

# European Union Election Observation Mission Liberia General Elections 2023

The European Union has deployed an Election Observation Mission (EU EOM) to Liberia on 27 August to observe the General Elections on 10 October 2023.

# About the EU EOM

The European Union Election Observation Mission is led by **Chief Observer, Andreas Schieder**, a Member of the European Parliament from Austria. In total, the mission will comprise around 100 observers from 27 EU Member, States Canada and Norway.

A Core Team of 10 analysts arrived in Monrovia on 27 August. The Core Team assesses all aspects and stages of the electoral process, including political, electoral and legal issues, and is supported by logistical and security experts.



20 Long-Term Observers were deployed across Liberia on 9 September to cover all counties. They observe the electoral process in their areas and report back to the Core Team in Monrovia.

Before election day, the mission is also joined by 40 Short-Term observers from different EU Member States. On election day 7 members of the European Parliament and around 20 EU countries diplomats accredited in Liberia will also join the Election Observation Mission. Then they will observe voting, counting and the tabulation of results.

# What is the mandate of the EU EOM?

The EU has deployed an Election Observation Mission to observe the elections following an invitation by the authorities of Liberia. The mission's mandate is to observe all aspects of the electoral process and assess the extent to which the elections comply with international and regional commitments for elections, as well as with the laws of Liberia.

The EOM is independent in its findings from the EU Delegation to Liberia, EU member states, and all EU institutions, and any other entity.

# The EU EOM assesses all aspects and stages of the electoral process, including:

- the legal framework and its implementation;
- the degree of impartiality shown by the election administration;
- the degree of freedom of political parties and candidates to assemble and express their views;
- the degree of an open and fairly contested campaign and the campaign finance;
- the role of the civil society and of the State institutions;
- the universal franchise afforded to voters, especially to women, youth and vulnerable groups;
  the conduct of the media, the impact of the social media,

and the degree of access for political parties and

- candidates to state media and private media;
- Voting, counting and tabulation;
- The complaints and appeals process.

# **Background to EU Election Observation**

The EU has an established methodology for observing elections. Observers do not interfere in the electoral process and have no authority to change or correct any shortcomings. All EU election observers are bound by a strict code of conduct and ethical guidelines that guarantee their neutrality and impartiality.

The EU EOM evaluates according to international standards and operates in accordance with the 'Declaration of Principles for International Election Observation' adopted at the United Nations in 2005 by a number of international bodies involved in election observation. The main objectives of EU Election Observation are the support of the democratic process in partner countries, to enhance public confidence in the electoral process and to strengthen respect for human rights and the rule of law.

The EU EOM will present a preliminary statement within 48 hours after election day. A final report with recommendations for future elections will be presented approximately two to three months after the end of the whole electoral process.

How do I contact the EU EOM?

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