



EUROPEAN INSTITUTE
FOR DEMOCRACY



POLITICAL PROCESSES

POLAND

- Study trip for Polish MPs to the United Kingdom (1999-2001)
- Action - Local Government (2000-2001)

Polish Parliamentarians as new players on international democratic scene during study trip to London had a chance to learn how to be a good MPs and what their role in free, democratic country should be. Sharing post decentralization lessons on responsibility for region and its development with Polish regional politicians, local government representatives, business, academics and Regional Development Agencies took place in all the regions of Poland with the assistance of British experts in the field of establishing regional development strategies. Seminars and workshops brought them closer to democratic practices.

EURASIA COUNTRIES:

ARMENIA, AZERBAIJAN, BELARUS, GEORGIA, KAZAKHSTAN, KYRGYZSTAN, MOLDOVA, RUSSIA, TAJIKISTAN, UKRAINE, UZBEKISTAN



- Political party study trips to Poland executed in cooperation with the NDI- USA (2000-2009)
- Presidential elections in Ukraine (2003 – 2005)
- Building capacity of political parties in Ukraine (2005-2007)
- ENEMO - Presidential election observation mission – Ukraine (2004)

Between 2000 – 2009 there have been 42 study trips to Poland for 390 political party members from 11 Eurasia countries organized in partnership with the NDI. Study visits focused on national and regional party leaders, members of Parliaments, party managers, local councilors, directors of youth or women party structures, election campaign teams, candidates, party activists, etc. In Poland these politicians participated in training sessions and met with relevant representatives of all main Polish political parties, administration, media and NGOs. During other



EID projects dedicated to Ukraine (2003-2005) there were 1900 Ukrainian participants trained in election campaigning, ballot rigging, election procedures, working with the voters and political marketing during several Seminars in Ukraine and election observation trips and workshops in Poland. As part of the joint observer mission linking 16 countries over 54 Polish EID observers travelled to various regions of Ukraine for two rounds of elections. After Presidential elections the EID worked with 8 Ukrainian parties in 4 regions to help them to build democratic party structures after changes brought by the "Orange revolution".



IRAQ, EGYPT

- Study trip to Poland for election monitors – preparations for referendum in Iraq (2005)
- Cooperation with IFES during their study trip to Poland for members of Egyptian National Election Commission (2008)



CIVIL SOCIETY

NGOs / CITIZENS - BELARUS, UKRAINE

- Belarus - Centers of Civic Activities - the road to civil society (2006, 2007)
- Ukraine - Housing and maintenance sector in self - govern Poland. (2009)



400 participants from 16 Centers of Civic Activities established by the EID went through the training during 8 study visits to Poland and 72 sessions run Poland and Belarus. Main subjects of democratic civil society building included establishment and management of civic organization, fundraising, advocacy and election campaigning, working with disabled and socially excluded, working on youth and children initiatives, culture, media development, participation of women in public life.

WOMEN - POLAND, BELARUS, UKRAINE, RUSSIA, TAJIKISTAN, KYRGYZSTAN, UZBEKISTAN, IRAQ (1999 – 2009)

EID has always treated women participation in public life as important part of civic society development. 450 women from Poland, Iraq and 6 Eurasia countries – with special attention to Ukraine - participated in 9 EID programs specifically designed for women political and civic leaders. Study trips to the United Kingdom and Poland as well as training sessions delivered in target countries allowed for sharing experience, knowledge, skills, motivating and building network of powerful and effective women leaders.



YOUTH

BELARUS, KYRGYZSTAN, MOLDOVA, ALBANIA, ROMANIA, SERBIA, SLOVAKIA



- NDI study visits to Poland for youth organizations from Eurasia countries (2003-2007)
- NDI anti-corruption international conference for youth organizations from Central and Eastern Europe (2002)

JOURNALISTS - BELARUS, UKRAINE

- Belarusian journalist study visit (2005)
- Ukrainian journalist study visit to Poland - "Fighting for fair elections" (2005)



ROMA MINORITY

- Roma community in Poland (1999-2000)
- Roma society in local community (2001)

The main aim of these projects was to support and coordinate the efforts of non-governmental organisations, local governments, and national authorities that were acting to improve the living, education and health conditions of the Roma minority in Poland. The results of this project included the creation of institutional structures specifically responsible for Roma minority affairs within the Ministry of the Interior and Administration and the creation of a governmental pilot project in support of the Roma in the Małopolska Region.

