

INDEPENDENT ELECTION OBSERVATION PLATFORM

PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS OF

NOVEMBER 1ST 2015

OBSERVATION REPORT

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Acronyms

ABPRS	ADDRESS-BASED POPULATION REGISTRY SYSTEM
AKP	JUSTICE AND DEVELOPMENT PARTY
OSCE	ORGANISATION FOR SECURITY AND COOPERATION IN EUROPE
OSCE ODIHR	OSCE OFFICE OF DEMOCRATIC INSTITUTIONS AND HUMAN RIGHTS
UN	UNITED NATIONS
IEOP	INDEPENDENT ELECTION OBSERVATION PLATFORM
CHP	REPUBLICAN PEOPLE’S PARTY
AMER	ASSOCIATION FOR MONITORING EQUAL RIGHTS
HDP	PEOPLE’S DEMOCRATIC PARTY
MHP	NATIONALIST MOVEMENT PARTY
LPE	LAW ON PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS
LBPEVR	LAW ON THE BASIC PROVISIONS OF ELECTIONS AND VOTER REGISTRIES
NGO	NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANISATIONS
PS	POLLING STATION
TRT	NATIONAL BROADCASTING AUTHORITY
SBE	SUPREME BOARD OF ELECTIONS

Introduction

Independent election observation aims to contribute to holding elections that are democratic, fair and that provide equal opportunities for all as well as equal access to the right to vote and be elected. Independent election observation is one of the criteria that ensures the legitimacy of elections.

According to the OSCE 1990 Copenhagen Document: *'(8) The participating States consider that the presence of observers, both foreign and domestic, can enhance the electoral process for States in which elections are taking place. They therefore invite observers from any other CSCE participating States and any appropriate private institutions and organizations who may wish to do so to observe the course of their national election proceedings, to the extent permitted by law. They will also endeavour to facilitate similar access for election proceedings held below the national level. Such observers will undertake not to interfere in the electoral proceedings.'*

According to the UN Human Rights Committee General Comment No 25, *'There should be independent scrutiny of the voting and counting process and access to judicial review or other equivalent process so that electors have confidence in the security of the ballot and the counting of the votes'*

The Parliamentary Elections of 2002, 2007, 2011, June 7th 2015 the Presidential elections of 2014, in Turkey were observed and reported by OSCE/Office of Democratic Institutions and Human Rights. In all its election reports, ESCE/ODIHR has recommended that the election process in Turkey be made accessible to independent observers.

In a country like Turkey, where casting a vote in the elections is almost the only means available for citizen participation, where democratic participation mechanisms are extremely limited, the independent observation of elections becomes ever more important.

The Independent Election Observation Platform (IEOP) was founded in 2011 by rights-based NGOs in an effort to conduct human rights-based election observation. The IEOP bases its activities on international standards and focuses on identifying violations of rights and discrimination in the process of elections and determining the opportunities and conditions for exercising the right to vote and be elected with respect to women, persons with disabilities, those who have different ethnicities, religious beliefs, mother tongues and sexual orientations, IDPs, as well as people who are not literate in Turkish.

IEOP has shared all its observation reports with the Supreme Board of Elections (SBE) and has made recommendations on practices in elections. The IEOP has made official applications to the SBE prior to the 2011 Parliamentary Elections and in all elections held after that date, to be granted the status of Independent Observer, however all such applications were rejected by the SBE.

The IEOP has carried out independent election observation during the 2011 Parliamentary Elections, the 2014 Local Elections, the 2014 Presidential Elections, the June 7th 2015 Parliamentary Elections and has produced reports for all election observation activities.

The activities related to independent election observation or the platform are not directly or indirectly associated with any political party or candidate. Our independent election observers act in accordance with the Declaration of Principles for International Election Observation.

Methodology and Scope

The Independent Election observation activities aim to monitor and report, throughout the election process, on the exercise of the right to vote and be elected, as guaranteed by international human rights instruments, with respect to disadvantaged groups and to determine whether elections were held in a democratic and fair environment. The process of observation, as a whole, covers the creation of the voter registries, the determining of candidates, electioneering activities, voter training, election day observation, appeals and the examination of the election results.

The OSCE was granted accreditation by the Supreme Board of Elections (SBE) to observe the elections of November 1st 2015. Prior to the elections of November 1st, Two associations, who are members of the IEOP, namely, Association for Monitoring Equal Rights (AMER) and The Human Rights Association (HRA) individually petitioned the Supreme Board of Elections (SBE) requesting accreditation as independent observers. The SBE rejected both applications.

Despite the rejection by the SBE, in an effort to exercise the democratic right to observe the elections, the provincial election boards were sent notifications and election observation teams were set up. In addition, a call was made to voters to become an 'observer for equality' and to report any violations they may have witnessed to the platform. The call was made via AMER's web site and the social media,

In the process of elections, 5 citizens have reported to the IEOP on voter registries, and 1 citizen reported on the violation of the right to vote. Detailed information about these reports can be found under the relevant sections

Reports were made to the platform by citizens who had filed 15 separate petitions for information to 9 different institutions during the election process.

In the November 1st elections, Independent observers from 40 NGOs¹ observed the voting process in 20 provinces in 390 polling stations (POs) and 955 ballot boxes. Counting was observed at 255 ballot boxes. Election observation was conducted using three separate standardised forms. The forms, which were filled out by observers were analysed using SPSS 21.0. Election observation was carried out in the following provinces: Adana, Adıyaman, Ağrı, Ankara, Antalya, Diyarbakır, Edirne, Elazığ, Hatay, Mersin, İstanbul, İzmir, Kırklareli, Konya, Manisa, Muğla, Şanlıurfa, Şırnak, Trabzon and Van.

During the post election day observation, an evaluation was made of the appeals and complaints against the election results as well as the results themselves. Since it was not possible to access any clear information regarding these decisions of the SBE, which are not subject to judicial review, it has not been possible to evaluate whether or not they were in compliance with the law or based on equal treatment. Hence, an in depth legal analysis could not be performed on this front. The post election evaluation is limited to information gathered from newspaper reports and some quantitative data.

¹ Annex I: NGOs participating in the observation activity.

The names of persons conducting observation in polling stations, the number of the polling stations and other private information, other than such information that has been reported to the press and the judiciary, have been omitted in order to ensure that the relevant persons do not face any negative consequences.

