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Welcome

On behalf of the International Foundation for Electoral Systems (IFES), we are pleased to welcome you to Washington, D.C. for the 2016 U.S. Election Program (USEP). Since 1992, this event has been an invaluable opportunity for election professionals to meet, exchange ideas and learn about election management issues from an international perspective. This year’s USEP will be immediately followed by the Seventh Global Elections Organization (GEO-7) Conference.

As the global leader in democracy promotion, IFES works to strengthen electoral systems and build local capacity to deliverable sustainable solutions around the world. We believe that the right to vote is a fundamental human right.

The program will begin on Sunday, November 6, with a welcome reception. On Monday, November 7, we will explore issues affecting election administration in the United States and around the world and conference participants will have the opportunity to take part in an interactive election simulation meant to reflect the experiences of voters with disabilities.

The Election Day program on Tuesday, November 8, begins with a morning briefing featuring the co-chairs of the bipartisan Commission on Presidential Debates followed by visits to polling stations in the District of Columbia, Maryland and Virginia. We will end the day with the presentation of the 2016 Joe C. Baxter Award to Chafik Sarsar, president of Tunisia’s Independent High Authority for Elections, and an Election Night reception as we watch live news coverage of the election results. On Wednesday, November 9, we will discuss women’s leadership in the electoral process and reflect on the experiences of the 2016 USEP.

The GEO-7 Conference will begin Wednesday afternoon with a discussion of the challenges facing democracy and a welcome reception. The second and final day of the conference will feature technical discussions of interest to election administrators and focus on the use of data and technology to improve transparency and accountability.

We encourage you to take full advantage of the USEP and GEO-7 Conference and look forward to meeting with you and sharing what promises to be an insightful program.

Thank you.

Donald R. Sweitzer
Chairman, Board of Directors

Judy A. Black
Vice Chairman, Board of Directors

William R. Sweeney, Jr.
President and CEO
Sponsors and Exhibitors
(as of October 7, 2016)

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American Bar Association
ACE Electoral Knowledge Network
Consortium for Elections and Political Process Strengthening
Elections Saskatchewan
EMPTOR International
International Foundation for Electoral Systems
Scytl
Smith & Ouzman
U.S. Agency for International Development
U.S. Election Assistance Commission
2016 U.S. Election Program Schedule

Washington Marriott Marquis
901 Massachusetts Avenue NW
Washington, D.C. 20001

(as of October 7, 2016)

Sunday, November 6, 2016

Early Arrivals, Program Registration and Exhibitor Set-up
Foyer outside Independence Ballroom, meetings level 4
9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

President’s USEP Welcome Reception
Independence Ballroom, meetings level 4
7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

Monday, November 7, 2016

Arrivals and Program Registration
Foyer outside Independence Ballroom, meetings level 4
7:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Continental Breakfast
Foyer outside Independence Ballroom, meetings level 4
7:30 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.
U.S. Election Program Opening Remarks: Welcome and Overview

*Independence Ballroom, meetings level 4*
8:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.

**Speakers:**

William R. Sweeney, Jr., President and CEO, International Foundation for Electoral Systems

Judy A. Black, Vice Chairman, Board of Directors, International Foundation for Electoral Systems

Plenary: America Decides 2016: Candidates, Campaigns and Parties

*Independence Ballroom, meetings level 4*
9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.

The 2016 election cycle has been characterized by hotly contested presidential primary processes in which both major parties experienced anti-establishment candidacies fueled by voters’ frustration with Washington, D.C. and politics as usual. Panelists will discuss how old rules of presidential campaign politics have been challenged in this election cycle, the role of independent voters in campaign strategies, and the potential impact of this year’s election on the future of the Democratic and Republican parties.

**Moderator:**

Michael Svetlik, Vice President of Programs, International Foundation for Electoral Systems

**Speakers:**

Hon. J. Kenneth Blackwell, Senior Fellow, Family Research Council; Member, Board of Directors, International Foundation for Electoral Systems

Tad Devine, Senior Adviser for Bernie Sanders’ 2016 Presidential Campaign; Member, Board of Directors, International Foundation for Electoral Systems

Doug Chapin, Director, Program for Excellence in Election Administration, University of Minnesota Humphrey School

**Morning Break**

*Foyer outside Independence Ballroom and Archives Room (exhibitors’ hall)*
10:35 a.m. – 10:55 a.m.
Plenary: Securing the Franchise? Voter ID Requirements and Limits on Early Voting

Independence Ballroom, meetings level 4
11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Seventeen states have new rules for voting in place for these presidential elections. Chief among them are requirements for photo identification, but they also include curtailment of early voting periods, the ending of Election Day registration and the restoration of voting rights of convicted felons. Federal courts have securitized these new provisions; overruling some and affirming others. This panel explores how states are attempting to secure the franchise, through actions that can be seen as either limiting or expanding the right to vote.

Moderator:
Chad Vickery, Director, Center for Applied Research and Learning, International Foundation for Electoral Systems

Speakers:
John Fortier, Director of the Democracy Project, Bipartisan Policy Center
Rebecca Green, Professor of the Practice of Law and Co-Director of the Election Law Program, College of William & Mary
Matthew Sanderson, Attorney, Caplin & Drysdale

Lunch
Mezzanine Level (one floor above lobby)
12:35 p.m. – 1:55 p.m.

Plenary: Follow the Money: Megadonors, Small Donors and Super PACs

Independence Ballroom, meetings level 4
2:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

More money will be raised by campaigns, candidates and political action committees in this year’s elections than any other in history. In a post-Citizens United era, unlimited donations to so-called SuperPacs flow freely, but at the same time campaigns are turning to small donations from a broad donor base with increasing success. This panel will explore recent trends
in campaign finance, the evolving regulatory environment, and efforts to increase transparency in the funding of candidates and campaigns.

**Moderator:**

**Katherine Ellena**, Senior Legal Specialist, Center for Applied Research and Learning, International Foundation for Electoral Systems

**Speakers:**

**Ann Ravel**, Commissioner, Federal Election Commission  
**Sheila Krumholz**, Executive Director, Center for Responsive Politics

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**Afternoon Break**

*Foyer outside Independence Ballroom and Archives Room (exhibitors’ hall)*  
3:35 p.m. – 3:55 p.m.

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**Plenary: Protecting the Integrity of the Vote: Cyber-attacks, Hackers and Election Security**

*Independence Ballroom, meetings level 4*  
4:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.

Media reports of cyber-attacks on state election offices and the hacking of the Democratic National Committee’s computer networks have increased concerns over the security of the U.S. presidential elections. Over the past two decades, many election processes – from voter registration to ballot counting – have been automated in efforts to meet federal legal obligations and increase the credibility of the results. In the lead-up to the November 8 elections, however, both new and aging technologies have come under increased scrutiny. This panel evaluates the vulnerabilities of the U.S. election infrastructure and efforts that are being made to protect the integrity of elections now and in the future.

**Moderator:**

**Erica Shein**, Deputy Director, Center for Applied Research and Learning, International Foundation for Electoral Systems

**Speakers:**

**Thomas Hicks**, Chairman, U.S. Election Assistance Commission  
**Tammy Patrick**, Fellow, Bipartisan Policy Center
**Election Simulation**

*Capitol Room and Congress Room, meetings level 4*

5:30 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Immediately following the plenary session on election security, conference participants will have the opportunity to take part in an interactive election simulation meant to reflect the experiences of voters with disabilities. Participants will attempt to vote at one of two polling stations: one that is accessible and one that is not.

**Night Owl Session: In Pursuit of Political and Electoral Rights for Internally Displaced Persons**

*Supreme Court Room, meetings level 4*

8:00 p.m. – 9:15 p.m.

This is an optional session, intended for more intimate discussion of a technical topic. Please note that no language interpretation will be provided during this session.

Electoral participation by internally displaced persons (IDPs) is a challenging political and technical undertaking that is increasingly relevant given that there are currently estimated to be over 40 million IDPs worldwide. International treaty commitments require all citizens to have the right and opportunity to vote and to be elected, without unreasonable restrictions and discrimination, and political commitments explicitly refer to IDPs’ electoral participation. This session will discuss IFES’ new global white paper: “Internally Displaced Persons and Electoral Participation: A Brief Overview.”

