

## ■ EDITORIAL

### **The missing link - connecting young people to politics**

The missing link between politics and citizens is particularly alarming when one looks at young people and their relationship to democracy. Are the institutions and processes of democracy capturing and capitalizing on the energy and enthusiasm demonstrated by young people around the world?



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*By Joan Sawe, Acting Secretary-General*

## ■ FOCUS: YOUTH PARTICIPATION IN POLITICS AND ELECTIONS

### **Annual Democracy Forum 2013: youth engagement in politics**

Posted: December 1, 2013

This year's Forum highlighted the challenges to youth participation in politics and elections, putting forward policy solutions to foster youth participation in these areas.

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### **IDEA TALKS: Margot Wallström and voices of youth: on politics and elections**

Posted: December 1, 2013

Find out what youth thinks about political participation and trust.

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## ■ OTHER NEWS

### **IDEA's Electoral Risk Management Tool launched**

## ■ IN THIS ISSUE

» **Editorial: The missing link - connecting young people to politics**

» **Focus: Youth participation in politics and elections**

» **Other news**

» **New releases**

## ■ SPOTLIGHT ON

**Check out: The Online Electoral Cycle**



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Posted: December 5, 2013

The ERMTool is designed to empower users in organizing or supporting peaceful and credible elections. It is now available for free, online.

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#### **Workshop for inclusion practitioners: overcoming political exclusion**

Posted: December 3, 2013

Practitioners representing gender, young people, and LGBTI organizations from southern Africa discussed marginalized group's progress from exclusion to inclusion in an IDEA workshop.

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#### **Dirty money in politics**

Posted: December 7, 2013

IDEA and the Overseas Development Institute (ODI) explored the links between money, crime and politics in a joint project, where IDEA research was presented.

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#### **Applying the Electoral Risk Management Tool to Nepal's elections**

Posted: November 27, 2013

The IDEA ERMTool was one of the tools the Electoral Commission of Nepal used to assess potential for election related violence, and for actions to be taken to mitigate these risks, leading up to and during the second Constituent Assembly elections in Nepal.

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#### **High security polling for Nepal's Constituent Assembly**

Posted: November 20, 2013

First-hand accounts of Nepal election day, 18 November 2013, by IDEA's Leena Rikkilä Tamang.

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#### **How to include minorities and marginalized groups in constitution building**

Posted: October 30, 2013

Practitioners involved in minority rights and participation within the context of constitution building processes gathered to exchange knowledge. Watch our IDEA TALKS interviews from the workshop.

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#### **African election administrators network via the Australian Electoral Commission**

Posted: December 9, 2013

For the past three years IDEA has facilitated a series of study visits by African election administrators to the Australian Electoral Commission (AEC) in an initiative funded by IDEA Member State, Australia.

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#### **IDEA and the African Union: supporting the capacity of EMBs in Africa through BRIDGE training**

Posted: November 27, 2013

Since 2009 IDEA and African Union have been implementing a regional BRIDGE training programme for African Election Management Bodies. Due to the long-term approach and the scope of the project, it has made a genuine impact on the continent.

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#### **Citizens' movements in Myanmar: what future for political parties?**

Posted: November 20, 2013

Why are citizens today drawn more to citizens' movements than to joining political parties? And what do political parties need to learn to become more responsive to citizens? These issues were tackled at a conference in Myanmar and will be included in a book in early 2014.

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#### **Women in politics meet to discuss new strategies for a changing environment**

Posted: November 28, 2013

Over 30 women's rights activists who gathered at a conference in Amman, Jordan, identified the lack of organized political parties and awareness as the main obstacles to women's participation in politics in the West Asia and North Africa (WANA) region.

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#### **Latinobarómetro 2013: "Listen to me"**

Posted: November 7, 2013

"Latin Americans wish to continue living in democracy, but in an improved democracy", says IDEA's Daniel Zovatto in his analysis of the Latinobarómetro 2013.

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■ NEW PUBLICATIONS

**Overcoming Political Exclusion: Strategies for marginalized groups to successfully engage in political decision-making**

Drawing on experience from 38 case studies, the publication describes how different marginalized groups have worked to overcome barriers to their participation in political decision-making.

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**A practical Guide to Constitution Building – now in Arabic and Burmese**

These are translations of the first chapter of IDEA's publication A Practical Guide to Constitution Building. By looking at comparable experiences, this chapter aims to help constitution builders think about and plan for how to achieve a good start.

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**Electoral Justice: The International IDEA Handbook – now in Spanish**

Examines the concept of electoral justice and how to prevent electoral disputes.

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**Illicit Networks and Politics in the Baltic States**

Looks into how illicit networks and political actors forge relations in the Baltic States, from illicit financing of political campaigns, to intimidation of voters, establishment of new political parties, joint economic enterprises and money laundering operations.

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