBURG – THE PARLIAMENTARY CAPITAL OF THE COMMONWEALTH” on the occasion of the 320th anniversary of St. Petersburg,

organised by the IPA CIS, the Government of Saint Petersburg, the Legislative Assembly of Saint Petersburg*

(18-19 May 2023).

International Seminar “PROTECTING THE ELECTORAL SOVEREIGNTY OF THE IPA CIS MEMBER NATIONS”,

organised by the IPA CIS IIMDD, the Joint Commission at the IPA CIS for the Harmonization of National Laws Related to Security, Countering Emerging Threats and Challenges, the IPA CIS Permanent Commission on Defense and Security Issues, the Election Commission of the Leningrad Region, the Faculty of Political Science at Saint Petersburg State University

(12-13 October 2023).

* The IPA CIS IIMDD provided research, analytical, and methodological support for these events.

ANALYTICAL AND RESEARCH ACTIVITIES OF THE IPA CIS IIMDD

INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH AND PRACTICE
CONFERENCE

“THE INSTITUTION OF PRESIDENTIAL POWER IN CIS COUNTRIES”,

organised by

the IPA CIS,

the IPA CIS IIMDD,

the Academy of Public Administration under the
President of the Republic of Belarus,

Herzen State Pedagogical University of Russia,

North-West Institute of Management of the
Russian Presidential Academy of National
Economy and Public Administration,

Academy of Public Administration under the
President of the Republic of Tajikistan

(23 May 2024).

INTERNATIONAL ROUNDTABLE

“PROFESSIONALISM OF ELECTORAL ADMINISTRATION BODIES AS A FACTOR IN BUILDING VOTER TRUST IN ELECTORAL AND REFERENDUM INSTITUTIONS”,

organised by

the IPA CIS, the IPA CIS IIMDD,

the CIS Advisory Board of the Heads of the
Electoral Bodies,

the Election Commission of the Leningrad Region,

St. Petersburg Election Commission,

Gatchina State University

(29 May 2025).

INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH AND PRACTICE
CONFERENCE

“30 YEARS OF INTERNATIONAL ELECTION OBSERVATION IN THE CIS: EXPERIENCE AND PRACTICAL OUTCOMES”,

organised by

the Interparliamentary Assembly of the CIS
Member Nations*

(21 November 2024).

ROUNDTABLE

“ELECTORAL PROCESSES: EXPERIENCE OF CIS AND LATIN AMERICAN COUNTRIES”,

organised by

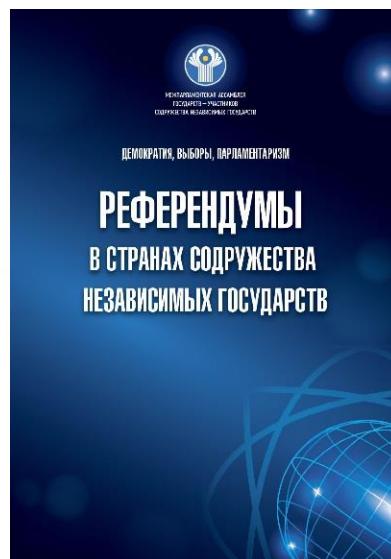
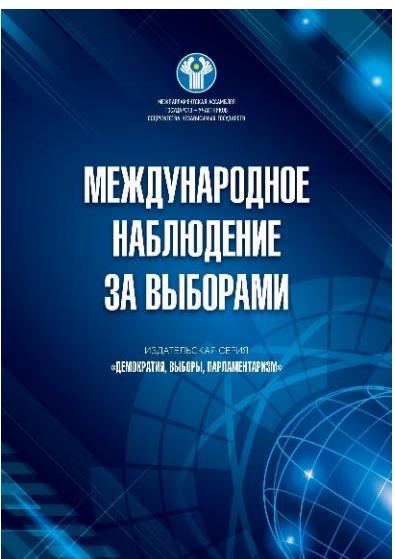
the IPA CIS IIMDD
(1 October 2025).

* The IPA CIS IIMDD provided research, analytical, and methodological support for these events.

