



International IDEA

Climate Change and Democracy

Terms of Reference – Spring 2025 Internship

1. Context

The International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance (International IDEA) is an intergovernmental organization established in 1995, with 35 Member States spanning all continents. The Institute seeks to support sustainable democracy worldwide and assist in the development of institutions and foster a culture of democracy. At the interface between research, fieldwork and the donor community, International IDEA provides a forum for dialogue, develops training materials, provides strategic advice, and builds networks of global expert practitioners at the international, regional, and national levels with a range of international and national organizations.

In International IDEA's institutional strategy, 2023-2027, the nexus between climate change and democracy is one of the focus topics. On the one hand, the outcome of the climate crisis will depend on whether democracies can drastically reduce their carbon footprints in the coming years. On the other hand, the climate crisis is already impacting democratic governance. Climate change poses a challenging test for democracies' ability to cooperate and confront highly complex global challenges. Democracies need to formulate adequate and ambitious policy responses to climate change for democracy to remain a legitimate and credible political system for young people and future generations.

The workstream on climate change and democracy was developed in 2023 and has since then expanded its work programme by building on existing knowledge and experience gained at a global and regional level; enhancing the expertise, knowledge production and policy advisory capacities of the Institute; building partnerships; and pursuing fundraising opportunities.

2. Objectives, Expected Outcomes and Learning Opportunities

The objective of the Internship is to provide a thorough learning opportunity for an interested and talented student or graduate with a relevant background and interest in the climate change and democracy nexus. The Intern is expected to become part of the team, learning from all team members in their different capacities and contributing ideas and enthusiasm to the work.

The Internship is designed for students and graduates who seek to enhance their knowledge and understanding of the multiple connections between climate change and democracy, in the context of electoral and constitution-building processes, participation and representation, as well as inclusion.

The Intern will support a range of programmatic activities for the implementation of International IDEA's workstream on Climate Change and Democracy. Under the guidance of the Advisor, Climate Change and Democracy, the Intern shall undertake the following tasks:

- Support research on the thematic aspects of the nexus between climate change and democracy, in particular Climate Deliberation, Climate Litigation and Institutions for Future Generations;
- Assist in the organization and the follow-up of public lectures, conferences and events, including assisting with reporting, note-taking and some logistical tasks. This interaction will include exchanges with several peer organizations working on climate change and democracy globally;
- Contribute to the research and conceptualization of new projects in the Climate Change and Democracy workstream;
- Develop outreach, media and communications material for the workstream;
- Actively include a gender and inclusion perspective in all activities;
- Perform any other duties as requested by the Advisor, Climate Change and Democracy, and/or the Climate Change and Democracy team colleagues.

The Intern will benefit from the position by gaining insights, experience, and knowledge on:

- Working in a multicultural intergovernmental organization;
- The implementation of a programme on climate change and democracy, learning from all thematic dimensions covered;
- Gaining a first-hand insight into policy-influencing work on democracy and advocacy and outreach work to strengthen democratic values;
- Global networks of democracy and climate change experts and learning from their collective expertise;
- Relationship building with influential global stakeholders in the democracy support community and among climate governance institutions, including partner organisations, think tanks and donors.

The Intern will have the opportunity to hone her/his research, analytical, writing, and presentation skills.

3. Organisation and Mentoring Plan

International IDEA will provide mentoring for the intern. This will consist of welcome meetings and introductions to International IDEA, the workstream, team activities and ongoing projects. The Intern and the Mentor will agree on a workplan for the internship activities and learning objectives.

The Intern will also receive mentoring through participation in weekly team meetings, specific mentoring meetings with the Mentor to discuss work progress and help clarify any questions the Intern will have, and internship review meetings towards the end of the internship to go through performed tasks, objectives, and lessons learned.

4. Timing

The Climate Change and Democracy Team is looking for an Intern who can support its programmatic activities from mid-January 2025 to the end of May, for at least 20 weeks (specific

dates to be agreed with the Mentor and the University). The Intern will work office hours 09:00-17:00, if not otherwise agreed with the mentor.

5. Qualifications and required skills

- Undergraduate degree in social, political, or environmental sciences, sustainable development, or other related subjects. Postgraduate studies (MS/MSc) will be considered an asset.
- Strong analytical and comparative research skills related to democracy, democratic governance, climate change, or environmental protection.
- Ability to appreciate diversity and work as part of a team in such an environment.
- Ability to assess, manage and structure information.
- Good interpersonal skills.
- First experience of working in an international context, e.g., in a government, intergovernmental organization or international non-governmental organization is considered an advantage.
- Language skills: Fluency in English, written and spoken. Any other widely spoken language in an International IDEA priority region (Arabic, French, Portuguese or Spanish) is considered an asset.

6. Recruitment process

Please submit your CV and motivation letter to the focal point at the Climate Change and Democracy team, David Rosén (D.Rosen@idea.int) by **11 October 2024**. The internship recruitment process, including interviews with candidates, will take place in mid-October 2024.