## What is the mandate of the Election Observation Mission?

Mission Canada is a neutral and impartial election observation mission run by CANADEM, an international not-for-profit NGO dedicated to advancing democracy and international peace and security.

The mission's mandate is to provide an assessment of the presidential electoral process. Mission Canada assesses Ukraine's compliance with OSCE commitments and other international standards for democratic elections, as well as with national legislation.

The mission observes, records, and reports, without interfering or intervening in any electoral processes. Mission Canada does not legitimise the electoral process nor does it validate the election results. All

observers are bound by a code of conduct to guarantee that they follow the principles for international election observation.

## **Mission Canada Reports**

Mission Canada will issue a preliminary statement after election day in Ukraine, providing an initial assessment of the electoral process and voting day. The mission's overall findings will be presented in a final report at the end of the electoral process, a few months later. The final report will provide recommendations for improved electoral processes in the future.

## **About Mission Canada**

Mission Canada is led by the **Head of Mission**, **the Honourable Lloyd Axworthy** and the Deputy Head of Mission, Olya Odynska-Grod.



Mr. Axworthy is a prominent Canadian politician, statesman and academic. His professional biography includes:

- Chair of the World Refugee Council present
- Federal Cabinet positions: Minister of Foreign Affairs, Minister of Western Economic Diversification, Minister of Human Resources Development, Minister of Transport, Minister Responsible for the Status of Women, Minister of Employment and Immigration
- Chair of the Board of Cuso International
- Director and CEO of the Liu Institute for Global issues
- President and Vice-Chancellor of the University of Winnipeg

The mission consists of 50 long-term observers (LTO) – including 13 core team members and analysts. 110 short-term observers will reinforce the mission on election day. Observers are deployed in teams of two in all oblasts of Ukraine where the election will take place. LTOs observe all aspects of the electoral process, including candidate registration, campaign activities, election administration, implementation of the election legislation, media environment, and the resolution of election related disputes. They also observe the role of civil society, as well as the participation of women, internally displaced persons and minorities in the electoral process. Their observations are reported to the Core Team in Kyiv, analysed and shared in the final report.

## **Background to CANADEM Election Observation**

CANADEM has participated in over 130 missions in more than 40 countries, playing a crucial role in strengthening the democratic process globally. They have mobilized nearly 2000 election observers to Ukraine for 11 elections since 2004. CANADEM EOM operates in accordance with the "Declaration of Principles for International Election Observation", adopted at the United Nations in 2005.

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