ANALYTICAL AND RESEARCH ACTIVITIES OF THE IPA CIS IIMDD

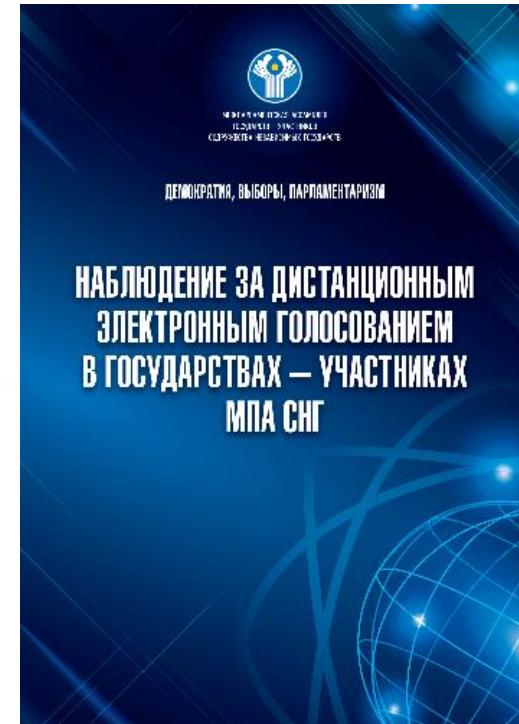
PUBLISHING PROJECT “DEMOCRACY, ELECTIONS, PARLIAMENTARISM”

In 2021, at the initiative of the IPA CIS IIMDD, the publishing project “Democracy, Elections, Parliamentarism” was launched. Under this project, the following collective monographs were published: “International Election Observation”, “Digitalization and Elections”, “Standards of Democratic Elections: History and Practice”, “Security of the Electoral Process”, “Referendums in the Member States of the Commonwealth of Independent States” and the “Dictionary of the International Observer”.



PUBLISHING PROJECT “DEMOCRACY, ELECTIONS, PARLIAMENTARISM”

“Methodology for Monitoring Elections and Referendums”;
“The Institution of Presidential Power in the CIS Countries”;
“Monitoring Remote Electronic Voting in the IPA CIS Member Nations”;
“Law, Rights, and “Rules” in International Election and Referendum Observation”.



METHODOLOGICAL ACTIVITIES OF THE IPA CIS IIMDD

Assisting in the preparation of IPA CIS documents in the fields of democracy promotion, parliamentarism, and protection of citizens' electoral rights.

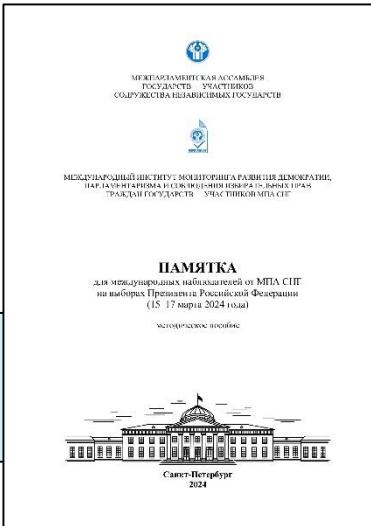
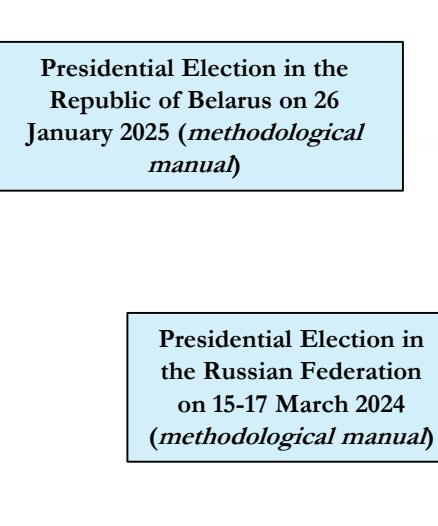
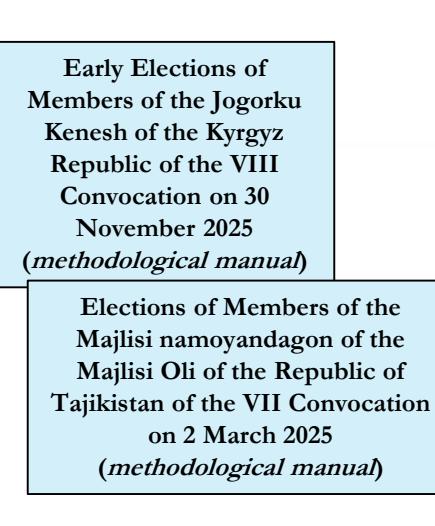
Developing proposals and recommendations to improve and harmonise international standards for election observation, in order to ensure and protect citizens' electoral rights.

Participating in the drafting of model laws and methodological recommendations aimed at enhancing the legislation of the IPA CIS Member Nations in the areas of democracy, parliamentarism, and electoral law.