Provisions in Turkish Legislation Leading to Inequality in Terms of the Right to Vote and be Elected

Article 67 of the Constitution of the Republic of Turkey, guarantees that elections shall be held under the direction and supervision of the judiciary, in accordance with the principles of free, equal, secret, direct, universal suffrage, and public counting of the votes. And that all citizens over eighteen years of age shall have the right to vote in elections.

The overall approach in international criteria is guaranteed by this article. However, some legislation in Turkey includes discriminatory provisions in terms of the right to vote and be elected.

The provisions in the Constitution;

Eligibility to be elected as a deputy:

“Article 76- (Amended: 13/10/2006-5551/1) Every Turk over the age of twenty-five is eligible to be a deputy.”

In Turkey, whereas it is sufficient for an individual to be over the age of 18 to exercise their civil and political rights, the age requirement to be elected as a deputy is 25. In terms of human rights, this provision amounts to discrimination on grounds of age.

Article 67 of the Constitution and Article 7 of the Law on the Basic Provisions of Elections and Voter Registries (Law no 298), lists those persons who are not eligible to cast a vote.

As set forth in these provisions, the restriction for convicted prisoners in terms of their right to vote is worth noting. A. Atahür Söyler, who was unable to cast a vote due to a sentence he received in 2007 took his case to the European Court of Human Rights (ECtHR).

In its judgment in 2013, the ECtHR noted that Turkey imposes a blanket ban on voting for all convicted prisoners and that it fails to take into account the nature and gravity of the crime, the length of imprisonment and the conduct of the convicted person. The ECtHR found Turkey to be in violation of Article 3 of Protocol 1 to the Convention, which guarantees the right to free elections.¹²

Although the SBE has issued a decision in 2014 stating that those convicted persons on parole will be eligible to vote, this regulation still fails to meet the criteria.

Similarly, Article 8 of the Law on the Basic Provisions of Elections and Voter Registries (No: 298)¹³ sets forth that persons who are legally incapacitated may not cast their vote. Hence, those with mental disabilities who have been appointed a legal guardian by a court are not able to exercise their right to vote. This article is against the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

However, in practice, there are also cases where voter registries are not kept in compliance with the law in terms of mentally disabled persons.¹⁴

Electioneering on radio and television:

“Article 52–(Amended: 17/5/1979- 2234/1.)

(Amended by Article 46 of Law 2839, on 10 June 1983.) Political parties running for the election may conduct electioneering activities on radio and television after the 7th day prior to the election day until 18:00 hours on the eve of the election, reserving the provisions in exclusive laws.

(Amended by Article of Law 3377, on 23 May 1987.) Those who are running for the election have the following rights in terms of electioneering on television or radio;

- a) Each political party running for the elections have the right for two speeches not more than 10 minutes on the first 10 days and the last day to explain their programs and projects,
- b) Parties that have a group in the TGNA have an additional 10 minute slot,
- c) (Amended by Article 4 of Law 4125, on 27 October 1995.) A further 20 minutes are given to the party in power or senior partner in coalition government, with 15 minutes for minor partners,
- d) The principal party of opposition has the right to an additional 10 minute speech.¹⁵

The regulations under Article 52 of the Law do not provide a level playing field in elections and create inequality amongst political parties as well as between political parties and independent candidates.

Provisions in Law No 2839 on Parliamentary Elections:

“f) (Additional paragraph: 08/04/2010 – Law 5980/Art. 31.) The special emblems of political parties shall be printed on the joint ballots in accordance with their description in the party statute. The party statute shall be taken as a basis in determining the emblem, the name and abbreviation of the political party to be printed on the joint ballot. Political parties which do not have abbreviated names shall be represented on the joint ballot with their full

The fact that there is no opportunity to use identifying symbols for independent candidates on the ballots as well as the practice of writing the names of independent candidates with a smaller font in a smaller area of the ballot in comparison to political parties, amounts to unequal treatment.

The Pre-Election Process and Environment

As a result of the Parliamentary Elections held on June 7th 2015, four political parties passed the electoral threshold and entered parliament. However, none of the parties were able to secure the majority of seats necessary to form a single-party government.

On July 9th, the President gave the mandate to form government to Ahmet Davutoğlu, the leader of the Justice and Development Party (AKP), who had won the highest number of seats. Despite the will of the voters in the elections, the negotiations held to form a coalition government first with the Republican People’s Party (CHP), then the Nationalist Movement Party (MHP), were unsuccessful. On August 20th 2015, Ahmet Davutoğlu handed back the mandate he was given to form government. Instead of giving a second mandate, the President decided to repeat the elections. The decision was published in the Official Gazette No. 29455 dated August 24, 2015 and Turkey entered the election process for the second time. The decision of the President to renew the elections led to wide-scale public debate in terms of its compliance with democratic customary practice and the possibility of a rise in social tension due to a second election.

With the start of the election process, Ahmet Davutoğlu was given mandate by the President to form an interim election government. The HDP decided to join the election government², whereas the CHP and MHP both decided they would not take part in the interim government.³

The process of forming the first interim election government of Turkey resulted in Ahmet Davutoğlu approaching and making offers to individual parliamentarians from political parties rather than political parties.⁴ There was wide debate due to the names who were appointed to the ministries which, according to the Constitution, were supposed to be independent.

The two ministers representing the HDP in the interim government resigned from office on September 23rd 2015 due to government policies of which they were critical.

On the other hand, the social environment was marked by increasing tension starting from the campaign period of the June 7th elections. The Solution Process, which had been ongoing since March 2013 and widely supported by the public virtually came to an end on July 24, 2015 and Turkey once again entered a period of conflict. NGOs had made great effort to end the conflict and solve the Kurdish issue through peaceful means and negotiations.

There were two bomb attacks, the first on July 20 2015 at the gathering by young socialists in the Suruç district of Şanlıurfa province, followed by the attack on the Peace Rally organised by professional organisations and unions in Ankara on October 10 2015. The two attacks resulted in the death of over 140 people and the injury of hundreds. The government was severely criticised in both incidents for failing to take the necessary security measures. After the Ankara attack, the HDP cancelled its electioneering activities.

The November 1st election process was marked by issues related to freedom of expression, freedom of the press, freedom of association as well as problems of election security, the rapid escalation and spread of conflict, attacks against political parties and candidates, the lack of campaign security and the lack of impartiality of the government.