**Presenter:**

Peter Erben, Senior Global Electoral Adviser, Ukraine Country Director, International Foundation for Electoral Systems
Tuesday, November 8, 2016

**Election Day Breakfast Briefing**

*Independence Ballroom, meetings level 4*

8:00 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.

On Election Day, voters across all 50 states and U.S. territories will head to the polls to elect a new president, in addition to representatives of Congress and various local offices. Two veterans of the American political scene will evaluate the presidential campaigns, examine the latest public opinion data and discuss the Congressional races, which will determine control of the Senate and the House of Representatives. This stimulating breakfast briefing precedes the visits to polling stations across the greater Washington, D.C. area.

**Moderator:**

William R. Sweeney, Jr., President and CEO, International Foundation for Electoral Systems

**Speakers:**

Frank J. Fahrenkopf Jr., Co-Chairman, Commission on Presidential Debates

Michael D. McCurry, Co-Chairman, Commission on Presidential Debates

**Election Day - Tour of Polling Stations in Washington, D.C., Maryland and Virginia**

*Please wait for buses to be called in the Independence Ballroom, meetings level 4*

9:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

IFES will take visitors on an exclusive half-day tour of polling sites in Maryland, Virginia and the District of Columbia.

*After visiting polling stations, buses will return to the main conference venue for lunch.*
Lunch

*Independence Ballroom, meetings level 4*

1:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Following a tour of polling sites throughout the Washington metropolitan area, IFES election specialists will lead informal lunchtime discussions with participants about what they observed and learned from the experience.

*3:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. – No activities, down time prior to evening event*

Joe C. Baxter Award and Election Night Reception

*Independence Ballroom, meetings level 4*

7:00 p.m. – 10:30 p.m.

IFES will present the 2016 Joe C. Baxter Award to Chafik Sarsar, president of Tunisia’s Independent High Authority for Elections, recognizing his contributions to the field of election administration. Sarsar’s leadership role at the forefront of the democratic transition in Tunisia paved the way for the conduct of elections that resulted in a peaceful transition of power. The annual Baxter Award recognizes the contributions of election professionals whose skills, dedication and sacrifices to the field of election administration epitomize the mission of IFES and embody the spirit of former IFES Senior Adviser for Election Administration Joe C. Baxter.

Immediately following the presentation of the Baxter Award, IFES will host an evening reception featuring televised election coverage by major U.S. media networks. Conference participants, representatives of the global democracy and governance community, foreign dignitaries and other key stakeholders are invited to attend.
**Breakfast Plenary: Women’s Leadership in the Electoral Process: 2016 and Beyond**

*Independence Ballroom, meetings level 4*

9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.

The historic candidacy of Hillary Clinton, the first female nominee of a major political party, has renewed the discussion about the opportunities and obstacles that women face in electoral politics. Speakers at this breakfast briefing will evaluate the impact of this election cycle on increasing women’s leadership in the electoral process.

**Moderator:**

Jessica Huber, Senior Gender Specialist, International Foundation for Electoral Systems

**Speakers:**

Soraya Chemaly, Director, Speech Project, Women’s Media Center

Jessica Grounds, Founder, Solid Grounds Strategy; Co-Creator, Project Mine the Gap; Former Director, Women Ready for Hillary

**Morning Break**

*Foyer outside Independence Ballroom and Archives Room (exhibitors’ hall)*

10:35 a.m. – 10:55 a.m.

**Plenary: Election Review: Results, Reflections and Reactions**

*Independence Ballroom, meetings level 4*

11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

What were the takeaways from Election Day? How does the United States’ system (or systems) of elections compare with those in other countries? This session provides USEP participants the opportunity to reflect upon and share their experiences from Election Day poll watching in Washington, D.C., Maryland and Virginia.
Moderator:
William R. Sweeney, Jr., President and CEO, International Foundation for Electoral Systems

Speakers:
Open mic

**U.S. Election Program Closing Remarks**

*Independence Ballroom, meetings level 4*
12:30 p.m. – 12:45 p.m.

**Speaker:**
William R. Sweeney, Jr., President and CEO, International Foundation for Electoral Systems

**Boxed Lunch**

*Independence Ballroom, meetings level 4*
12:30 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.

*U.S. Election Program concludes*

*1:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. – Free time prior to start of GEO-7 Conference*
Global Elections Organization Conference Opening Remarks: Welcome and Overview

*Independence Ballroom, meetings level 4*
3:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

**Speakers:**

*William R. Sweeney Jr.*, President and CEO, International Foundation for Electoral Systems

**GEO Partners**

**Plenary: Democracy’s Uncertain State**

*Independence Ballroom, meetings level 4*
3:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

At the end of the 1990s, democracy appeared poised to continue on a path of rapid global expansion in the new century ahead. A decade and a half later, democracy's global situation is fraught with trouble and uncertainty. Many new or struggling democracies are experiencing blockages and backsliding while older, established, democracies are roiled by new internal challenges and questioning of democratic values and processes. Alternatives to democracy have gained attention in many places. Why is democracy struggling widely? Are the problems of democracy across the developing and developed worlds basically similar or different? How can international actors committed to supporting democracy across borders find new ways to renew their work in this challenging context?

**Keynote Speaker:**

*Thomas Carothers*, Vice President for Studies, Carnegie Endowment for International Peace
Global Elections Organization Conference Welcome Reception

*Independence Ballroom, meetings level 4*
6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Night Owl Session: Mitigating Electoral Conflict and Strengthening Electoral Security

*Supreme Court Room, meetings level 4*
8:00 p.m. – 9:15 p.m.

This is an optional session, intended for more intimate discussion of a technical topic. Please note that no language interpretation will be provided during this session.

Electoral violence is a global problem that can emerge out of post-conflict scenarios, ethnic or religious differences, long-standing rivalries of elaborate patronage networks, or in otherwise stable political situations. Research confirms that women are targeted in election violence at higher rates than male counterparts, especially as political candidates. This session will discuss recent research on this topic, as well as present innovative approaches to combat electoral violence that disproportionately impacts women’s equitable participation in elections and politics.

**Presenters:**

Jessica Huber, Senior Gender Specialist, International Foundation for Electoral Systems

Vasu Mohan, Regional Director for Asia-Pacific, International Foundation for Electoral Systems

Thursday, November 10, 2016

Continental Breakfast and Registration

*Foyer outside Independence Ballroom, meetings level 4*
7:30 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.

Plenary: Data Integrity and Voter Information: Preserving Transparency and Protecting Privacy

*Independence Ballroom, meetings level 4*
9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.
Voter registration data, due to its size, detail and importance can often be managed more efficiently by electoral management bodies with information technology. The preserving of this data in electronic form and sharing it with political parties and other stakeholders both contributes to confidence building in the process, while also presenting some privacy challenges. This panel will explore the challenges that electoral authorities face in terms of public disclosure and discuss innovative solutions to increase transparency surrounding voter lists while preserving both individual and group privacy.

**Moderator:**

**Mr. Maarten Halff**, Political and Electoral Affairs Officer, United Nations Electoral Assistance Division

**Speakers:**

**Niall McCann**, Lead Electoral Advisor, United Nations Development Programme

**Tova Wang**, Senior Electoral Researcher, Demos

**Lefterije Luzi (Lleshi)**, Chairperson, Central Election Commission of the Republic of Albania

**William Davies**, Executive Secretary, Sierra Leone National Electoral Commission

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**Morning Break**

*Foyer outside Independence Ballroom and Archives Room (exhibitors’ hall)*

10:35 a.m. – 10:55 a.m.

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**Plenary: Social Media: How to Educate and Communicate with Election Stakeholders**

*Independence Ballroom, meetings level 4*

11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

The fast growing penetration of the use of social media across the world is an indicator that social media has become the fastest growing means of outreach. It is projected that by 2018, 2.5 billion people (one-third of the earth’s population) will be using one form of social media or the other. With this fast growing trend, the impact of the use of social media is felt in all sectors of public life. This makes it inevitable that the electoral process is impacted by this trend as well. It is therefore important to explore the possibilities of how electoral stakeholders can take advantage of the use of social media
and at the same time manage the risks associated with the use social media in the electoral process.