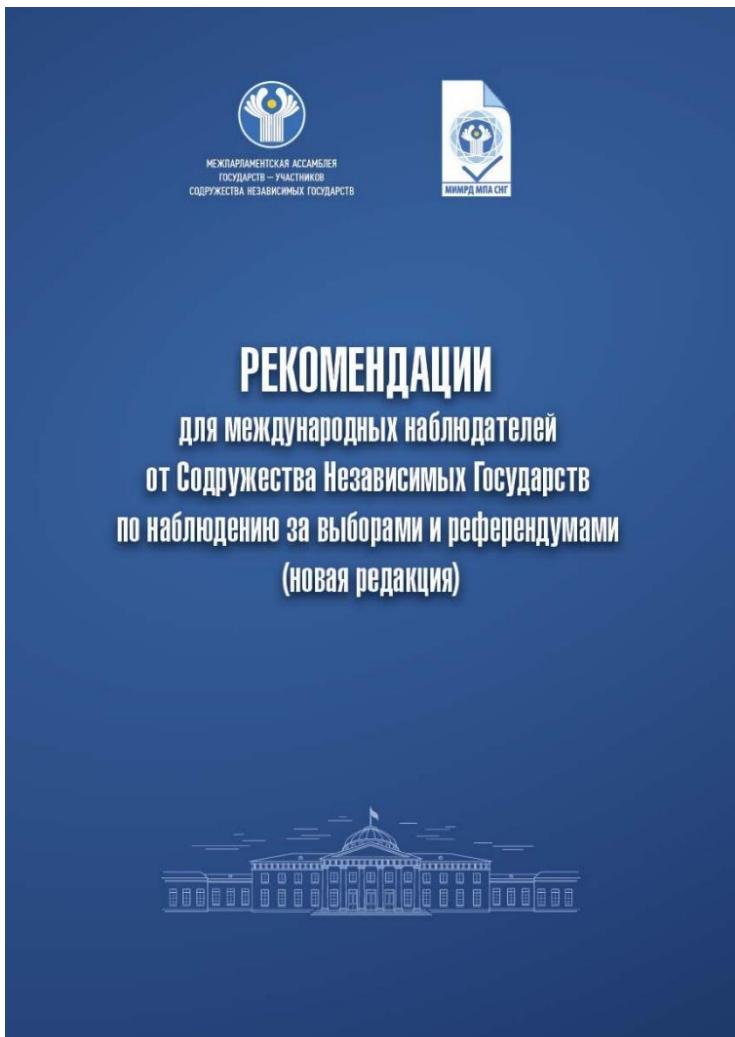
Providing methodological support for the IPA CIS international observers and the CIS Observer Mission during the monitoring of elections and referendums.

Developing and publishing methodological materials to assess the dynamics of democratic development based on international standards.

To support the work of IPA CIS international observers at elections and referendums in the CIS Member States, the IPA CIS IIMDD develops methodological manuals, including:



METHODOLOGICAL ACTIVITIES OF THE IPA CIS IIMDD



Recommendations for CIS International Observers on Elections and Referenda Monitoring (revised), adopted by Resolution No. 54-4 of the IPA CIS Council on 28 October 2022, contribute to the improvement and harmonisation of international election observation standards and ensure the protection of citizens' electoral rights.

EDUCATIONAL AND ADVISORY ACTIVITIES OF THE IPA CIS IIMDD

- Development of special courses and programmes to train and enhance the skills of international election observers.;
- Facilitating the development and implementation of national programmes to enhance the legal literacy of voters and election organisers, promoting familiarisation with the fundamentals of the democratic electoral process and the procedures for ensuring and exercising citizens' electoral rights, supporting the creation of conditions for comprehensive and objective media coverage of the preparation and conduct of elections and referendums;
- Development (in coordination with parliaments) of special courses and programmes on electoral law together with election administration bodies of the CIS Member States, and assistance in their implementation at higher education institutions in the CIS Member States;
- Exchange of information on the practices of representative bodies of power at various levels, organisation of cooperation between legislative and executive branches, and compilation of best practices in this area;
- Development of recommendations to improve the functioning of representative bodies of power in the IPA CIS Member Nations.

In accordance with the Plan of Priority Actions in the Field of Humanitarian Cooperation of the CIS Member States for 2021-2022, approved by the Council of the CIS Heads of Government, the IPA CIS IIMDD developed and included in the curriculum of the Faculty of International Relations at St. Petersburg State University an educational course “International Election and Referendum Observation”, designed for master’s degree students.

The curriculum for this course (in the field of “International Relations”) has been proposed to higher education institutions in the CIS Member States.

Staff members and experts of the IPA CIS IIMDD deliver lectures to students on electoral topics at the invitation of higher education institutions of the CIS Member States.

ACTIVITIES OF THE IPA CIS IIMDD ON YOUTH ENGAGEMENT

The Institute organises events for students from the Commonwealth states to enhance legal literacy, disseminate knowledge about the principles of the democratic electoral process, build competencies necessary for exercising electoral rights, foster and strengthen humanitarian ties between the states.

International Research and Practice Conference in the Format of Academic Debates
(held since 2018)

International Student Internet Olympiad “Electoral Systems of the World”

(held since 2020, over 12,000 students have participated in total)
In 2025, 3 219 students from 305 universities across the CIS states took part.

