



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**NDI FIELDS INTERNATIONAL OBSERVATION MISSION  
FOR JORDANIAN PARLIAMENTARY ELECTION**

AMMAN, JORDAN – The National Democratic Institute (NDI) is conducting an international election observation mission for Jordan’s Nov. 9 parliamentary elections.

The Institute is mobilizing 61 accredited observers from 18 countries and territories who will be deployed throughout Jordan on election day. That group includes eight long-term observers who have been in the country since the beginning of October monitoring election preparations. The goal of the mission is to observe every aspect of the election process, including the campaign, balloting on election day, the counting of the ballots and post-election developments. The delegation will issue a preliminary statement after the voting.

The mission is led by Andrés Pastrana Arango, former president of Colombia; Paul Dewar, member of parliament from Canada; Sam Gejdenson, former member of the U.S. Congress; Margaret Anderson Kelliher, speaker of the Minnesota House of Representatives; and Leslie Campbell, NDI regional director for the Middle East and North Africa.

The Nov. 9 vote will be the Kingdom’s third parliamentary election in seven years. It is the first since the dissolution of parliament last November by King Abdullah, who cited public dissatisfaction with the performance of the lower chamber and called for a revised electoral law and elections “that are a model of integrity, impartiality and transparency.” The government issued a temporary election law in May, which will govern the upcoming polls.

In preparation for their mission, the delegation members, most of whom arrived in Jordan today, expect to meet with senior government and election officials, political party representatives, prospective candidates, citizen election monitors, civil society leaders, and media representatives.

Through this observation mission, NDI seeks to demonstrate the interest of the international community in the development of the democratic political process and governance in Jordan, and to present an accurate and impartial assessment of the political environment and activities surrounding and including the Nov. 9 polls. This mission builds on a [pre-election assessment](#) the Institute conducted in Jordan in mid-September. NDI has sponsored democratic development [programs in Jordan](#) since 1993 and has maintained an office in the country since 2004.

The Institute's election observation will be carried out in accordance with the Declaration of Principles for International Election Observation, which is endorsed by 35 intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, including the United Nations Secretariat. The mission builds upon NDI's 25 years of experience observing over 200 elections around the world.

The Institute's election observation mission in Jordan is funded through a grant from the U.S. Agency for International Development.

*The National Democratic Institute is a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization working to support and strengthen democratic institutions worldwide through citizen participation, openness and accountability in government. More information is available at [www.ndi.org](http://www.ndi.org).*