Election Authority

The SBE is responsible for all processes from the beginning until the end of the elections. The SBE is responsible for creating voter registries, determining the election calendar, registering candidates, supervising the electioneering process, deciding on complaints and appeals and finalising the election results. As per the Constitution, decisions of the SBE are not subject to judicial review.

Despite the 90-day requirement set forth under Article 8 of the LPE, the SBE announced that the elections would be held on November 1st, which was only 69 days after the President's decision to

² Three HDP deputies were offered positions as ministers in the election government, two deputies accepted the offer. L. Tüzel refused the offer. The party was represented by two ministers in the interim election government.

³ The offer made to deputies from these two political parties by A. Davutoğlu was accepted only by T. Türkeş. Following his decision, T. Türkeş was discharged from party membership and became a candidate of the AKP in the November 1st elections.

⁴ A. Davutoğlu made offers to 5 deputies from the CHP, 3 deputies from the HDP and 3 deputies from the MHP.

renew the elections.⁵ This decision affected the entire election calendar and shortened the campaign period.

In the process of the November 1st elections, the Ombudsman issued a decision of recommendation on 27/10/2015 stating as follows: “In order to ensure that all voters who do not speak Turkish or are not literate (including disadvantaged groups) may participate in the elections in a healthy manner and cast their vote, activities should be undertaken for training and disseminating information. In this context, the Office of the Ombudsman hereby RECOMMENDS THE SUPREME BOARD OF ELECTIONS to set up procedures enabling the use of public spots, films, publications and other methods in a timely fashion to be used during the possible upcoming elections and all future parliamentary and local elections to be held under the supervision of the SBE.”⁶ This decision was communicated to the SBE.

With regard to the decision of the Ombudsman, the SBE issued its Decision No 2393 dated 17/11/2015 stating “The Recommendation of the Ombudsman No. 2015/2608 Complaint, dated 27/10/2015 is not suitable for implementation.”⁷

The SBE failed to amend Article 33⁸ of its *Circular on the Establishment and Mandate of Ballot Box Committees* published before every election to ensure its compliance with SBE Decision 1040. Decision No. 1040 was also not referenced in the training delivered to chairpersons of Ballot Box Committees. This failure negatively affected voters who did not speak Turkish or who were illiterate whereas they should have been able to exercise the right to an interpreter to receive information had SBE Decision No. 1040 been duly implemented.

A petition was filed with the SBE on 30/10/2015 under the right to information enquiring whether SBE Decision No. 1040 was still in force, and if so, why no changes had been made in the Circular on the Establishment and Mandate of the Ballot Box Committees. The SBE did not respond to the petition.⁹

Prior to the elections of June 7th, the SBE had decided that the requests to carry ballot boxes to other locations due to security concerns was against the legislation. Before the elections of November 1st, the SBE was late in responding to requests filed to carry ballot boxes to other locations due to security concerns¹⁰, and was also criticised regarding the enforcement of its decisions on biased media broadcasting and failing to ensure an effective monitoring of the impartiality of the public authorities in the campaign process. Following the SBE’s decision rejecting the transportation of ballot boxes due

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⁶ Excerpt from the Decision dated 27/10/2015 communicated to Amer by the Ombudsman.

⁷ Excerpt from the Decision dated 27/10/2015 communicated to Amer by the Ombudsman.

⁸ Article 33 of the Circular;

Casting of Votes by Illiterate Voters

ARTICLE 33 – Illiterate voters shall not be assisted by other people in the ballot box area in casting their votes. In cases where an illiterate voter asks for assistance the Chairperson of the Ballot Box Committee may only explain what each of the political parties on the ballot is and explain how a vote can be cast for an independent candidate. The chairperson or members of the Ballot Box Committee shall not enter the polling booth in order to assist illiterate voters in casting their vote.

⁹ See Annex II Petitions for Information

¹⁰ The SBE decided that ballot boxes may not be carried to other locations in Decision No. 2015/791 dated 30/04/2015 involving the Mardin province Ömerli district, and in Decision No. 2015/879 dated 05/05/2015 involving Bitlis province Hizan district.

to security issues, there were additional requests made to the SBE to change the locations of ballot boxes in 51 districts in 7 provinces to ensure security.¹¹ The SBE did not accept these requests.

With regard to the media outlets in the November 1st election process, the SBE issued 58 warnings and 113 decisions to suspend broadcast.¹²

The Electoral Threshold

Article 67 of the Constitution stipulates that *“(Paragraph added by 23/7/1995-4121/5) The electoral laws shall be drawn up so as to reconcile the principles of fair representation and stability of government”* Despite this article, the 10% electoral threshold imposed in Turkey¹⁴ impedes fair representation and remains the main issue of debate in all elections. The official justification for the threshold is ‘to ensure political stability’. However, the practice prevents representation of different political thought in parliament and puts smaller parties at a disadvantage and impedes fair representation. This is an obstacle in ensuring political plurality and the development of smaller political parties.

In every election period, public poll researchers reiterate that the 10% election threshold influences voters in their choices and that they refrain from voting for parties which they believe will not pass the threshold.

Despite the fact that the threshold is defended by various circles to ensure political stability, the elections of 1991, 1995 and 1999 and June 7th yielded results that only allowed for the creation of coalition governments. The public, as well as political parties, accept that the 10% election threshold is an antidemocratic practice.

Country-wide threshold and its calculation:

Article 33 – (Amended first paragraph: 23/5/1987 - 3377/9 art.) Political parties who fail to receive 10% of valid votes in throughout the country in the parliamentary elections, and in all constituencies taking part in interim elections shall not be entitled to representation in parliament. In order for an independent candidate running in the elections on a political party candidate list to be elected as a deputy, the political party who enlists the candidate must have passed the 10 per cent threshold throughout the country in parliamentary elections or in all constituencies taking part in interim elections.¹³

On 12/06/2014, the Great Union Party, Democratic Leftist Party and the Felicity Party filed an application to the Constitutional Court to lift the 10% electoral threshold. The Court issued a decision of non-jurisdiction.

¹¹ See Annex III: The names of election boards who applied to the SBE asking to change the locations of ballot boxes due to security concerns after the SBE had decided that ballot boxes may not be relocated due to security concerns.

¹² See Annex IV: SBE Decisions to suspend broadcasting in the process of November 1st elections.

