

1. Mother Theresa Association
2. Center for Peace and Tolerance
3. Center for Policies and Advocacy
4. Syri i Vizionit
5. ATTA
6. Kosova Democratic Institute
7. KCIC
8. FOL Movement
9. Mundesia
10. ACTIV

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 1, JUNE -AUGUST 2013



I. OBSERVER TRAINING

Long term observers are trained, becoming trainers for short term observers

24-25 August 2013 - Trainings were held for the 80 long term observers (LTOs) whom DiA plans to deploy for the local elections 2013, and train short term observers. During these trainings, LTOs were trained on several modules: 1) Monitoring of the Political Campaign and finance; 2) Active Citizenry; and 3) Election Day. The long term observers will work with the DiA regional coordinators in September to organize trainings for all short term observers, whom DiA plans to deploy during Election Day.

II. VOTER EDUCATION

DiA educates out of country voters

August 2013 - A campaign to inform out of country voters kicked off on 22nd of August. DiA placed two informational stands at the Prishtina airport and Merdare border checkpoint, distributing brochures for out of country voters as they travel out of the country. The campaign aims to increase the participation of voters in the local elections.



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No democracy with one gender

July/August 2013 – Democracy in Action held a public debate in Pristina and Prizren, to advocate for a better inclusion of women in the electoral process. This debate was attended by member of the Central Election Commission (CEC), women's informal parliamentary group, political entities, women's informal parliamentary group, heads of women forums in political entities, representatives of civil society and international organizations.



DiA published the call for proposals for small grants

July/August 2013 - Democracy in Action (DiA) plans to cooperate with organizations that promote women's rights to implement voter education activities in order to improve women's participation in the electoral process. DiA will support these organizations by providing 7 micro-grants in different regions of Kosovo. At least, one of the organizations will be selected amongst the minority communities. The organizations have submitted a substantial number of proposals. A group composed of DiA members and secretariat will review and decide upon the proposals in the upcoming days.

DiA observed the parliamentary elections in albania

Pristina, 16 July 2013 - Democracy in Action organized a round-table discussion with the topic "Elections in Albania – Lessons learned for Kosovo", which was attended by representatives of political entities, civil society, Central Election Commission and foreign organizations. With the support of OSCE, DiA deployed eight short term observers to on the parliamentary elections of 23 of June in Albania who monitored the conduct of the voting and counting process.



DiA on the media:

- Shqipe Pantina, DiA member, discussed about the electoral reform in RTV 21.
- Petrit Zogaj, DiA member, discussed about the ballot format in the INFO Magazine, hosted by Klan Kosova.
- Dardan Berisha, DiA coordinator, discussed about the local elections in Interaktiv, hosted by KTV.
- Ismet Kryeziu, KDI director, discussed about local elections in Debat, hosted by RTK.
- Valmir Ismaili, discussed preparations of CEC and certification of political entities, KTV main news.
- Shqipe Gjocaj, published an editorial on Koha Ditore newspaper regarding the participation of women in the election process.

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DiA board meetings

June-August 2013 – Democracy in Action Board Members have met several times during the June-August 2013 period, and have taken important decisions regarding the observation of 2013 local elections. Among other things, the DiA board decided to:

- be as inclusive as possible during the election monitoring process by establishing partnerships with various organizations;
- to develop and approve the strategy of DiA involvement in pre-election, election and post-election process;
- set standards and necessary qualifications upon which DiA observers will be recruited;
- choose upon the strategy for publication of results;
- designed the strategy for communication with media and the public



Building a stronger network of organizations

June/August 2013 – Democracy in Action held meetings with partners from all regions of Kosovo in order to mobilize local organizations, media and women associations to become part of Democracy in Action, in order to give their contribution in the observation of November 3 local elections.

DiA has signed memorandums of understandings with organizations from different regions of Kosovo, which will be engaged in the observation of elections. DiA is open to any organizations that are willing to contribute in the process.



Events in the upcoming month – September 2013

- Trainings for short term observers;
- Launching of TV clips in Albanian and Serbian languages;
- 7 public debates in different Kosovo municipalities;
- 10 mock elections for young voters;
- Debate and brochures for voters with special needs;
- Printing of 50.000 sugar packs.