**Moderator:**

Zsolt Szolnoki, Secretary General, Association of European Election Officials

**Speakers:**

Dr. Annette Monika Fath-Lihic, Senior Programme Manager for Electoral Processes, International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance

Katie Harbath, Global Politics and Government Outreach Director, Facebook

Chia-liang Kao, Co-founder, g0v.tw; Member, Open Data Advisory Committee, Taiwan’s Central Election Commission

Ritvars Eglājs, Secretary, Central Election Commission of Latvia

**Lunch**

_Mezzanine Level (one floor above lobby)_

12:35 p.m. – 1:55 p.m.

**Plenary: Building Trust in Election Administration: Best Uses of Technology to Enhance Accountability and Credibility**

_Independence Ballroom, meetings level 4_

2:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Electoral administration continues to be transformed by new technology and the ever increasing automation of electoral processes. From media monitoring and campaign finance oversight, to voting operations to results transmission, election management bodies are utilizing technology in ways that enhance the transparency and integrity of elections. This panel will explore how properly deployed technology fosters increased accountability and trust in election outcomes.

**Moderator:**

William R. Sweeney, Jr., President and CEO, International Foundation for Electoral Systems

**Speakers:**

Lorenzo Córdova Vianello, President, National Electoral Institute of Mexico

Antonio Mugica, Chief Operating Officer and Director, SGO Smartmatic
Michael Hogan, Partner Operations for Civics and Elections, Google

Dr. Staffan Darnolf, Director, Program Development and Innovation, International Foundation for Electoral Systems

Afternoon Break
*Foyer outside Independence Ballroom and Archives Room (exhibitors’ hall)*
3:35 p.m. – 3:55 p.m.

Plenary: Open Data and Elections: Expanding Opportunities for Transparency and Greater Integrity
*Independence Ballroom, meetings level 4*
4:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.

Open Data has great potential to increase the integrity of elections by granting all stakeholders equal and immediate access to election data. At the same time Open Election Data initiatives are often driven by civil society organizations while many election management bodies (EMBs) are not yet ready to provide in-depth access to their data. This panel will discuss benefits and challenges of the use of data in elections and explore how EMBs can be encouraged and enabled to embrace and apply Open Data principles more widely.

**Moderator:**
Peter Wolf, Technical Manager, Electoral Processes, International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance

**Speakers:**
Liz Carolan, Associate, Open Data Institute

Julia Brothers, Senior Program Manager for Elections and Deputy Director of the Open Election Data Initiative, National Democratic Institute

Olufunto Akinduro, Head of Elections and Political Processes, Electoral Institute for Sustainable Democracy in Africa

Global Elections Organization Conference Closing Remarks
*Independence Ballroom, meetings level 4*
5:30 p.m. – 5:45 p.m.

Dr. Annette Monika Fath-Lihic, Senior Programme Manager for Electoral Processes, International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance
Program Services

Venue
IFES’ 2016 U.S. Election Program and Seventh Global Elections Organization Conference will be held at the Marriott Marquis hotel in Washington, D.C. (address below). All plenary sessions will be held in the Independence Ballroom, located four floor levels below the lobby of the hotel. The location of each session is detailed in the program agenda. See the floor plan printed in this program for the location of these rooms.

Marriott Marquis
901 Massachusetts Avenue NW
Washington, D.C. 20001
Tel: +1.202.824.9200

Accommodations
Conference participants are responsible for the cost of their rooms, applicable taxes and the cost of any incidental expenses charged to their rooms. These expenses are to be settled at the hotel registration desk upon check-out.

Local Transportation
Transportation will be provided by the host to the polling sites on Election Day. Regrettably, the host is NOT able to provide transportation to or from area airports.

Area Airports
For more information on international airports serving the Washington, D.C., area, visit www.metwashairports.com.

Washington Dulles International Airport (IAD)
Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport (DCA)
Baltimore Washington International Airport (BWI)

Taxi Service
Taxi service is plentiful and economical in Washington, D.C. Taxis operate on a meter system, and by law all rates must be posted in each cab. Cabs for Maryland and Virginia can take passengers from D.C. to locations in Maryland and Virginia, respectively, but not to different locations within the city of Washington. (D.C. taxis should be used for taxi service within the city.) For more information, call the D.C. Taxicab Commission at +1 202.645.6018.
Metrorail (subway)
www.wmata.com/rail/maps/map.cfm
Metrorail connects the neighborhoods of the District of Columbia and the nearby Maryland and Virginia suburbs. Train lines are named for colors: red, orange, yellow, green, blue, and silver. Station entrances are marked by brown pillars, capped with the letter M; colored stripes on the entrance markers indicate which lines are available at each station. The direction in which each train is running is indicated by each train’s electronic sign board, which displays the name of the last station on the line.

Registration
To facilitate identification of participants, we ask that all participants collect identification badges at the main registration table in the foyer outside of the Independence Ballroom on meetings level 4. Please present this badge to gain entry to conference events, receptions, meals and exhibits.

A color system will allow you to identify attendees’ roles:
Participants will wear white badges.
Sponsors will wear yellow badges.
IFES staff will wear blue badges.
Interpreters will wear red badges.
Members of the media will wear black badges.

Interpretation Services
The working language of this program is English. However, simultaneous interpretation into Arabic, French, and Spanish will be offered during all plenary sessions. Receiver headsets will be given to participants at registration and must be returned after the final session on November 10th.

Interpretation services will be available where possible during social activities and other conference events scheduled on the participant agenda.

Internet Access
Wireless internet access is available on the conference level of the hotel. To use the internet, select the hotel’s wireless network and enter the code “IFESUSEP@16.”
**Sponsors Exhibition**

IFES’ 2016 U.S. Election Program features an international gathering of election equipment and service suppliers who will showcase their latest offerings. All exhibitor displays will be located in the Archives Room on the conference level.

Exhibition Hours:  Monday, November 7  –  Thursday, November 10  
9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

**Social Media**

As election experts and international citizens, your view of elections in the United States is informative and unique. We invite you to share your observations of the U.S. Election Program with your Twitter followers. IFES will provide daily coverage of USEP activities and events on Twitter. In addition, we will post pertinent questions on topics addressed by the program. To partake in this conversation, please follow @IFES1987. Be sure to include the hashtag #USEP2016 in all your tweets about the program.
General Information

Attire
Business attire is recommended for all plenary sessions and special events held during the program.

Currency and Banking
In the U.S. monetary system, the most common bills are the $1, $5, $10 and $20 denominations. There are also $2 bills (seldom encountered), $50 bills and $100 bills. The last two denominations are usually not welcome as payment for small purchases.

There are six denominations of coins: 1¢ (1 cent, called a penny); 5¢ (5 cents, called a nickel); 10¢ (10 cents, called a dime); 25¢ (25 cents, called a quarter); 50¢ (50 cents, called a half dollar); and $1 coins.

Currency Exchange: It is best to change money before you arrive in the United States, but if you do need to exchange currency, you can go to the currency-exchange desk at any of the D.C.-area airports or at the location listed below. You can also ask the hotel concierge for other nearby locations.

Treasure Trove Foreign Currency Exchange
1305 G Street. N.W.
Washington, DC 20005
+1 202.628.6228

U.S. Customs
Visitors arriving by air from foreign destinations should be aware that it can take some time to clear customs. You will complete an arrival/departure form and be interviewed by a U.S. official at the airport. You may be photographed, and your fingerprints may be digitally recorded. Your baggage also may be inspected. This same procedure may be followed when you depart D.C. We apologize for any inconveniences these procedures might cause.

What You May Bring to the United States
If you have any questions about what you may bring to the United States, you should contact the commercial officer at your nearest U.S. embassy or consulate, who can give you the list of U.S. customs regulations. You can also go directly to the U.S. Customs and Border Protection website (www.cbp.gov) and click the “Travel” link. At this site, you will be able to download bro-
For Participants and Guests with Disabilities

The conference venue is fully accessible to persons with disabilities.

Washington, D.C. is one of the most accessible cities in the world for visitors with disabilities.