¹³ <http://www.mevzuat.gov.tr/Metin.Aspx?MevzuatKod=1.5.2839&sourceXmlSearch=&MevzuatIliski=0>

¹⁴ In the elections of 1983, two thresholds were enforced, namely the countrywide election threshold of 10% and the constituency-based threshold.

Voter Registries

The reliability of the countrywide and overseas voter registries created via the Address-based Population Registry System (ABPRS), the number of voters and the irregularities in voter registration are topics that lead to wide public debate in nearly all elections.

Following the announcement of the voter registries, a citizen applied to AMER, and stated that an unknown voter was registered at the address of the house she owns and lives in together with her spouse. The search we conducted on the SBE voter query system confirmed that the applicant's claims were true.

Election observers reported a similar incident on election day: *'The Voter named İ.K. found out from the neighbourhood headmen that an unknown voter by the name of F.Ö. was registered at his address. This individual also had his voter card with him. The voter list at ballot box 1360 was examined. F.Ö.'s name was on the list but his home address was found to be 'suspicious'.*

In addition to irregularities in the voter registries, there have been reports of people being deleted from the voter registry although no change had taken place in their legal status. Indeed, an application was made to AMER by 4 citizens who went to the ballot box to cast their votes found out that their names were not on the voter list although there had been no change in the address at which they were registered during the June 7th elections.

Based on claims that many people had been deleted from the registries after the elections of June 7th in the Cizre district of Şırnak, and upon the application by 4 citizens who had been deleted from the lists, a petition was filed with the SBE asking the number of people who had been deleted from the registries after June 7 in the district of Cizre. The SBE rejected the petition on grounds that a separate examination was needed to answer the question.¹⁵ Following the rejection by the SBE, an application was made to the Right to Information Evaluation Board. The Board rejected the query on the same grounds.

The system of creating voter registries using the ABPRS deprives many individuals from exercising their right to vote including the homeless, those living in tents and women in shelter homes. There is no information about the number of homeless people, their age and gender distribution¹⁶

Human Rights Committee General Comment No 25

States must take effective measures to ensure that all persons entitled to vote are able to exercise that right. Where registration of voters is required, it should be facilitated and obstacles to such registration should not be imposed. If residence requirements apply to registration, they must be reasonable, and should not be imposed in such a way as to exclude the homeless from the right to vote. Any abusive interference with registration or voting as well as intimidation or coercion of voters should be prohibited by penal laws and those laws should be strictly enforced. Voter education and registration campaigns are necessary to ensure the effective exercise of article 25 rights by an informed community.

¹⁵ See Annex II: Petitions Filed under the Law on the Right to Information

¹⁶ In response to a petition for information filed with the Ministry of Family and Social Policies, the ministry has responded 'we do not have a data base' for this information

Prior to the elections, a petition was filed with the SBE asking the right to vote of women in shelter homes. The SBE's response was *"There are no activities regarding the right to vote of women staying at shelter homes and women's guest houses. Such persons will exercise their right at the address where they are registered"*.¹⁷

There is no data regarding the literacy status or knowledge of Turkish of voters registered in the voter registry system.¹⁸ However, according to data published by the Turkish Statistics Authority, as of the end of 2014, 2,656,963 people aged 18 and above are illiterate. Of this number, 2,203,585 are women.

There is also lack of accurate data with respect to disabled voters. The percentage of the population with disabilities makes one question the validity of the number of disabled voters announced by the SBE.

Indeed, in response to a petition for information filed with the SBE regarding the number of disabled voters living abroad as well as their gender distribution, the SBE replied *'there is no data concerning the disabled voters registered in the overseas voter registry since no appointments can be made for overseas ballot boxes'*.¹⁹ This answer shows that access to polling stations by disabled and elderly voters living abroad is not a subject given due consideration.

There is lack of a standard practice in terms of mentally disabled persons registered in voter registries.²⁰

Overseas Voting

Granting the right to vote to overseas voters is a positive step forward. In order for overseas voters to be able to use their right to vote in an effective manner, plans should be made to increase the number of countries where polling stations are set up and for polling stations to be available in more than one centre in a country.

For those overseas voters who are disabled, old, illiterate or who do not speak Turkish, voter education should be conducted using different means. The physical characteristics of the centres where polling stations are to be set up should be determined according to voter profiles.

For the November 1st elections, the SBE decided to set up ballot boxes in 113 representations across 54 countries, 6 Motorway Border Gates, 17 Airport Customs Gates and 7 Seaport Customs Gates. According to the data from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Iraq is the fifth most populated country with respect to Turkish citizens living abroad. Failure to set up a polling station in Iraq where there are four consulate generals, and disallowing the casting of votes at any customs gate to Iraq during the November 1st elections amounts to discrimination against voters residing in this country.²¹

¹⁷ See Annex II: Petitions Filed under the Law on Right to Information

¹⁸ In response to a petition for information filed on the subject, the SBE stated: 'No information is kept regarding the illiterate or non-Turkish speaking voters in the country or overseas'. See Annex II: Petitions Filed under the Law on Right to Information

¹⁹ See Annex II: Petitions Filed under the Law on Right to Information

²⁰ In practice, there are mentally disabled individuals who are included in the voter registry despite the fact that they have a legal guardian. Similarly, there are mentally disabled individuals who are not registered as voters although no legal guardian has been appointed.

²¹ For consulates and customs points where ballot boxes will be set up see:

<http://www.ysk.gov.tr/ysk/content/conn/YSKUCM/path/Contribution%20Folders/SecmenIslemleri/Secimler/2015MVES-GumrukKapilari.pdf>

<http://www.ysk.gov.tr/ysk/content/conn/YSKUCM/path/Contribution%20Folders/SecmenIslemleri/Secimler/2015MVES-Temsilcilikler.pdf>

The active role of the Prime Ministry, Presidency for Overseas Turks and Relative Communities during the overseas voting in the November 1st elections led to much criticism in terms of the impartiality of the State.

Objective criteria such as number of voters should be taken as a basis in determining the countries where polling stations are to be set up. Regulations should be made to improve the conditions to protect the overseas ballot boxes throughout the elections,²² the conditions of transporting the ballot boxes to Turkey and allowing for shares to independent candidates when distributing the votes cast by overseas voters.

The active role assumed by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in the overseas voting process requires for this Ministry to also be covered by Article 114 of the Constitution and for an independent Minister to be appointed in the election process.

