



LOS ANGELES COUNTY REGISTRAR-RECORDER/COUNTY CLERK

DEAN C. LOGAN
Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk

January 22, 2024

TO: Supervisor Lindsey P. Horvath, Chair
Supervisor Hilda L. Solis
Supervisor Holly J. Mitchell
Supervisor Janice Hahn
Supervisor Kathryn Barger

FROM: Dean C. Logan, Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk

FACILITATING COOPERATIVE ENGAGEMENT WITH OTHER JURISDICTIONS AND GOVERNMENTS FOR THE PROMOTION OF DEMOCRACY AND FAIR ELECTION ADMINISTRATION REPORT

This report provides an update on the Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk's (Department) efforts to promote democracy and fair election administration by cooperating and engaging with other election jurisdictions and governments as directed by a motion adopted by your Board on April 18, 2023.

Background

The Department's mission is to provide election services in a fair, accessible, and transparent manner. Promoting democracy and supporting fair, accessible, and transparent elections in Los Angeles County and abroad aligns with this mission and the priorities of the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors. Los Angeles County is the largest election jurisdiction in the United States and plays a vital role in the administration of elections. Representatives of domestic and international elections community, non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and government dignitaries often visit Los Angeles County during major elections. These representatives visit Los Angeles County to observe our election processes, engage with our operations and technical staff, and learn best practices.

Engagement with Other Jurisdictions

The Department has engaged and collaborated with international jurisdictions to observe elections, participate in academic information exchanges, and share best practices. The Department drafted a declaration of shared principles expressing the commitment and purpose of these exchanges to advance fair, accessible, and transparent elections. Copies of the declarations presented during this reporting period

are attached to this report and reflect inclusive dialogue and exchanges with election officials from Albania, Argentina, Armenia, Georgia, and Mexico since the adoption of the motion.

Republic of Albania

The Central Election Commission of Albania invited the Los Angeles County Registrar/Recorder/County Clerk to participate as a delegate on an international observation program during the Albanian Local Elections on May 14, 2023. The observation mission included a meeting with the State Elections Commissioner and an overview of the Albanian government. The observation occurred from May 12, 2023 through May 14, 2023.

Election processes and procedures were observed at polling stations in Elbasan. This included observing opening procedures, use of new electronic equipment and voting tools, centralized vote tabulation, and closing processes. The observation group returned to the Albanian capital of Tirana to observe election tally activities at the ballot counting centers. After the tally, the Central Election Commission issued a declaration of preliminary results and the report of voter turnout.

The RR/CC presented a formal declaration of shared principles to the Central Election Commission of Albania. This declaration captures the shared commitment to fair, accessible, and transparent elections. The RR/CC is committed to a thoughtful engagement with representatives from the Central Election Commission of Albania to learn and continue to improve the administration of elections.

Argentina

Transparencia Electoral is an international organization dedicated to promoting democratic values and administering elections under internationally recognized standards of integrity in the Americas. Transparencia Electoral invited the RR/CC to participate in the Summit of Subnational Election Authorities of the Americas 2023 at the University of Buenos Aires and to present on our paper “Developing and Implementing a Publicly Owned Voting System – Los Angeles County’s Voting Solutions for All People” published in the *Journal of Election Administration Research and Practice*, 2022. The RR/CC presented on the paper during a session focused on “Innovation and Responsible Implementation of Technology in Elections,” which also featured election officials from Mexico and Argentina.

In addition to the summit, the RR/CC also observed the August 13, 2023, Simultaneous and Mandatory Open Primaries (Primarias Abiertas Simultáneas y Obligatorias). The candidates for President, Vice President, and national legislators were nominated during this election. The RR/CC will continue to work with organizations like Transparencia Electoral to collaborate and engage with election jurisdictions across the Americas.

Armenia

The RR/CC received a formal invitation to participate in an international election observation program in Armenia during the Elections of the Council of Elders of Yerevan held on September 17, 2023. Yerevan City is the largest jurisdiction in Armenia with over one-third of the Armenian population. This election took place during a volatile political environment, exacerbated by Armenia's conflict with Azerbaijan over Nagorno-Karabakh.

The RR/CC presented a formal declaration of shared principles certificate to the Central Electoral Commission of the Republic of Armenia. This declaration captures the shared commitment to fair, accessible, and transparent elections. The RR/CC is committed to a thoughtful engagement with representatives from the Central Electoral Commission of Armenia to learn and continue to improve the administration of elections.

Georgia

Prior to the passage of your Board's motion in 2023, the RR/CC was invited to participate in the 10th Annual Meeting of Election Management Bodies by the Central Elections Commission (CEC) of the Republic of Georgia on October 24, 2022. This meeting was conducted in partnership with the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), the International Foundation of Election Systems (IFES), and the Council of Europe. The RR/CC presented remotely on a panel focused on election technologies that also included election officials from Georgia and Moldova.

