

- political parties and NGO's
- freedom of assembly, to hold political rallies and to campaign
- freedom of access to and by the elector, to transmit and receive political and electoral information messages
- freedom to register as an elector, a party or a candidate
- freedom from violence, intimidation and coercion
- freedom of access to the polls by electors, party agents and accredited observers
- freedom to exercise the franchise in secret
- freedom to question, challenge and register complaints or objections without negative repercussions.

"FAIR" = an electoral process where the "playing field" is reasonably level and accessible to all electors, parties and candidates, and includes:

- an independent, non-partisan electoral organization to administer the process
- guaranteed rights and protection through the constitution and electoral legislation and regulations
- equitable representation of electors provided through the legislation
- clearly defined universal suffrage and secrecy of the vote
- equitable criteria and opportunities to register as an elector, a political party or a candidate
- equitable and balanced reporting by the media
- equitable access to financial and material resources for party and candidate campaigning
- equitable opportunities for the electorate to receive political and voter information
- accessible polling places
- equitable treatment of electors, candidates and parties by election officials, the government, the police, the military and the judiciary
- an open and transparent ballot counting process
- an election process which is not disrupted by violence, intimidation or coercion.

(d) Final evaluation

In the case of observer groups, following a review of individual reports, the final evaluation should normally be reached through consensus of all members.

If we accept the statement that "Every state should be possessed of a government whose authority derives from the will of the people as expressed by a secret ballot in genuine free and fair elections held at regular intervals on the basis of