A few resources are listed below:

Metro System Guide: This guide provides information on Metro’s bus and rail system for the elderly and persons with disabilities. It is available for free by calling +1 202.637.7000 or visiting www.wmata.com.

https://washington.org/DC-information/washington-dc-disability-information


Electricity

The electricity used in Washington, D.C. is 110 volts. Appliances designed for 220 volts (such as those made in Europe) will require a voltage transformer and adaptor. Appliances designed for 110 volts for use in countries other than in the United States will require a plug adaptor. The hotel concierge should be able to tell you where you can buy any of these items.

Entertainment

For more information about activities, call D.C. Tourism at +1 202.789.7000 or visit www.washington.org.
Medical Services
Participants or guests who find themselves in need of medical treatment should contact conference staff for assistance. The nearest hospital to the conference venue is the George Washington Hospital (900 23rd Street, NW). Participants are advised to carry proper insurance, as the cost of doctors’ services or any medical treatment is their sole responsibility. Any visitor who is taking prescription medication should carry a copy of each prescription in case it needs to be renewed by a doctor in Washington, D.C. In case of serious or life-threatening injuries, use any telephone to dial "911" for immediate medical attention.

Smoking Regulations
It is illegal to smoke in the dining areas of restaurants, in bars and in nightclubs in Washington, D.C. The Marriott Marquis (the program venue) is a smoke-free environment, so smokers will have to step outside if they want to smoke.

Tipping and Taxes
Tipping is mostly voluntary in the United States; gratuities are not typically added to the bill. Here are a few tipping guidelines: Servers are usually given 15 percent of the bill. For outstanding service, tip 20 percent. Taxi drivers usually receive 15 percent of the fare. Doormen, skycaps and porters are usually tipped $1 per bag.

The sales tax in Washington, D.C. is 5.75 percent. Total hotel tax including sales tax is 14.5 percent. Food and beverage tax is 10 percent.

Weather
The weather in Washington, D.C., in November should include frequent blue skies, sunshine and pleasant breezes, with daytime highs of about 62° F/17° C and evening lows of about 43° F/6° C.

Meals
Most meals are provided during the program. Additional options and recommendations are available from the hotel concierge.
Security
The Marriott Marquis hotel offers 24-hour security monitoring. Any guest can dial "0" in the hotel from any phone to reach security. The hotel's security officers are CPR certified.

Just like any other major city, you’ll need to take common-sense precautions against crime in Washington. Travel in well-lit areas at night, and don’t walk alone. Taxis are a good, inexpensive way to get around at night.

Be prepared for security checks
All of the major museums have airport-style security checks, including metal detectors and bag checks. Factor wait times into your planning, and go to your must-see sights early in the day. Also check websites in advance: Some popular museums offer timed tickets or tours for a nominal fee.

Take a tote or cinch sack to corral your belongings – belt, wallet, cellphone, keys, camera – before you reach the front of each security line. Then you can sling your bag onto the conveyor belt and be on your way once you pass through the metal detector.

Fire, Police, or Ambulance
In the event of an emergency, please dial "911." You can reach the fire department, the police, or an ambulance by calling "911." An emergency operator — called a dispatcher — immediately connects you to the emergency service you need.

A tip for getting around
Always keep a visitors card from the hotel with you. In the event of being disoriented, just show it to someone and they will most likely be able to assist.
Influenza (commonly known as the “flu”) season in the United States can begin as early as October and often affects thousands of people, sometimes fatally. While the flu spreads every year, the timing, severity and length of the season usually varies from one season to another.

For travelers to the U.S. during the flu season, taking basic precautions can ensure you stay healthy during your visit.

**Take every day preventative actions to stop the spread of germs.**

1. Try to avoid close contact with sick people.
2. Avoid close contact such as kissing, hugging and sharing cups or eating utensils with people who are sick.
3. **If you get sick with flu-like illness, stay in your hotel room for at least 24 hours after your fever is gone except to get medical care or for other necessities. (Your fever should go away without the use of a fever-reducing medicine.)**
4. While sick, limit contact with others as much as possible to keep from infecting them.
5. Cover your nose and mouth with a tissue when you cough or sneeze. Throw tissue in the trash after you use it.
6. Wash your hands often with soap and water. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand rub.
7. Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth; germs spread this way.
8. Clean and disinfect surfaces and objects that may be contaminated with germs like the flu.

**How do I know if I have the flu?**

You may have the flu if you have some or all of these symptoms:

1. Fever*  
2. Cough  
3. Sore throat  
4. Runny or stuffy nose  
5. Body aches  
6. Headache  
7. Chills  
8. Fatigue  
9. Diarrhea and vomiting

*It’s important to note that not everyone with flu will have a fever.*
What should I do when I’m sick?

Stay away from others as much as possible to keep from infecting them. If you must leave your hotel room, for example to get medical care, wear a face mask if you have one, or cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue. Wash your hands often to keep from spreading to others.

When should I seek medical care?

1. Seek medical care if you have the emergency signs of adult flu or enterovirus illness, such as:
   a. Difficulty breathing or shortness of breath
   b. Pain or pressure in the chest or abdomen
   c. Sudden dizziness
   d. Confusion
   e. Severe or persistent vomiting
   f. Flu-like symptoms that improve but then return with fever and worse cough

2. Antiviral drugs can treat the flu.
Speakers  
(as of October 7, 2016)

Olufunto Akinduro (@dudugangan)
*Head of Elections and Political Processes, Electoral Institute for Sustainable Democracy in Africa*

Olufunto Akinduro is the Head of Elections and Political Processes at the Electoral Institute for Sustainable Democracy in Africa (EISA). She oversees EISA’s election-related programs, which include election observation and technical assistance to stakeholders such as electoral commissions, civil society organizations, regional and sub-regional institutions. She has a passion for democracy and elections in Africa and has worked in this field for over 10 years. She has been involved in the assessment of over 20 electoral processes in Africa. Prior to her work at EISA, she worked in the field of elections and democracy in Nigeria for five years, where she managed the secretariat of the Electoral Reform Network. She holds a master’s degree in governance and democracy from the International Institute for Social Studies at The Hague and a master’s degree in peace and conflict studies from the Institute of African Studies at the University of Ibadan.

Judy A. Black
*Vice Chairman, Board of Directors, International Foundation for Electoral Systems*

For more than 30 years, Judy A. Black has worked closely with congressional leaders and several of the nation’s governors to formulate policy in the public arena. She is a Policy Director in Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck’s Washington, D.C. office, where she helps corporations, trade groups and nonprofits navigate and participate in the public policy process. Prior to joining Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck, Black co-owned and operated Evans and Black Capitol Strategies, a D.C.-based legislative and lobbying firm. Additionally, she held a position as Senior Vice President of Government Relations for the International Council of Shopping Centers. Black served in the White House from 1987 to 1989, as Special Assistant to President Reagan for Intergovernmental Affairs. She also served as Co-Chairperson for Women for McCain in the 2008 presidential election.
Hon. J Kenneth Blackwell (@kenblackwell)
Senior Fellow, Family Research Council; Member, Board of Directors, International Foundation for Electoral Systems

Ambassador Ken Blackwell is an author and Senior Fellow for Family Empowerment at the Family Research Council. He is a Visiting Professor at the Liberty University School of Law, a Contributing Editor for Townhall.com and a public affairs commentator for the Salem Radio Network. His commentaries have been carried in major newspapers, including The Wall Street Journal and The New York Times. He was Mayor of Cincinnati, Treasurer and Secretary of State for Ohio, Undersecretary at the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development and U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations Human Rights Commission. During the 1990s, he served on the congressionally appointed National Commission on Economic Growth and Tax Reform. He holds a bachelor’s of science and a master’s of education from Xavier University (Ohio), where he later served as a Vice President and member of its faculty.

