

# DECSA/EI - STRENGTHENING DEMOCRATIC INSTITUTIONS AND SUPPORTING ELECTORAL LEGITIMACY AROUND THE WORLD

The company DECSA and its partner NGO Electoral Institute (EI) were founded in Slovakia in 2014 with the aim to provide assistance, consultancy and know-how in the field of democratisation, elections, electoral systems, voter registers, data analysis and statistics, public opinion research, development and conflict resolution. Key experts of both organizations have a long-lasting experience with cooperation with international institutions such as OSCE-ODHIR, EU EOMs, IFES and ENEMO in Europe, Latin America, Africa and Asia.

In the past years the DECSA/EI members have developed a methodology for Voter Register Audits which was also successfully tested in a pilot study in Sidi Bouzid governorate in Tunisia in cooperation with the most prominent domestic observer organisation Mourakiboun. DECSA/EI experts provided this organisation also with a thorough training on Parallel Vote Tabulation which will furnish them with valuable tools for checking the integrity of future electoral processes. Our staff members have likewise trained domestic observers groups in Egypt and Burma on observation methodology, analysis of legal frameworks for elections, and a variety of further electoral issues. The DECSA/EI staff has been also actively involved in providing support to various dissident groups in Cuba in their fight for a democratisation of Cuban society and an enhancement of the respect for human rights on the part of the state institutions. Similarly, our experts participated in a pilot project aimed at the implementation of recommendations of past EU Election Observation Missions. This project, sponsored by the Czech Ministry of Foreign Affairs, was conducted in Sierra Leone where the EU (and also other) mission had underlined the necessity of providing an impartial capacity building programme to a wider range of political competitors in order to eliminate the advantage of incumbency. As a result party agents from all main political parties were trained within this project as advised by the previous EU EOM. Our experts have experience with election consultancy and assistance for example as members of the OSCE/ODIHR Election Support Team to Afghanistan 2014, or the IFES Polling Station Advisors Project in Kosovo 2010.

DECSA/EI experts have worked on electoral issues also in academic institutions and have participated in dozens of election observation missions with the OSCE/ODIHR, EU and ENEMO as core team members, LTOs and STOs in many countries in Europe, Africa, Asia and America.

Our current expertise includes a wide range of election related items, such as: assessing and enhancing the performance of Electoral Management Bodies (EMBs); electoral statistics; voter registration; voter register audit; parallel vote tabulation; training of domestic observers groups and EMB staff; electoral systems and analysis of the impact of the chosen electoral system on local political scene; mathematical foundations of the different mechanisms for translating votes into seats; analysis of the legal framework for elections; political analysis as well as the impact of the security situation on electoral processes.



## Founding Experts:

Robert Bystricky  
vergento@gmail.com

Peter Michalik  
pemichalik@gmx.net