Voter Education

According to international standards, states are responsible for ensuring that information about elections is prepared to enable illiterate voters or those with a different mother tongue to effectively exercise their right to vote. The target groups of the voter information material and public spots prepared by the SBE are voters who are literate in Turkish and have no visual or hearing impairments.

In line with the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the State has the responsibility to deliver voter education to voters who are illiterate, have a hearing impairment and who have a different mother tongue. Voter education will also have the effect of reducing the number of invalid votes cast on election day.

Prior to the June 7th elections, two women voters applied to AMER, which is a member of the Platform, and asked for the voter education TV spots of the SBE to be broadcasted in Kurdish since they did not speak, read or write in Turkish. Legal support was provided to the applicants to enable them to apply to the SBE requesting a board decision enabling voter education in other languages. AMER applied to the Ombudsman and the National Human Rights Institute of Turkey asking for decisions attesting to the fact that the failure of the SBE to have prepared public information spots in other languages is a human rights violation. After the elections of June 7th, the National Human Rights Institution of Turkey decided that the current practice was a violation of the right to vote and be elected. Upon the application, the SBE adopted its Decision No 1040 dated 27/05/2015 stating that they do not deliver voter education in other languages but that the voting process would be explained to non-Turkish speakers and illiterate voters at the ballot box by means of an interpreter. This decision is important not only for

UN Human Rights Committee General Comment 25, Paragraph 12

“... ”

Positive measures should be taken to overcome specific difficulties, such as illiteracy, language barriers, poverty, or impediments to freedom of movement which prevent persons entitled to vote from exercising their rights effectively. Information and materials about voting should be available in minority languages. Specific methods, such as photographs and symbols, should be adopted to ensure that illiterate voters have adequate information on which to base their choice...”

²²www.haberler.com/turkiye-ye-gelen-oylarin-bulundugu-bolum-yetkisiz-7830992-haberi/, last access: 07/11/2015

voters who are non-Turkish speakers with a different mother tongue, but also for illiterate voters with hearing impairments.²³

However, the SBE did not disseminate its Decision or put it on its web site and did not inform the chairpersons of the ballot box committees. Citizens were not able to enjoy this right on the election of November 1st.

With respect to the training given by political parties and the booklets they published, party observers on duty at the ballot boxes were given no information about the fact that non-Turkish speaking and illiterate voters have the right to receive information in their mother tongue through an interpreter.

According to data from the Turkish Statistics Authority, most illiterate voters are women. Failing to provide voter education for illiterate voters mostly affects the right of women voters to vote and be elected.

Membership to Ballot Box Committees and Political Party Observers

The selection process of the chairperson and members of the ballot box committees is set forth in Law No 298 on the Basic Provisions of Elections and Voter Registries. The law states that Chairpersons of the ballot box committees “shall be selected from among literate voters who are known to have a good reputation”.²⁴ The Law employs subjective criteria, namely, being known to have a good reputation. The lack of objective criteria and the fact that the lists of names of public officials to be assigned to ballot boxes is prepared by administrators of public agencies and notified to the provincial and district election boards and the selection process of the chairpersons of ballot boxes are all topics that lead to controversy regarding ballot box committees.

In the process of determining members of ballot box committees during the November 1st elections, there are claims that the public authorities acted contrary to the principle of impartiality while determining the names recommended by public agencies. In order to ensure that this process is more transparent, criteria should be determined and legal arrangements should be made.

²³ Although the SBE decision states that voter education does not take place, there are public spots on the SBE web sites regarding the registration of domestic and overseas voters as well as on how to cast their votes.

<https://media.ysk.gov.tr/MV2015-YiciSecmen.mp4>

<https://media.ysk.gov.tr/MV2015-YdisiSecmen.mp4>

²⁴ Selection of the Ballot Box Committee Chairperson

ARTICLE 22- (as amended by Article 1 of Law 2234, on 17 May 1979.)

The chairman of the District Electoral Board consults with the full members who are not political party members, and prepares a list comprising the names of well-reputed and literate persons selected amongst voters inside or outside the election district such that one person is identified for each ballot box in the election district. Each full board member who is chosen from the political parties, also submits a list, prepared according to the qualifications explained in the above paragraph, within the time defined by the chairman of the District Electoral Board. Each ordinary board member who is elected from the political parties submit a list, prepared according to the qualifications explained in the above paragraph, within the time defined by the chairman of the District Electoral Board. A party representative who fails to submit a list within the pre-defined time frame is deemed to have waived his right.

The chairperson of each Ballot Box Committee is drawn by lot amongst the candidates whose names are proposed and written on the list prepared according to the above paragraphs, for the chairmanship of the ballot box.

<http://www.mevzuat.gov.tr/Metin.Aspx?MevzuatKod=1.4.298&sourceXmlSearch=&MevzuatIliski=0>

Another problematic practice is that political parties notify the names of persons in ballot box committees to the provincial and district election boards. This practice leads to events such as citizens being notified as ballot box committee members to the boards by political parties against their will. Citizens in this situation usually find out when they arrive at the ballot box to cast their vote. Some are not able to vote because of the confusion.

An observer noted as follows: *“At İstiklal Primary School in Cizre, at Ballot Box No. 1042, G.A. was appointed to a Ballot Box Committee by a political party. He was born in 1954, is illiterate and was not informed of the appointment. At Ballot Box 1041 in the same school, R.B. was appointed as a Ballot Box Committee member and had no prior knowledge of the appointment.”*

Some citizens who have been unknowingly assigned as ballot box committee members by political parties are unable to cast their votes.

Impartiality of the State

The supervision of public resources and authority during elections by parties and candidates is one of the prerequisites of democratic elections.

One of the most widely debated issues during the November 1st elections was the practices of public authorities and the impartiality of the State. Many news reports were covered in the media during the election process regarding the impartiality of the State.

Petitions filed with the Prime Ministry, the Deputy Prime Ministry Responsible for the National Broadcasting Authority (TRT), the Ministry of Justice, the Ministry of Interior, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and the Ministry of Transport under the right to information were shared with the Platform.²⁵ The petitions enquired whether the ministries had issued Circulars to ensure the impartiality of the State.

According to the answers given to the applications, in line with Article 114 of the Constitution, among the ministries assigned as an independent ministry, only the Ministry of Transportation, sent a circular to its affiliated agencies and staff to pay special attention to ‘impartiality’. Neither the Ministry of Interior nor the Ministry of Justice issued any such circulars.²⁶

Another example regarding impartiality was the five separate warnings and 4 broadcasting bans issued by the SBE against channels under the National Broadcasting Authority (TRT). All these sanctions were issued due to biased broadcasting.²⁷ The channels under the TRT had been issued 4 warnings and 1 broadcasting ban during the elections of June 7th.