Julia Brothers (@juliaebrothers)
Senior Program Manager for Elections and Deputy Director of the Open Election Data Initiative, National Democratic Institute

Julia Brothers is the Senior Program Manager for Elections and Deputy Director of the Open Election Data Initiative at the National Democratic Institute. She has worked in 16 countries leading political assessments, election monitoring programs, and citizen engagement projects, largely in post-conflict or politically transitioning environments like Kyrgyzstan, Liberia, Nicaragua, Pakistan, South Sudan and Sri Lanka. She has authored a number of publications on systematic election observation, voter registration, and electoral violence and recently developed a strategy tool to equip citizens to better advocate for open election data in their own countries. She has also worked for the Pew Charitable Trusts’ Election Initiatives to improve America’s electoral systems, using research and advocacy to promote state election reform legislation, modernize voter registration and list maintenance processes, and support election data centralization and open data tools like the Voting Information Project and the Election Performance Index.
Liz Carolan (@lizcarolan)
*Associate, Open Data Institute*

Liz supports governments and teams to use data and transparency to achieve their objectives, both for the Open Data Institute (ODI) where she is an Associate, and as an independent adviser. In this capacity, she has advised leaders from over 30 countries, including through setting up the Open Data Leaders Network, and led the ODI’s work that supported the first ever publication of real time election results in Burkina Faso. Previous roles have included developing learning program for politicians and civil servants at the Institute for Government and the Africa Governance Initiative. Her latest publication, the “Topic Guide on Open Data, Transparency and Accountability,” will be published by the Governance and Social Development Resource Centre and the United Kingdom’s Department for International Development and is available at www.gsdrc.org/topic-guides/.

Thomas Carothers (@carnegiedrol)
*Vice President for Studies, Carnegie Endowment for International Peace*

Thomas Carothers is Vice President for Studies at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. He directs the Democracy and Rule of Law Program and oversees several other Carnegie programs, including Carnegie Europe in Brussels, the Energy and Climate Program, and the D.C.-based Europe Program.

Carothers is a leading authority on international support for democracy, human rights, governance, comparative democratization, and U.S. foreign policy relating to democracy and human rights. He has worked on democracy-assistance projects for many organizations and carried out extensive field research on aid efforts around the world. He also has broad experience relating to human rights, rule of law development, civil society building, and think tank development in transitional and developing countries.

Doug Chapin (@hhhelections)
Director, Program for Excellence in Election Administration, University of Minnesota Humphrey School

Doug Chapin is the Director of the Program for Excellence in Election Administration at the University of Minnesota’s Humphrey School of Public Affairs. Chapin came to the Humphrey School after 10 years at The Pew Charitable Trusts, where he served as Director of Election Initiatives for the Pew Center on the States. Prior to serving at Pew, Chapin was an attorney in private practice specializing in election and ethics law. He served as Elections Counsel to the Democrats on the U.S. Senate Rules Committee from 1997 to 2000, where he focused on federal election legislation and participated in the review of the disputed 1996 Senate election in Louisiana. He holds a law degree from Georgetown University, a master of public administration degree from Harvard’s John F. Kennedy School of Government, and an A.B. in politics from Princeton University.

Soraya Chemaly (@schemaly)
Director, Speech Project, Women’s Media Center

Soraya Chemaly is an award-winning writer and activist whose work focuses on the role of gender in culture, politics, religion and media. She is the Director of the Women’s Media Center Speech Project and organizer of the Safety and Free Speech Coalition, both of which are involved in curbing online abuse, media and tech diversity, and expanding women’s freedom of expression and civic participation. Her work appears in The Atlantic, TIME, The Guardian, The New Statesman, the Nation and The Huffington Post.

Soraya serves on the Boards of Women, Action and The Media; In This Together Media; No Bully; End Rape on Campus; and the Women’s Media Center. She is also a member of the advisory council for Common Sense Media, the Center for Technology and Democracy and VIDA and is former a Board member of Emerge America, which trains progressive women to run for political office.
Staffan Darnolf (@staffandarnolf)
Director, Program Development and Innovation, International Foundation for Electoral Systems

Staffan Darnolf has over 20 years of experience as a scholar and practitioner in the field of democratization and electoral processes. He specializes in electoral reform in emerging democracies and post-conflict societies and has published books, articles and chapters in peer-reviewed scholarly journals throughout his career. Darnolf has been engaged as an elections expert in over 20 countries. Most recently, he served as IFES Senior Global Electoral Adviser and led IFES’ office in Zimbabwe, where he served as a senior adviser on electoral issues concerning the drafting of the new constitution, the constitutional referendum and electoral management processes. Darnolf holds a Ph.D. in political science with a focus on elections in emerging democracies from Goteborg University in Sweden as well as a bachelor’s degree in public administration.

William Addo Davies
Executive Secretary, National Electoral Commission of Sierra Leone

William Addo Davies has been the Executive Secretary of the National Electoral Commission (NEC) of Sierra Leone for the past six years and was previously the Director of Administration and Finance for the commission. During his time with the NEC, the commission has conducted key electoral programs including numerous elections at both the national and local level. Other key activities conducted have included voter registration and demarcation of electoral boundaries for constituencies and wards. Davies has participated in numerous conferences at the national and international levels and served as a speaker or panel chairman at international conferences including the Global Electoral Officers Conference, the Commonwealth Electoral Network Biennial Conference, the ID4Africa Conference, and the International Centre for Parliamentary Studies (ICPS) Symposium, among others. He has also participated in numerous local and international training and capacity building programs, including a Building Resources for Democracy, Governance and Elections (BRIDGE) training and programs organized by the ICPS. Davies hold a master’s degree in accounting and finance.
Thomas A. Devine (@taddevine)
Senior Adviser for Bernie Sanders’ 2016 Presidential Campaign; Member, Board of Directors, International Foundation for Electoral Systems

Since 1993, Thomas A. Devine has worked as a media consultant – writing, directing and producing television and radio advertising for leading Democratic and Independent candidates in the U.S. and providing strategic advice for national campaigns in Europe, the Middle East and Latin America. In the United States, Devine has worked at the highest levels of campaigns for President and is considered one of the leading experts on the Democratic Party’s presidential nominating process and general election strategy. In 2000, he served as a Senior Strategist to the Gore-Lieberman campaign and oversaw day-to-day operations management in the general election. In 2004, he served as a Senior Adviser and Strategist to Senator John Kerry’s campaign for President in both the primary and general election. In 2016, he was the Chief Strategist for the Bernie Sanders’ campaign for the Democratic nomination. Devine’s international experience includes his work as a strategist and media consultant for winning campaigns in Colombia, Israel, Ukraine and others.

Ritvars Eglājs (@eglajs)
Secretary, Central Election Commission of Latvia

Since 2012, Ritvars Eglājs has been the Secretary of Latvia’s Central Election Commission (CEC). As Secretary, Eglājs has organized several rounds of elections, represented the CEC in electoral discussions with a range of domestic and international stakeholders, and observed elections in Belarus, Romania, Moldova, Croatia, Albania and the United Kingdom.

From 2011-2012, he was a member of the CEC. Prior to that, he was a member of the Riga City Election Commission from 2005-2011. Since 1988, Eglājs has been a member of the Latvian Geographical Society. He studied geography at the University of Latvia from 1991-2003 and was an Editor at Jāņa Šēta Map Publishers Ltd. from 2003-2012.

He represents the National Alliance “All For Latvia!” – “For Fatherland and Freedom/LNNK.”
Katherine Ellena (@ifes1987)
Senior Legal Specialist, Center for Applied Research and Learning, International Foundation for Electoral Systems

Katherine Ellena is the Senior Legal Specialist with the Center for Applied Research and Learning at the International Foundation for Electoral Systems (IFES), focused on legal frameworks for elections, electoral dispute resolution (EDR) and electoral integrity. Prior to joining the Center, she was a Senior Program Manager with the Europe and Asia department, where she worked on electoral integrity, legal reform and election dispute resolution assignments in Afghanistan, Pakistan, Nepal, Maldives, Czech Republic, Sri Lanka and Cambodia. She also spent two years in New Delhi, India with the IFES Gender and Law program. Ellena has a Master of Laws with honors from the University of Canterbury, a Bachelor of Laws and a Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy from the University of Canterbury, a diploma for graduates in international development from the University of London’s London School of Economics, and was admitted as a barrister and solicitor to the High Court of New Zealand in 2004.