The Central Election Commission of the Republic of Georgia invited the RR/CC to participate in an international election observation program for the 2024 Georgian Primary Election. This observation program was conducted between April 25 and May 1, 2023. During this visit, the RR/CC observed polling processes at election precincts in the city of Kutaisi. Additionally, the election included a pilot project for introducing new technology and voting tools to enhance transparency and election results reporting. At the conclusion of the voting period, the RR/CC observed the closing of precincts and the ballot tabulation process.

During the de-brief of the election observation mission, the RR/CC was asked to participate in a media briefing and to provide commentary on the process and implementation of new technology and voting tools in the election¹. Additionally, the RR/CC presented a formal declaration of shared principles certificate to the Central Election Commission of Georgia. This declaration captured the shared commitment to fair, accessible, and transparent elections. The RR/CC committed to a thoughtful engagement with the Republic of Georgia to learn and continue to improve the administration of elections.

¹ <https://imedinews.ge/ge/politika/289525/amerikeli-damkvirvebeli-am-archevnebz-tsarmodgenili-sapiloto-proeqti-tsarmatebuli-gakhda-aseve-iko-uzrunvelkopili-tavisupali-gia-da--samartliani-garemo-rats-dzalian-mnishvnelovania>

The RR/CC was also invited to participate in the 11th Annual Meeting of Election Management Bodies in Batumi. The Assistant Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk for Information Technology and Public Information Officer represented the RR/CC as delegates to the convening and presented on the implementation of voting technology, and detection and response to disinformation campaigns. The RR/CC is committed to continuing the dialogue and information exchange with the Central Election Commission of Georgia to improve the administration of elections.

Mexico

The RR/CC was invited by Tranparencia Electoral to be part of a multi-country delegation of observers in Mexico City to observe a unique and historic coalition of political parties to advance the nomination of a presidential candidate in September 2023. This engagement included a formal invitation to the Legislature of the Mexican Congress and meetings with multiple NGOs and coalition leaders. In a historic nomination process, two women have been selected as nominees for President to represent the largest political party coalitions. The general election is scheduled to take place on June 2, 2024, and Mexico is poised to elect its first female President. The RR/CC will keep an open dialogue with election jurisdictions across North America.

Future Partnerships

For the upcoming 2024 Presidential Election Cycle, the Department anticipates multiple election observations from the international election community. These observers will be allowed to visit our Vote Centers and observe election night processes. The new state-of-the-art Ballot Processing Center will be a point of focus for observation and learning best practices. Facilitating cooperative engagement with other election jurisdictions will remain an ongoing priority for the Department.

If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact me at (562) 462-2716 or dlogan@rrcc.lacounty.gov. Your staff may also contact Chief Deputy Jeramy Gray at (562) 462-2883 or jgray@rrcc.lacounty.gov.

c: Chief Executive Office
Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors

Attachment

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County of Los Angeles, California
Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk

DECLARATION OF SHARED PRINCIPLES

REPUBLIC OF GEORGIA
ESTABLISHED ON APRIL 29, 2023

I, **Dean C. Logan**, Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk for the County of Los Angeles am honored to observe the ***by-elections of the Parliament of Georgia, Sakrebulo, and extraordinary mayoral elections.***

I share your commitment to fair, accessible, and transparent elections, and believe that open and inclusive dialogue is critical to ensuring that elections are conducted with integrity. I look forward to thoughtful engagement with representatives of the Election Administration and Central Election Commission of Georgia and I am eager to learn and contribute to this important work in any way that I can during my visit.

DEAN C. LOGAN
Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk
County of Los Angeles

Georgia



Presentation of the Declaration of Shared Principles to the Central Election Commission of Georgia

Pictured Left to Right: Dean C. Logan, Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk; Giorgi Kalandarishvili, Chairperson Central Election Commission of Georgia



County of Los Angeles, California
Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk

DECLARATION OF SHARED PRINCIPLES

REPUBLIC OF ALBANIA
ESTABLISHED ON MAY 14, 2023

I, **Dean C. Logan**, Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk for the County of Los Angeles am honored to observe the ***general elections for local government units of the Republic of Albania***.

I share your commitment to fair, accessible, and transparent elections, and believe that open and inclusive dialogue is critical to ensuring that elections are conducted with integrity. I look forward to thoughtful engagement with representatives of the Central Election Commission of Albania and I am eager to learn and contribute to this important work in any way that I can during my visit.

DEAN C. LOGAN
Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk
County of Los Angeles

Albania



Presentation of the Declaration of Shared Principles to the Central Election Commission of Georgia

Pictured Left to Right: Dean C. Logan, Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk; Ilirjan Celibashi, State Election Commissioner, Central Election Commission of Albania



County of Los Angeles, California
Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk

DECLARATION OF SHARED PRINCIPLES

REPUBLIC OF ARMENIA
ESTABLISHED ON SEPTEMBER 17, 2023

I, **Dean C. Logan**, Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk for the County of Los Angeles am honored to observe the ***Regular Elections to the Council of Elders of Yerevan***.

I share your commitment to fair, accessible, and transparent elections, and believe that open and inclusive dialogue is critical to ensuring that elections are conducted with integrity. I look forward to thoughtful engagement with representatives of the Central Election Commission of the Republic of Armenia and I am eager to learn and contribute to this important work in any way that I can during my visit.

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