On election day, an observer noted: *“Voters were transported using the official vehicles of the Municipality.”*

²⁵ See Annex II: Petitions Filed under the Law on the Right to Information

²⁶ See Annex II: Petitions Filed under the Law on the Right to Information

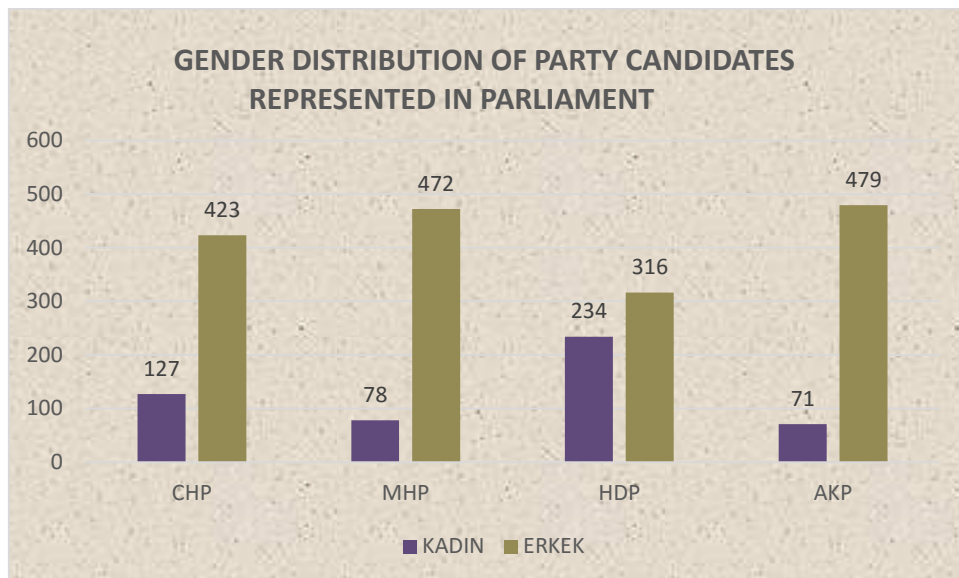
²⁷ See Annex IV: SBE Decisions to suspend broadcasting in the process of November 1st elections

The Candidacy Process

The Parliamentary Elections of November 1st was one in which there was relatively more diversity in terms of both pre-candidates and the candidates nominated by political parties. Just like in all elections, many women and disabled persons made applications to political parties to be nominated as a candidate. Different from the earlier elections, many citizens from different ethnic and religious backgrounds also applied as pre-candidates. In addition, individuals with different gender identities also applied as pre-candidates.

In the elections of June 7th, for the first time in the history of Turkey, a Roma individual, two Yezidi individuals and one Mhallami individual were shown as candidates by their political parties in constituencies where they had a chance of being elected and were thus able to enter the parliament as deputies. Similarly, after an interval of 54 years, three Armenian candidates were elected as deputies from three political parties and entered the parliament.

16 political parties took part in the elections of November 1st with total of 8426 candidates. Of the total number of candidates, 6429 were men and 1997 were women. A total of 2200 candidates ran in the elections from the four political parties represented in Parliament. Of these, 1690 were men and 510 were women.



81 of the women who ran in the elections as candidates were elected. The November 1st elections produced fewer women deputies compared to the elections on June 7th. As a country where more than half the voters are women, Turkey is still far from gender equality standards in terms of women's representation in the parliament. None of the LGBTI pre-candidates were enlisted in a ranking that gave them a chance of being elected.

There were numerous disabled citizens applying to political parties to be a candidate. However the parties only enlisted five disabled candidates in rankings where they had a chance of being elected. Three of these candidates were elected and entered parliament.

During the electioneering period, discrimination based on ethnicity, gender identity or religion as well as hate speech was used intensely by both the media and the political parties.

We were not able to access any information as to whether investigations have been launched by prosecutors regarding discrimination and hate speech.

Attacks Against Political Parties During the Electioneering Period

The right to freedom of expression and peaceful assembly are two of the most important criteria for political parties and independent candidates to ensure democratic elections. According to these criteria, it is the responsibility of the state to ensure that all parties and candidates are afforded protection during their electioneering, that their buildings are protected and campaign activities are held in a safe environment.

The IEOP has observed and reported all Parliamentary elections since 2011. Our observations show that attacks against political parties and candidates during the electioneering period have increased in every election. Racism has started to become more prevalent in the attacks against political parties and candidates.

According to our findings, since the start of the November 1st election calendar (on August 31st) there have been 134 attacks against political parties buildings and campaigns. The HDP was subjects to 123 attacks, the AKP, 8 attacks and the CHP, 3 attacks.

100 of the attacks against political parties took place on 7-9 September. The attacks covering the period of September 7-9 turned into mass racist assaults in Kırşehir, Ankara Beypazarı district and Balıkesir Edremit district. After the attack against the Peace Rally on October 10th, the HDP cancelled its rallies open to mass participation.

The fact that only speakers from the AKP were given air time on channels under the National Broadcasting Authority (TRT), and that only Prime Minister A. Davutoğlu was invited to a TV program as a political party leader, and the differences in the time allocated to political parties and their leaders on channels under the TRT led created a campaign environment marked by inequality.

Election Materials

One of the most fundamental factors impacting the right to vote is the extent to which the material and methods used in the elections are suitable for all voter groups. This includes employing practical and accessible solutions for those voters who have to vote under different conditions.

A common problem across all elections is that the ballots are not suitable for the blind. The SBE has not taken any steps in this regard.

The current design of the ballots create inequality for independent candidates. Independent candidates appear on the ballots only with their names. They are not allowed to use a photograph or an emblem. This causes problems for illiterate voters who cannot distinguish the names of candidates. Since 2011, our platform has been repeatedly recommending the use of photographs by independent candidates to be allowed.

The sign posts used in polling stations to direct voters are not suitable for blind and illiterate voters. There should be an official to direct voters to their respective ballot boxes at each polling station. In regions where the mother tongues of the majority of voters are different, this service should also be given in languages used in the region.