Peter Erben (@ifesukraine)
Senior Global Electoral Adviser, Ukraine Country Director, International Foundation for Electoral Systems

Peter Erben is a leading authority on electoral management and the strengthening of democratic institutions. Erben currently works out of Ukraine, where he is the Country Director for IFES and senior adviser to the election commission. He has held similar positions in Indonesia, Pakistan, Nepal and Palestine. Erben is one of few international experts ever called upon to direct national elections for other nations. He served as the Chief Electoral Officer of Afghanistan during the country’s 2005 parliamentary and provincial council elections. Previously, he directed two out-of-country elections: the 2004 Afghan presidential election for Afghans living in Pakistan and Iran, and the 2005 Iraqi parliamentary elections for Iraqis living in 14 countries worldwide. In 2005, Erben received Afghanistan’s Ghazi Mir Bacha Khan Superior State Medal; in 2008, he was knighted in Denmark for contributing to the advancement of democracy worldwide. Erben graduated from Copenhagen Business School and is a guest lecturer at Harvard and other universities.
Frank J. Fahrenkopf, Jr. (@debates)
Co-Chairman, Commission on Presidential Debates

Frank J. Fahrenkopf, Jr. is the Co-Chairman of the Commission on Presidential Debates, which conducts the general election presidential and vice presidential debates in presidential election years. A lawyer by profession, Fahrenkopf gained national prominence during the 1980s when he served as Chairman of the Republican Party for six of President Ronald Reagan’s eight years in the White House.

Fahrenkopf co-founded the Commission on Presidential Debates in 1986 with Democratic National Committee chairman Paul Kirk. He also was a founder of the National Endowment for Democracy, where he served as Vice Chairman and a Board member from 1983 to 1993. Additionally, he serves as a Board member of the International Republican Institute, which he founded in 1984. He served for many years as Chairman of the Pacific Democrat Union and Vice Chairman of the International Democrat Union, a worldwide association of conservative political parties from the United States, Great Britain, France, Germany, Canada, Japan, Australia and 20 other nations.

Dr. Annette Monika Fath-Lihic (@int_idea)
Senior Programme Manager for Electoral Processes, International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance

Dr. Annette Monika Fath-Lihic is the Senior Programme Manager for Electoral Processes with International IDEA. She holds a Ph.D. in modern history and international-humanitarian law from the University of Mannheim in Germany. She has worked in many conflict zones such as the Balkans, Sudan, Liberia and the Occupied Palestinian Territories, since 1994 for the International Organization for Migration, the European Union (EU), the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe, and the United Nations, among others. In addition to electoral issues, she possesses strong knowledge and understanding of policy work in (post) crisis areas of sustainable development governance and international humanitarian law, human rights and international relations. Prior to joining IDEA, she was a Policy Adviser to the EU Special Representative (seconded by the German Foreign Ministry) in Kosovo. She is a German citizen.
Dr. John C. Fortier (@bpc_bipartisan)
Director of the Democracy Project, Bipartisan Policy Center

At the Bipartisan Policy Center, John C. Fortier directs the continuing work of the President’s Commission on Election Administration. Previously, at the American Enterprise Institute (AEI), he served as the principal contributor to the AEI-Brookings Election Reform Project, the Executive Director of the Continuity of Government Commission, and the Project Manager of the Transition to Governing Project. He was a regular contributor to AEI’s Election Watch series and served as the Director of the Center for the Study of American Democracy at Kenyon College. Fortier has been a regular columnist for The Hill and Politico and is a frequent commentator for the media. He is the author of Absentee and Early Voting: Trends, Promises and Perils; After the People Vote: A Guide to the Electoral College; Second Term Blues: How George W. Bush Has Governed and numerous articles in academic and law journals. Fortier has taught at Kenyon College, University of Pennsylvania, University of Delaware, Harvard University and Boston College.

Rebecca Green (@wmlawschool)
Professor of the Practice of Law and Co-Director of the Election Law Program, College of William & Mary

Rebecca Green is Professor of the Practice of Law and Co-Director of the Election Law Program, a joint project of the Law School and the National Center for State Courts. Green oversees annual symposia and speaker series and undertakes a series of projects designed to educate judges about election law topics. Green has recently begun work on a series of State Election Law eBenchbooks. Other projects have included co-founding Revive My Vote, a project to assist Virginians with prior felony convictions regain the right to vote.
Jessica N. Grounds (@jessica_grounds)

**Founder, Solid Grounds Strategy; Co-Creator, Project Mine the Gap; Former Director, Women Ready for Hillary**

Jessica N. Grounds is a women’s leadership expert who has devoted her life to empowering women to become leaders. Most recently she served as the Director of Women Ready for Hillary, the grassroots organization that built early support for Hillary Clinton’s 2016 campaign and the co-founder and Executive Director of Running Start, which inspires young women to run for elected office. She is the founder of Solid Grounds Strategy and co-founder of Project Mine the Gap; both advise a range of stakeholders on women’s leadership projects.

Jessica has lectured on campaign strategy and barriers for women’s leadership throughout the world and published research on gender differences in leadership and new trends for women candidates. She completed a graduate program in women, policy and political leadership at the Women & Politics Institute at American University and holds an Executive Masters in leadership from the McDonough School of Business at Georgetown University.

Maarten Halff (@un_dpa)

**Political and Electoral Affairs Officer, United Nations Electoral Assistance Division**

Maarten Halff works on policy development and global strategic issues at the Electoral Assistance Division of the United Nations. He also provides expertise in electoral system design and dispute resolution. Halff has advised election commissions and other authorities in Afghanistan, Iraq, Jordan, Liberia, Libya, Nepal and Somalia. He served twice as Commissioner on the Electoral Complaints Commission of Afghanistan, responsible for resolving contested outcomes. In a personal capacity, Halff is a member of the Electoral Integrity Initiative launched by the Kofi Annan Foundation, which recently published two of his policy papers. He joined the United Nations in 1996, after obtaining a master’s degree in international law from the University of Leiden in the Netherlands.
Katie Harbath (@katieharbath)
*Global Politics and Government Outreach Director, Facebook*

Katie Harbath is the Global Politics and Government Outreach Director at Facebook. Prior to Facebook, Katie was the Chief Digital Strategist at the National Republican Senatorial Committee. She previously led digital strategy in positions at DCI Group, the Rudy Giuliani for President campaign and the Republican National Committee. Katie holds a B.A. in journalism and political science from the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

Thomas Hicks (@redandblue2024)
*Chairman, U.S. Election Assistance Commission*

Thomas Hicks was nominated by President Obama and confirmed by unanimous consent of the U.S. Senate to serve on the U.S. Election Assistance Commission (EAC). Prior to this appointment, Commissioner Hicks served as a Senior Elections Counsel and Minority Elections Counsel on the U.S. House of Representatives Committee on House Administration, where he was responsible for issues relating to campaign finance, election reform, contested elections and oversight of both the EAC and the Federal Election Commission.

Previously, Hicks served as a Senior Lobbyist and Policy Analyst for Common Cause. He served in the Clinton Administration as a Special Assistant and Legislative Assistant for the Office of Personnel Management. He served as agency liaison to the U.S. Congress and the President’s administration on matters regarding federal personnel policies and regulations. Hicks received his J.D. from the Catholic University of America, Columbus School of Law and his B.A. in Government from Clark University. He also studied at the University of London and the University of Adelaide (Australia).

Michael Hogan (@googlepolitics)
*Partner Operations for Civics and Elections, Google*

Michael has been with Google for four years, three of which have been spent working on global elections. He is deeply involved in the U.S.-based Voting Information Project, a group that encourages data standard adoption among American election officials. He’s passionate about the intersection of open data, civic engagement and global justice.
Jessica Huber (@jessicahuber)
Senior Gender Specialist, International Foundation for Electoral Systems

Jessica Huber has 15 years of experience working in the fields of women’s empowerment and gender equality, community peace building, human rights and governance. At IFES, she is responsible for the global gender program, which promotes political participation, justice and equal rights for women and men around the world. Prior to joining IFES, Huber spent significant time in Uganda, where she worked to empower women and girls recovering from conflict, and succeeded in incorporating gender and peace-building activities into economic security programs. She has successfully advocated for international human rights policies, including United Nations Security Council resolutions and has expertise in building the capacities of government institutions and civil society partners working on gender, conflict resolution and governance. She has a bachelor’s degree in urban studies from Vassar College and a master’s degree in peace studies from Trinity College, Dublin.

