

ODIHR Update

November 2016 No. 5



Fundamental freedoms respected in highly competitive US elections campaign characterized by personal attacks, intolerant rhetoric, international observers say



ODIHR Director Michael Georg Link observing at a polling station in Washington during the 8 November 2016 general elections in the United States. (OSCE/Thomas Rymer)

The international election observers from ODIHR and the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly [concluded](#) in their [preliminary statement](#) that the 8 November U.S. general elections were highly competitive and demonstrated commitment to fundamental freedoms of expression, assembly and association. They also noted that the presidential campaign was characterized by harsh personal attacks, as well as intolerant rhetoric, particularly by one candidate.

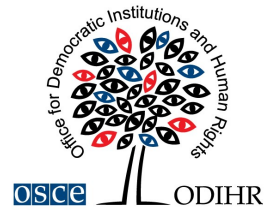
This was the first time in recent years ODIHR and the OSCE PA observed elections in the United States together. The mission deployed by ODIHR included 190 long- and short-term observers, including

ODIHR Director Michael Georg Link and the head of mission, Ambassador Audrey Glover. Christine Muttonen served as Special Co-ordinator and leader of the short-term OSCE observer mission, and the delegation of 104 parliamentarians and staff from the OSCE PA was headed by Makis Voridis.



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ODIHR publishes 2015 hate crime data on International Day for Tolerance, calls for renewed efforts to meet data-collection commitments

ODIHR, on the 16 November International Day for Tolerance, [released](#) on its dedicated website its [hate crime data for 2015](#).

“Recording solid data is the first step in effectively countering hate crime. It is only by having a clear picture of the situation that local authorities can develop the appropriate

tools to respond to these crimes,” said ODIHR Director Michael Georg Link. “Much is still to be done to overcome the current levels of under-recording, and full implementation of hate crime legal provisions remains challenging. ODIHR supports the efforts of all participating States to meet their commitments in this area.”

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HATE CRIME REPORTING

hatecrime.osce.org

Youth activism’s crucial role in addressing anti-Semitism, discrimination and intolerance was focus of event at the European Youth Centre

The role youth activists can play in countering anti-Semitism and other forms of intolerance was at the centre of a [seminar](#) organized by the ODIHR from 2 to 4 November 2016 in Budapest for 60 youth activists from across the OSCE region. Participants discussed methods of creating coalitions that engage youth groups in combined efforts

to effectively challenge anti-Semitism, intolerance and discrimination. Attendees also helped identify common issues and concerns, notably those affecting youth, which can best be addressed by joining forces, at both the national and regional levels.

Latest recruitment notices at ODIHR

Head, Human Rights Department

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Closing date: 27 November 2016

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Documents Clerk

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Grade: G2

Closing date: 22 November 2016

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