



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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NDI TO FIELD TEAM OF LONG-TERM OBSERVERS AHEAD OF THE LOCAL ELECTIONS

TBILISI – The National Democratic Institute (NDI) announced today the arrival of an international delegation to observe the October 21 local elections in Georgia. The group includes 15 international observers who are political and civic leaders, election experts, and regional specialists. In addition, the mission will include two long-term analysts based in Tbilisi, one following the role of disinformation in the elections, the other focusing on the Georgian institutions involved in administering the election process.

The delegation will commence its duties in the beginning of September, until the end of election processes. Delegation members will be deployed in different regions of Georgia to observe developments at the local level. The delegation will issue a mid-term report prior to the E-Day and an election assessment report following the elections. The final report will be issued once all the election-related processes are over.

Following briefings in Tbilisi, teams of observers will be deployed to locations around the country where they will meet with local electoral authorities, party and media representatives, and domestic election monitors to assess the electoral environment. Closer to Election Day, the mission will be joined by a small high level delegation of short term observers (STOs). On Election Day, NDI observers will visit polling stations for the opening, voting, closing, and counting processes in assigned regions.

The NDI observer mission will conduct its activities in a nonpartisan, professional manner, in accordance with Georgian law and the [Declaration of Principles for International Election Observation](#). NDI also will remain in close contact with Georgian domestic monitoring groups and other international observer delegations throughout the electoral period. The observation delegation is supported by the National Endowment for Democracy (NED) and the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID).

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NDI is an independent, 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.