Voting in Closed Institutions

In every election, there are problems regarding the casting of votes in prisons, nursing homes and care centres for the disabled. Polling stations are set up in some state nursing homes and centres for the disabled whereas they are not set up in others. Similarly, individuals living in these institutions have voiced concerns over the fact that there were problems regarding the updating of voter registries, and claimed that that while some voters were offered transport to polling stations on election day by the institution, others were not able to benefit from this service.

There are ballot boxes in prisons where the voter population is very low, yet voters are not able to vote in these ballot boxes. Setting up ballot boxes in prisons where there are very few people is a violation of the principle of the secret vote.²⁸

By creating ballot boxes that would only cater to very few voters, the SBE is violating the principle of secret votes. In ballot boxes where there are only one or two voters, the count inevitably exposes the political preferences of the voters.

When observers arrived at the Manisa E type open and closed Prison on election day, they were told that the voting and counting had already been completed.

Election Day

On November 1st, mobile observation teams comprised of the managers and members of NGOs taking part in the independent observation activity observed polling stations (PO) as well as the voting and counting processes using three standardized forms. Our observers were prevented from carrying out their activities in some POs. The information gathered based on observations in 20 provinces show that certain articles of the election legislation were violated and that there were inconsistent practices across provinces in general and even ballot boxes in the same location.

Scope of Observation

On November 1st 2015, our observers visited 390 polling stations in 20 provinces. They observed the voting process in 955 ballot boxes. The counting process was observed at 255 ballot boxes in 19 provinces.

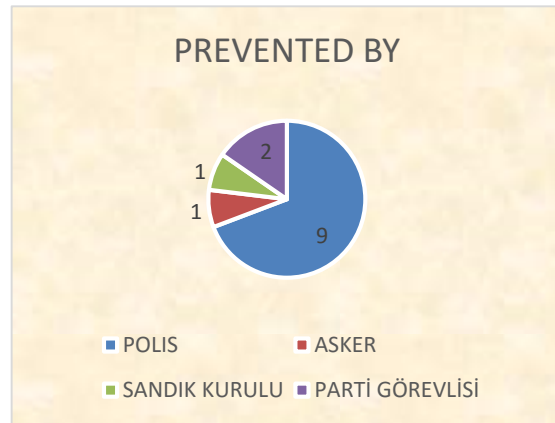
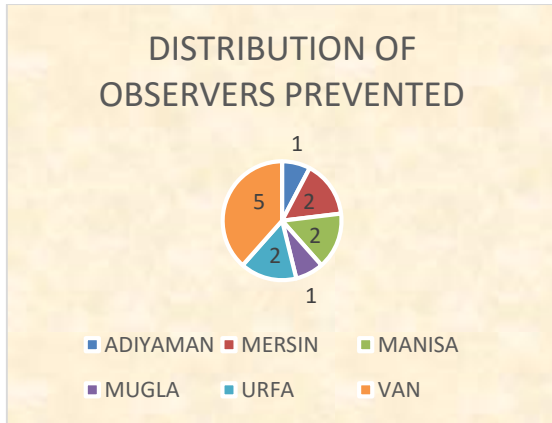
Three separate standardized observation forms were used on election day. The first form asked questions regarding the conditions of the polling station. General information was collected through the form about the location of the POs, the time of observation, whether any campaign materials were present or campaign activities took place, whether there was any observed intimidation or pressure. In addition, questions were answered regarding the accessibility of Pos for disabled and elderly voters.

²⁸ See Annex V: Voting Results in Ballot Boxes with few Registered Voters

Observers Prevented

The independent observers were hindered at 13 POs and carried out observation activities at 377 POs. There were 9 police interventions, 1 intervention by a ballot box committee member, 1 intervention by a military member and 2 interventions by political party members against the independent observers.

Prevented?	Frequency	Percentage
YES	13	3.3
NO	377	96.7
TOTAL	390	100.0



Our observers were prevented from observing the process at 5 centres in Van, 2 centres in Manisa , Muğla and Urfa, 1 centre in Adiyaman and Mersin. A disabled woman observer at the Mersin Mezitli Municipality Middle School was taken outside the building by the members of a political party who were building officials. She was later take outside the school yard by the police. The counting process was also prevented at the same school by the same group and the police.

The following were noted in forms filled out by observers: *“there was police pressure. The Chairperson of the Ballot Box Committee prevented us from observing”, “I was prevented from observing at the ballot boxes”, “We were reported to the police by members of the Party.”, “We were attacked when entering the villages. They prevented us from entering the village. We are concerned that there may be collective voting.” “we were forced to leave by the police at the third school we visited as independent observer. The justification was that there was not permission by the SBE.”, “The Chairperson of the Ballot Box Committee said that he would not answer any of my questions.”, “6 or 7 people from the ... party who made an advance to assault independent observers. We were prevented from observing.”*

Accessibility of POs

Access to polling stations by disabled and elderly voters is a fundamental problem witnessed on election day. Despite announcements by the authorities prior to every election that measures will be taken for accessibility for the elderly and disabled many disabled and elderly voters cannot access polling stations and cast their vote.

The observers noted that 162 of the POs had ramps at the building entrances while 213 did not. The number of POs with elevators is only.

Access - Ramps	Frequency	Percentage
YES	162	41.5
NO	213	54.6
TOTAL	375	96.2
MISSING	15	3.8
OVERALL	390	100.0

Access-Elevator	Frequency	Percentage
YES	27	6.9
NO	333	85.4
TOTAL	360	92.3
MISSING	30	7.7
OVERALL	390	100.0

The following are some examples regarding accessibility noted by observers on the forms: 'Disabled persons had difficulties in casting their votes, the conditions were not suitable for them.', 'A ballot box was placed on the ground floor for the elderly and disabled. But the metal stairs at the entry to the building was not accessible.', 'Not suitable for the disabled and elderly.', 'There was an elevator. But there were no sign posts showing that there was an elevator so those in need could not use it. There needs to be sign posts showing the place of elevators.', 'A ballot box was not set up on the ground floor for the disabled, voters had a difficult time.' 'No elevator, not suitable for the disabled.', 'S.Ö. was a 73 year-old voter with a heart condition. He had difficulty in reaching the ballot box on the second floor.', 'Disabled people are being carried to the second floor to cast their votes.' The same happened in the last elections.', 'Voters in wheel chairs cannot access the upper floors.'

