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EUROPEAN COMMISSION FOR DEMOCRACY THROUGH LAW
(VENICE COMMISSION)

COMMENTS

**ON THE DRAFT DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES
AND DRAFT CODE
FOR INTERNATIONAL ELECTION OBSERVATION**

AND

**DRAFT PLEDGE TO ACCOMPANY THE CODE OF CONDUCT
FOR INTERNATIONAL ELECTION OBSERVATION**

by

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The above document is a concise and valuable guide to International Election Observation, and is worthy of support. There is a small number of minor amendments which could be considered, and these are as follows :

- Page 1. First Paragraph – Penultimate sentence – I would suggest a rewriting as follows : “Genuine democratic elections and *Referenda* are the vehicle through which the people”
- Page 5. Paragraph 16 – Following the first sentence, an additional sentence could be added as follows : “*In addition political party representatives who may be organising observation teams, should be indentified and consulted*”.
- Page 6. Paragraph 20 – additional information should be included in the briefing on “*security, and health matters, where appropriate*”.

I believe the draft code for International Election Observers contains all the elements for successful observation. I would wish to draw attention to the requirement for all International Election Observers to attend all briefings and trainings provided in an international election observation mission.