International Youth Parliamentary School
(held since 2021)

Youth Electoral School
(held since 2023)

Quiz “I Know How to Choose” for high school students
(held since 2022)

International Youth Discussion Club “Tavricheskiy”

(held since 2023, participants include CEC heads, experts, and university students from the CIS states). It focuses on how youth view electoral and civic issues.

International Olympiad in Humanities and Social Sciences for Schoolchildren from CIS Countries

adopted by the IPA CIS Council on 13 April 2023, at the initiative of the IPA CIS IIMDD.

(Held annually since the 2023/2024 academic year in the subjects “Social Studies” and “Russian Language”)

Children’s Educational Game Voting “Let’s Choose!”

(developed by the IPA CIS IIMDD jointly with the Election Commission of the Leningrad Region. Implemented during the Governor of the Leningrad Region elections on 12-14 September 2025)

COOPERATION WITH INTERNATIONAL AND PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS

The IPA CIS IIMDD organises cooperation with CIS bodies and international organisations whose activities cover issues related to electoral processes, election monitoring, the development of parliamentarism, the protection of citizens' rights, and enhancement of legal literacy and civic awareness. The Institute also fosters cooperation with higher education institutions that are partners of the IPA CIS Council Secretariat.

Since 2006, the IPA CIS IIMDD has been cooperating with the CIS Executive Committee in the methodological training of international observers and monitoring of electoral processes, through the exchange of practical experience via joint conferences, seminars, and roundtables, by participating in each other's events, in developing recommendations and resolutions based on the outcomes of such events.

Faculty members from higher education institutions in the CIS Member States participate in the IPA CIS IIMDD's activities by organising and conducting academic, professional, pre graduation, and research internships for students and by supporting student and schoolchild participation in youth events organised by the IPA CIS IIMDD (olympiads, quizzes, conferences, roundtables, schools, academic debates, discussion clubs).

INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION IN THE ELECTORAL SPHERE

In order to align approaches to assessing democratic institutions and to improve the electoral process, the IPA CIS IIMDD engages in cooperation with the central election commissions of foreign countries. This cooperation includes information exchange and participation in joint events at relevant international platforms.

Representatives of the IPA CIS Council Secretariat, with advisory voting rights, participate in the meetings of the CIS Advisory Board of the Heads of the Electoral Bodies. This Board was established by the decision of the Council of the CIS Heads of State on 14 October 2022.

A Working Group on Youth Policy in the Electoral Sphere operates under the auspices of this Advisory Board. The IPA CIS IIMDD staff members are part of this Working Group.

A separate area of cooperation is the practical partnership with Republic Electoral Commission of the Republic of Serbia. At its invitation, experts from the IPA CIS IIMDD have repeatedly conducted monitoring missions during elections and referendums.

The activities of the IPA CIS IIMDD aimed at enhancing the legal literacy of voters, ensuring and exercising citizens' electoral rights, creating conditions for comprehensive and objective coverage of the preparation and conduct of elections in foreign countries have been incorporated into the foreign policy priorities of the Russian Federation by decision of the Federation Council of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation:

RESOLUTION OF THE FEDERATION COUNCIL OF THE FEDERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION
on the Priorities of the Foreign Policy of the Russian Federation

Moscow, 15 December 2021, No. 549-FC

It is recommended that the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation:
— promote the capabilities of the IPA CIS IIMDD as an international body tasked with fostering voters' legal literacy, ensuring and exercising citizens' electoral rights, creating conditions for comprehensive and objective media coverage of election preparation and conduct in foreign states.

RESOLUTION OF THE FEDERATION COUNCIL OF THE FEDERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION
on the Implementation of the Concept of the Foreign Policy of the Russian Federation

Moscow, 22 December 2023, No. 809-FC.

It is recommended that the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation:
— continue its work to realise the potential of the International Institute for Monitoring the Democracy Development, Parliamentarianism and Suffrage Protection of Citizens of the IPA CIS Member Nations, encourage friendly states that are not yet parties to the Convention on the Standards of Democratic Elections, Electoral Rights and Freedoms in the CIS Member States (adopted on 7 October 2002) to accede to this international instrument.

RESOLUTION OF THE FEDERATION COUNCIL OF THE FEDERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION
on the Implementation of the Concept of the Foreign Policy of the Russian Federation

Moscow, 24 December 2025, No. 676-FC

It is recommended that the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation:
— continue its efforts to enhance the potential of the International Institute for Monitoring the Democracy Development, Parliamentarianism and Suffrage Protection of Citizens of the IPA CIS Member Nations, facilitate the accession to the Convention on the Standards of Democratic Elections, Electoral Rights and Freedoms in the CIS Member States (adopted on 7 October 2002) by countries willing to assume obligations under this instrument.