

The CRTA with the support of the OSCE Mission to Serbia, is announcing a

COMPETITION

for students of the **School of Independent Election Observation**
(December 2021 – March 2022)

For six years now, the CRTA has been organising the **Academy for Democracy**, intended for young people who want to be the initiators of positive changes in our society. So far, more than **130 students** have successfully completed this Academy.

This year, the CRTA's School of Independent Election Observation, organised under the auspices of the Academy for Democracy, seeks to familiarise young people interested in the electoral process in Serbia with the political and institutional mechanisms important for conducting elections, as well as with the methods that the CRTA applies in election observation.

Participants will learn why independent, civic election observation is important, and to what extent it can help relevant institutions improve the electoral process so that Serbia can achieve free and fair elections. Moreover, this School will provide a comprehensive overview of the state of the election administration and institutional framework, as well as priority areas where changes are needed to ensure equality of participants in the election campaign and minimise abuse of public resources and public functions.

Participants can expect a dynamic and interesting programme consisting of **five modules, i.e. five online weekend workshops that will be conducted once or twice a month**. In addition to theoretical, the programme will include practical work with appropriate mentoring support in the form of tasks that include: knowledge quizzes, analysis of recommendations of observation missions from previous elections, analysis of specific examples of violations of election laws, rules and procedures, and more.

Upon completion of this training, participants will acquire knowledge and skills that they will be able to apply in the future as members of independent observation missions, members of polling stations, within their political parties or through the improvement of media coverage of elections. Participants who will participate in all modules and demonstrate commitment to the tasks between modules, will receive a certificate of successful completion of the School of Independent Election Observation.

Programme

The School of Independent Election Observation will take place in the period from December 2021 to March 2022 and will cover the following areas:

- Election observation in Serbia and in the world (comparative practice);
- Why civic and independent election observation is important;
- Conducting elections in Serbia – review of the legal framework and relevant institutions;
- Anomalies of the election process in Serbia – public officials' campaigning, pressure on voters, misuse of public resources and the like;
- Equality of participants in the election campaign;
- Long-term election campaign observation and the Election Day observation;
- Available legal mechanisms to protect the rights of voters and the integrity of the electoral process;
- Recommendations of independent observers for the improvement of the election process.

How to apply

If:

- You are between 18 and 30;
- You want to study, improve and invest 15 to 20 hours of work per month in this programme;
- You are interested in the election process in Serbia and want to learn how you can participate in it;
- You believe that free and fair elections have no alternative;

Take the first step and get involved in the fight for fair and honest elections!

The competition is open until November 25th, 2021. (23:59h)

Apply by filling out the form at www.crtars.org/akademija-demokratije-prijava.

Applications received after the above deadline will not be considered.

Selection process

- At least 20 students will be selected for this programme;
- All candidates will be informed about the outcome of the selection process by e-mail;
- The School is expected to start in mid-December 2021.

If you have any questions or require additional information regarding the competition, please contact us by e-mail budideo@crtars.org