Chia-liang Kao (@clkao)
Co-founder, g0v.tw; Member, Open Data Advisory Committee, Taiwan’s Central Election Commission

Chia-liang Kao has been an active open source software developer since 2000, best known for creating SVK, a distributed version control system. In 2012, he co-founded the g0v.tw initiative (http://g0v.asia/tw/), an online community that advocates information transparency and creates tools for improving citizen participation, which has attracted over 3,000 contributors working on over 50 projects to-date. He has done extensive public speaking on civic tech and open data around the world. He also serves as member of the Open Data Advisory Committee at the Central Election Commission and the Cabinet of the Taiwanese Government.
Sheila Krumholz (@skrmhlz)
Executive Director, Center for Responsive Politics

As Executive Director of the Center for Responsive Politics (CRP), Sheila Krumholz is the nonpartisan watchdog group’s chief administrator and spokesperson, and is cited frequently in prominent national media outlets. Krumholz became Executive Director in 2006, prior to which she was CRP’s Research Director for eight years, supervising data analysis for CRP’s website, OpenSecrets.org, and for CRP’s partners and clients in the media, academia and elsewhere. Krumholz has testified before Congress and the Federal Election Commission on issues related to government transparency and regularly makes presentations to scholars, government officials, NGOs that conduct research and advocacy, and at meetings of professional news organizations. She has a degree in international relations and political science from the University of Minnesota and lives in Washington, D.C. with her husband and their two children.

Lefterije Luzi (Lleshi) (@faqjakqz)
Chairperson, Central Election Commission of the Republic of Albania

Lefterije Luzi (Lleshi) is a professional Lawyer and currently the Chairwoman of the Central Election Commission (CEC) of Albania. Her career started in 1992, when she graduated from the University of Tirana with a law degree and quickly advanced to senior management levels in the National Agency of Privatization and in the Parliament. Prior to her assignment in the CEC, she was elected by the Parliament as a member of the High Council of Justice. In 2012, she was elected by the Parliament as Chairwoman of the CEC. In 2015, she was elected as the Chairperson of the Association of European Election Officials (ACEEEO). She is also a member of the Executive Boards of the ACEEEO and the Association of World Election Bodies. In 2014, she won the ICPS Award for Excellence in the Management of the Electoral Cycle and the Election Management Award. Lleshi has written in various research, scientific and professional publications and is a co-editor of the “Democratic Civic and Voter Education Manual for Trainers.”
Niall McCann (@undp)
Lead Electoral Advisor, United Nations Development Programme

Niall McCann is the United Nations Development Programme’s (UNDP) Lead Electoral Advisor, based in the Bureau of Policy and Programme Support. In this position he provides programming and advisory support to UNDP Country Offices engaged in providing electoral assistance. He is the chief UNDP liaison with the Electoral Assistance Division of the Department of Political Affairs, who represents the Under-Secretary-General for Political Affairs on a day-to-day basis in his capacity as UN Electoral Focal Point. Since 2005, he has worked for both UN Department of Peacekeeping Operations’ field missions (Liberia) and UNDP Country Offices (Sierra Leone and Kenya) in providing frontline electoral assistance to national electoral authorities, and also implemented longer-term electoral technical assistance projects for the European Union in Lebanon and Zambia. He has extensive experience in international election observation missions, including at both Deputy Chief Observer and Deputy Head of Mission level, with the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe and the European Union.

Michael D. McCurry (@mmccurry)
Co-Chairman, Commission on Presidential Debates

McCurry is a Distinguished Professor of Public Theology at the Wesley Theological Seminary in Washington, D.C. and a partner at Public Strategies Washington, Inc., where he provides counsel on communications strategies and management. McCurry is a veteran political strategist and spokesperson with nearly four decades of experience in the nation’s capital. McCurry served in the White House as Press Secretary to President Bill Clinton. He also served as Spokesman for the U.S. Department of State and Director of Communications for the Democratic National Committee. McCurry held a variety of leadership roles in national campaigns for the Democratic ticket from 1984 to 2004.

He is Co-Chairman of the Commission on Presidential Debates, which sponsors the general election debates between candidates for President and Vice President of the United States. McCurry received his Bachelor of Arts from Princeton University, a Master of Arts in liberal studies from Georgetown University, and a Master of Arts from Wesley Theological Seminary in 2013.
Vasu Mohan (@jampettah)
Regional Director for Asia-Pacific, International Foundation for Electoral Systems

Vasu Mohan has over 16 years of experience in democracy, governance and human rights programming with a focus on post-conflict elections and democratic inclusion. He has been with IFES since 2001 in the headquarters and the field and has supervised programs and field offices in over 22 countries in Europe and Asia, partnering with a wide variety of international donors and local stakeholders. Mohan also serves as IFES’ technical lead on electoral security, providing thought leadership on innovative programs and tools to prevent and mitigate violence throughout the electoral cycle. Since 2002, he designed, managed and implemented programs in Afghanistan on electoral assistance and women’s leadership in the post-conflict context. Throughout his career, Mohan’s work has focused on political, social and legal empowerment of disenfranchised or marginalized individuals – youth, women, ethnic and religious minorities and persons with disabilities.

Antonio Mugica (@antoniomugica)
Chief Operating Officer and Director, SGO Smartmatic

Antonio co-founded Smartmatic in 2000 with the vision to create technology services capable of profound social impact. Under his leadership, the company has grown from a small startup to become the world’s leading election technology company. As CEO, he has defined the corporation’s goals from day one. He’s envisioned many of the technological solutions and breakthroughs Smartmatic has made. As of 2015, he held 13 issued patents in the United States, with more under way.

Through innovation and sound management, he has led a company that is helping election commissions around the world to conduct trouble-free, transparent and highly reliable elections, enfranchising millions by making voting a more straightforward, inclusive and gratifying experience. As a firm believer in a hands-on approach to management, he actively participates in the strategic planning of all areas and departments. He has an electronic engineering degree from the Simon Bolivar University in Caracas (Venezuela).
Tammy Patrick (@aztammyp)
Fellow, Bipartisan Policy Center

Tammy Patrick is a Democracy Project Fellow with the Bipartisan Policy Center. As a former Federal Compliance Officer for Maricopa County, Arizona’s Elections Department for 11 years, Patrick was tasked with serving more than 1.9 million registered voters in the greater Phoenix Valley. In May 2013, she was selected by U.S. President Obama to serve as a Commissioner on the Presidential Commission on Election Administration (PCEA) (www.supportthevoter.gov), which led to the position at the Bipartisan Policy Center to further the work of the PCEA.

Ann M. Ravel (@annmravel)
Commissioner, Federal Election Commission

Commissioner Ann M. Ravel was nominated to the Federal Election Commission by President Barack Obama on June 21, 2013. After her appointment received the unanimous consent of the United States Senate, Ravel joined the Commission on October 25, 2013. She served as Chair of the Commission for 2015 and Vice Chair for 2014. From March 2011 until her appointment to the Commission, Ravel served as Chair of the California Fair Political Practices Commission (FPPC). At the FPPC, Ravel oversaw the regulation of campaign finance, lobbyist registration and reporting, and ethics and conflicts of interest related to officeholders and public employees. Before joining the FPPC, Ravel served as Deputy Assistant Attorney General for Torts and Consumer Litigation in the Civil Division of the United States Department of Justice. Ravel also worked as an attorney in the Santa Clara County Counsel’s Office, ultimately serving as the appointed County Counsel from 1998 until 2009.

