

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 NR. 3, DECEMBER – FEBRUARY 2013/2014



## ROUND TWO OF LOCAL ELECTIONS FOR MAYOR

**1 DECEMBER 2013** - DiA has monitored the electoral process in the second round of local elections for mayors in all municipalities where the process of runoff is being organized. Similar to November 3<sup>rd</sup>, DiA in order to monitor this process has engaged 1,600 short term observers and some mobile teams. There were some irregularities as a snapshot of the vote, there was the presence of political party propaganda material and in some polling stations there were problems with voter lists, whether it was the presence of dead people on the list, or the difficulties citizens faced to find their names in the voter list.

## IRREGULARITIES IN THE VOTING PROCESS

**1 DECEMBER 2013** - DiA has continued to monitor the second round of the mayoral election process in all those municipalities where the runoff process is organized. According to DiA until 12 o'clock in the polls the turnout of the citizens was about 13%.

Among the incidents reported are:

**Mitrovica**- A physical fight within the polling station in the center 1116b/01

**Gjakova**- In the school "Yll Morina", center 0202x / 07, the voting center manager voted without the appropriate identification.

**Ferizaj**- In the village Varosh, it is suspected that a civilian vehicle allegedly possessed within him a ballot box.

There were also other irregularities such as the attempt to vote on behalf of someone else, the attempt to vote more than once and the attempt to vote with false identification documents.



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## MEETINGS FOR THE INCLUSION OF WOMEN IN LOCAL GOVERNMENT

**13 DECEMBER 2013** - DiA has organized meetings and debates in Suharekë, Podujevë, Rahovec and Prizren with the theme "Women in the Executive, reality or challenge after local elections in 2013". In this roundtable the discussion was focused on the possibilities of representation of women in the executive. Participants estimated that despite women's participation in elections and their candidacy for the municipality assembly, the will and readiness to access decision-making positions still lacks.



## THERE ARE NO FREE ELECTIONS WITHOUT GOOD INTENTIONS

**13 FEBRUARY 2014** – DiA has introduced the report of the 2013 local election observation titled "No free elections without good intentions." Ismet Kryeziu leader of the coalition of NGOs Democracy in Action, has estimated that the administration of local elections in 2013, has been much better than past elections. However he mentioned some of the irregularities that have followed the recent electoral process such as the unclean lists of voters, the large number of invalid ballots and frequent cases of family voting. In this table the representatives of civil society organizations also debated and praised the role of women in the last election, referring to the Ms. Mimoza Kusari-Lila president of Gjakova. Igballe Rugova representative of the network of women said that we are finally seeing a democracy that is coming to Kosovo.

## THE INVOLVEMENT OF WOMEN IN THE EXECUTIVE

**19 DECEMBER 2013** - DiA has organized a debate on the topic: "Local government and gender balance in the executive", with the new mayors of several municipalities and representatives of civil society, political parties and media. There they presented some of the findings in relation to gender balance in Kosovo municipalities. Other participants have stressed that women's representation in local institutions remains only within the 30 percent quota without having an active executive role. For more, there were discussions on this debate that talked about the functioning of the forum of women, respect of law for gender equality in the municipality, and why not aim to make the quota 50% because for such is the percentage of women in the population, and also the more respectful representation of women by the media.

