

Aaron Azelton, Director, Citizen Participation, Inclusion and Security Programs, National Democratic Institute

Aaron Azelton serves as the National Democratic Institute's (NDI) director of citizen participation, inclusion and security programs. He is a civic engagement specialist who has helped to manage, design and implement inclusive political participation programs at NDI since 1992. Azelton supports NDI initiatives by providing guidance on all aspects of community organizing, advocacy, government monitoring and nonprofit organizational development. He also guides NDI's work to increase the political inclusion of marginalized communities and efforts to promote the peaceful resolution of conflict and citizen security. Azelton has helped local organizations develop strategic outlooks, plan political actions, structure partnerships and carry out internal reforms in more than 35 countries and also helped design NDI's Civic Forum, an approach that provides a foundation for informed and organized citizen involvement in the public policymaking process.

Bret Barrowman, Senior Researcher, Center for Global Impact, International Republican Institute

Bret Barrowman is a senior researcher at the Center for Global Impact at the International Republican Institute (IRI), where he manages social scientific research across IRI's thematic portfolio, including youth civic and political engagement, democratization and democratic erosion, anticorruption, political party development and political violence. He holds a Ph.D. in political science and a master's degree in security policy studies from George Washington University.

Lisa Reppell, Senior Research Officer, International Foundation for Electoral Systems

Lisa Reppell is a senior research officer at the International Foundation for Electoral Systems (IFES), where she conducts projects across IFES' research portfolio, including youth political participation, political and electoral disinformation, election dispute resolution and electoral integrity. Prior to joining IFES, Reppell was a grantee of the Open Society Foundations and a consultant researcher and facilitator based in Istanbul, Turkey. She holds a master's degree in political science from Sabanci University in Istanbul.