Matthew Sanderson (@caplindrysdale)
Attorney, Caplin & Drysdale

Matthew Sanderson is a member in the Political Law and Exempt Organizations practice groups of Caplin & Drysdale. He served as General Counsel of Senator Rand Paul’s 2016 presidential campaign, Outside Counsel for Governor Rick Perry’s 2012 presidential campaign, Legal Counsel to Governor Mitt Romney’s Commonwealth PACs, Campaign Finance Counsel for Senator John McCain’s 2008 presidential campaign, and General Counsel for a government reform commission created by Utah Governor Jon Huntsman, Jr.
Erica Shein (@ifes1987)
Deputy Director, Center for Applied Research and Learning, International Foundation for Electoral Systems

Erica Shein has conducted research projects and designed technical assistance programs relating to legal frameworks and best practices for electoral complaints adjudication; electoral fraud and malpractice; electoral violence; and the inclusion of women and persons with disabilities in political processes. Shein is the co-author of the IFES Electoral Integrity Assessment Methodology, an innovative tool for analyzing vulnerabilities in electoral processes. She also is the co-author of "Election Audits: International Principles that Protect Election Integrity" (2015) and "Assessing Electoral Fraud in New Democracies: Refining the Vocabulary" (2012), and coordinated the editing and publication of *Guidelines for Understanding, Adjudicating, and Resolving Disputes in Elections* (2011). Shein holds a master’s degree in international relations and international economics from the Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies and a bachelor’s degree in politics from Princeton University.

Michael Svetlik (@mdsvetlikifes)
Vice President of Programs, International Foundation for Electoral Systems

Michael Svetlik currently serves as Vice President of Programs for IFES, providing policy and programming guidance to its international operations that currently include electoral assistance and democratic institution building in over 30 countries. He previously served at IFES as Senior Director of Programs and Regional Director for Europe and Asia. Svetlik was awarded a U.S. Department of State Professional Development Fellowship to conduct research in Tbilisi, Georgia, at the Caucasus Institute for Peace, Democracy and Development. He also served as a Peace Corps volunteer in Poland from 1992 to 1994, and was a senior lecturer at the National School of Public Administration in Warsaw from 1994 to 1995. Svetlik’s areas of expertise include political change; institutional development; election system design; civic awareness and activism; and project management, evaluation and design.
William R. Sweeney, Jr. (@billsweeneyifes)
President and CEO, International Foundation for Electoral Systems

William R. Sweeney has decades of experience in democracy promotion and public policy, synthesizing a unique combination of work in both the public and private sectors as well experience in the field. He was Vice President for Global Government Affairs for EDS and was founding President of Washington Resources & Strategy, Inc., a public affairs management company providing counsel to associations and corporations in the U.S. and abroad. He has served as Deputy Chairman of the Democratic National Committee and as the Executive Director of the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee. Sweeney has observed elections in the Philippines, Russia, Nicaragua, Jamaica, Mexico, Kenya, Pakistan, Ukraine, Indonesia, Nigeria, Tunisia, Myanmar and Jordan. He served on the IFES Board of Directors from 1993 to 2001, was Chairman from 1999-2000 and was appointed President in 2009.

Zsolt Szolnoki (@aceeeo)
Secretary General, Association of European Election Officials

Zsolt Szolnoki currently serves as Secretary General for the Association of the European Election Officials (ACEEEO) on a voluntarily basis, providing leadership to the Secretariat’s work. His areas of expertise include election planning, e-voting, election observation, and project management and design. He started working for the ACEEEO in 1995, when he organized its annual conference that year.

In 2000, he worked for the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe Mission to Kosovo providing expertise for the first election in Kosovo. From 1993-2002, he worked for the Hungarian National Election Office as the Deputy Head of the Election Department. From 2002-2005, he served as Head of the IT department in the Ministry of Interior. From 2006-2010, he worked for the European Commission as a Seconded National Expert on the Area of Home Affairs. In 2011, he was the Chairman of a working group on the Hungarian European Union Presidency team. Currently he is a High Counselor in the Ministry of Interior of Hungary. He holds a B.A in Public Administration and completed a post-graduate course in business management.
Dr. Lorenzo Córdova Vianello (@lorenzocordovav)
President, National Electoral Institute of Mexico

Dr. Lorenzo Córdova Vianello became President of Mexico’s National Electoral Institute in April 2014. He previously served for three years as Electoral Adviser of Mexico’s Federal Electoral Institute. He was previously an adviser to former Federal Electoral Institute President Councilor José Woldenberg. Since 1993, he has been a Professor at the National Autonomous University of Mexico’s (UNAM) Legal Research Institute, where he is a full-time researcher at the Division of Electoral Law. He is an author of several articles and essays on political theory, electoral law and political science; and co-author of books on electoral matter and democracy. He has participated in more than 100 academic events on electoral, political and legal topics in universities around the world. He has lectured on political science, state theory, constitutional law, human rights and electoral rights at several universities. He is member of the National System of Researchers. Córdova Vianello holds a B.A. in law from the UNAM and a Ph.D. in political theory from the University of Turin.

Chad Vickery (@ifes1987)
Director, Center for Applied Research and Learning, International Foundation for Electoral Systems

Chad Vickery has extensive legal and international election administration experience with an emphasis on strengthening democracy and governance in transition societies. He manages IFES’ global applied research, technical leadership and strategic innovation initiatives. He specializes in designing and managing electoral integrity initiatives; election complaint adjudication programs; providing comparative legal analysis; working on elections; and rule of law programs throughout South Asia, Southeast Asia, Eurasia and the Middle East. Vickery’s specific programmatic experience includes leading electoral integrity assessments and projects designed to ensure the development of impartial legal frameworks for elections, increasing professionalism of election management bodies, establishing effective election dispute programs, and increasing political participation of historically disenfranchised groups into the electoral process.
**Tova Wang (@tovawang)**  
*Senior Electoral Researcher, Demos*

Tova Wang has more than 20 years of experience working on democracy and governance issues, focusing on electoral legal frameworks and reform, voting rights and election administration. She has done analysis of election procedures and laws, as well as constitutional analysis for the National Democratic Institute, Democracy Reporting International, The Carter Center and The ACE Project. Her critically acclaimed book, *The Politics of Voter Suppression: Defending and Expanding Americans’ Right to Vote*, was published in 2012 by Cornell University Press.

Her commentary has appeared in numerous print media outlets, including the *New York Times*, the *Washington Post*, *The Hill* and *Politico*, and she has frequently appeared on national radio and television. She has been a featured speaker at a number of election reform conferences and provided her expertise to members of Congress and state legislators, as well as advocates and legislators from around the world. Wang is an attorney and graduate of New York University School of Law, and a magna cum laude graduate of Barnard College of Columbia University.

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**Peter Wolf (@peter_wolf_idea)**  
*Technical Manager, Electoral Processes, International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance*

Peter Wolf joined International IDEA in 2008, where he covers election technology issues. At IDEA, he has authored several publications and worked on assistance projects in this field. Wolf’s experience with information and communications technology (ICT) applications in electoral processes dates back to his tenure with the Elections Department of the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe Mission to Bosnia and Herzegovina where, starting in 1999, he worked on voter registration and results databases. He was a consultant in voter registration and ICT projects in Albania, the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Iraq, and has served in various international election observation missions as an electronic voting expert in France, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Venezuela and the Philippines. He holds a master’s degree in telematik/computer engineering from Graz University of Technology in Austria.
Key Locations at the Marriott Marquis
Meetings Level 4 (Four Levels Below Lobby)

- Supreme Court
- Night Owl Sessions
- Prayer Room (Men)
- Prayer Room (Women)
- Independence Ballroom
- All Plenary Sessions
- Pentagonal IFES Admin
- Senate CEO Private Meeting Room
- Capitol Congress Election Simulation
- Treasury
- Registration
- Escalators
- Pentagons AM/PM Breaks
- Archves
- Exhibitors AM/PM Breaks

* AM/PM Breaks
* Continental Breakfast (Monday and Thursday)
Key Locations at the Marriott Marquis

Mezzanine Level (One Level Above Lobby)

* Lunch
  (Monday and Thursday)
Exhibitor Booths
(as of October 7, 2016)

- Emptor International
- Taiwan Foundation for Democracy
- Facebook
- ACE Electoral Knowledge Network
- Scytl
- U.S. Agency for International Development
- Smith & Ouzman
- Consortium for Elections and Political Process Strengthening
- International Foundation for Electoral Systems
- U.S. Agency for International Development
- American Bar Association
- Smartmatic
- U.S. Elections Assistance Commission
- Consortium for Elections and Political Process Strengthening
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