ADMINISTRATION / STATE INSTITUTIONS

JUSTICE AND HOME AFFAIRS – CROSS BORDER PROJECTS



- Border Guards, Police, Local government – Polish/ Ukrainian cooperation on fighting organized crime and sharing experience on uniform services reform with Ukrainian partner organizations (2003-2006)
- Ukrainian Border Guards Reform - towards European Union (2006)

The EID was first non governmental organization working directly with the Ukrainian Border Guards and Militia on passing democratic experience on democratization and transformation. During both EID projects targeting uniform services - over 18 training workshops took place in Poland with the participation of over 350 officers and officials, 6 visits to Ukraine and works exchange placements for over 90 Border Guards officers were implemented. A series of inter – departmental workshops on combating border crime and corruption took place.

ADMINISTRATION



- Executive Development Program for Ukraine for Presidential and Prime Minister administrative staff (2006-2008)
- Study trip for the Kyrgyzstan Presidential administration – NDI (2007)

Ukrainian public servants were placed in Polish Ministries/ Departments. For several weeks, these administrators became familiar with the operations of Polish Ministries and their departments. In particular, they were able to observe the legislative and administrative changes that took place as a result of Poland's entry into the European Union. Understanding these changes would help Ukraine to better adapt to the European labour standards. The EID encouraged by positive response of EDP project offers administration study trips for other Eurasia countries.



PARLIAMENT / MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

- Foreign aid – tendencies, responsibilities, experience – a Seminar executed in partnership with the Polish Parliamentary Committee on Foreign Affairs (2008)



The purpose of the seminar was the transfer of information and experience of over a dozen European countries as well as the USA in the areas of the functioning and development of foreign aid institutions, specifically in terms of democratization and development. The seminar was designed to offer practical recommendations to the Parliamentarians sitting on the Foreign Affairs Committee as well as to representatives of the Polish Department of Development Cooperation within the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, who are, in turn, able to make use of the foreign experience of public and non-governmental institutions. These institutions were represented by key leaders in the development aid field from around the world.

Main goals of European Institute for Democracy are:

- Supporting democratic changes in Poland and abroad with support and help of domestic and foreign experts
- Sharing knowledge, successes, failures and practical experience of Polish democratic transformation

Strengthening democracy and presenting transformation from a satellite Soviet Union style country into free, democratic member state of the European Union and NATO can be achieved by execution of projects in Poland and abroad in three main areas:

POLITICAL PROCESSES

- Political party building & party development
- Election processes / election monitoring
- Coalition building
- Strengthening of self-government

CIVIL SOCIETY

- Development of non governmental organizations and civic movements
- Women in public life: politics & NGOs
- Youth – roles & responsibilities in civil society
- Media in democratic country
- Minorities – ROMA community

WORK OF ADMINISTRATION / INSTITUTIONS

- State institutions strengthening
- Supporting development of administration on national and regional levels
- Uniform services reform & development

The EID believes that by providing individuals with knowledge and skills – there is a chance to influence not only their personal life but make a difference in the future of their nations.

EID
Al.Jerozolimskie 30/IVp
00-024 Warsaw
POLAND

Phone: +48 (0) 22 625 02 21
Fax: +48 (0) 22 625 02 31
e-mail: eid@eid.org.pl
www.eid.org.pl

President of Foundation
Dorota Mitrus

Chief Financial Officer
Joanna Górka

European Institute for Democracy (EID) is a Polish foundation established in 1998. The goal of EID is to support democratic changes in the world, particularly by transmitting the experience of Polish transformation.

Not affiliated to any political party, EID cooperates with political parties, state administration and local government of all levels including formations such as Border Guard and Police; as well as with women, youth organizations, independent journalists and other non governmental organizations and activists developing civil society from Poland and other countries.

EID programs enable transfer of the experience of Polish transformation to groups that seek their own solutions but want to use Polish lessons to make decisions leading to a similar, peaceful transition.

In the past, Poland received help from other countries supporting democratic efforts of Polish nation in difficult times when hope seemed to be the highest value. Later on, when the Poles regained the right to decide about their own lives and the future of their country, international help was an assistance in the development of structures of a democratic state and institutions of civil society.

Today, European Institute for Democracy together with other organizations and individuals, want to help other countries, which haven't achieved the longed-for goal of individual freedom, democracy and sustainable socio-economical growth. This is the way EID wants to pay off the debt to history and international community.

For its activities EID receives grants and donations. EID financial partners in the past and present are: Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Poland, National Democratic Institute for International Affairs (NDI), British Embassy in Warsaw, British Embassy in Kyiv, Embassy of the United States of America in Warsaw, British Know - How Fund, Freedom House, Westminster Foundation for Democracy (WFD), National Endowment for Democracy (NED).