Observers reported that voter M.Ö. could not access ballot box No. 1386 on the upper floor of Hilal Necmiye H. Ataberk Middle School in the Bornova district of Izmir M.Ö.

The number of POs that are completely accessible is only 26. The number of POs that are inaccessible is 210.

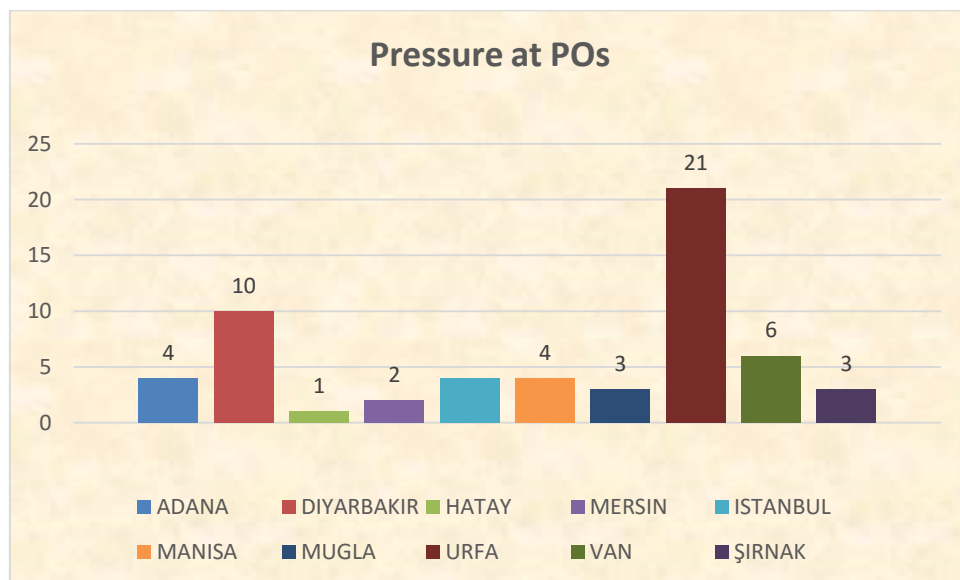
Access Ramp	Access – Elevator		TOTAL
	YES	NO	
YES	26	123	149
NO	1	209	210
TOTAL	27	332	359

Pressure at POs

At 58 POs, observers have reported that there was an environment of pressure. The distribution of these POs according to provinces is: Urfa 21, Diyarbakır 10, Van 6, Adana and Manisa 4, Şırnak and Muğla 3, Mersin 2 and Hatay 1.

The following are some examples regarding pressure at POs noted by observers on the forms: 'There were too many police officers. They were everywhere.', 'There was a high number of police officers at the entrance to the school and in the corridors.' 'There was bus full of raid police, an armoured vehicle, and many cops in the school yard.' 'There were armoured vehicles without license plates in front of the school.', 'There were Cobra and Scorpion armoured vehicles in the schoolyard.' 'He had civilian clothes but was holding a rifle and was walking around the ballot boxes (they said he was a cop).', 'The neighbourhood headman was pressuring a voter. The ... political party observer was beaten and thrown out by the neighbourhood headman', 'A member of the Ballot Box Committee was battered by unknown persons. The Chairperson was verbally and physically assaulted.', 'The mayor's people and the city council members were pressurising people.' 'We were attacked when entering the village. The Gendarmerie was there. They were sworn at.', 'The police prevented our observation' 'They told us that we can't approach the ballot box area and could only walk in the corridors'. The pictures we took on our mobile phones were deleted by the police. They asked and checked our ID information.

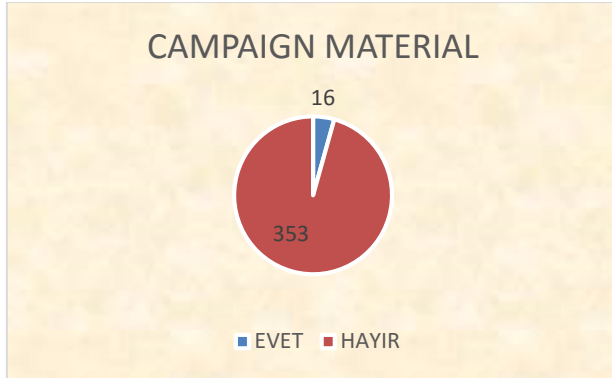
PRESSURE IN ENVIRONMENT	FREQUENCY	PERCENTAGE
YES	58	14,9
NO	303	77,7
TOTAL	361	92,6
MISSING	29	7,4
OVERALL TOTAL	390	100,0



Campaign Materials / Campaign Activities

Our observers reported the presence of campaign materials in 16 POs. The distribution of these POs according to provinces is as follows: Urfa 5, İstanbul 3, Adana and Van 2, Elazığ, Mersin, İzmir, Manisa 1.

The following were noted by observers: 'There were small political party stamps of the floor.', 'There was a poster of the', 'There were brochures and stickers of the', 'There was a candidacy brochure for the candidate'.



CAMPAIGN MATERIALS	Frequency	Percentage
YES	16	4.1
NO	353	90.5
TOTAL	369	94.6
MISSING	21	5.4
OVERALL TOTAL	390	100.0

Observers have reported that there were campaign activities carried out to influence the voters in 23 POs. The distribution of these POs according to provinces is as follows: Urfa 9, Adana 5, Mersin 3, Manisa and Van 2, Adıyaman and Muğla 1. Observers noted the following on the forms: 'Members of the (around 20 people) were trying to influence the voters', 'The Deputy Mayor was talking to the voters', 'The political party officers were trying to influence people.', 'The Ballot Box Committee members from political parties were trying to influence the voters.', 'The neighbourhood headman was handing out the ballots to voters at the entrance'.



CAMPAIGN ACTIVITY	Frequency	Percentage
YES	23	5.9
NO	341	87.4
TOTAL	364	93.3
MISSING	26	6.7
OVERALL TOTAL	390	100.0

Findings regarding the Voting Procedure

Our independent observers observed the voting process at 955 ballot boxes in 377 POs where they were not hindered. The form used in observing the voting process included questions about the gender distribution of the chairperson and ballot box committee members, whether any authorised persons were present at the ballot boxes, whether there was any intervention at the ballot boxes, whether the legal procedures for elections were followed, any official complaints, whether special procedures applying to physically disabled, blind, hearing-impaired or illiterate voters were followed and whether voters were subject to discrimination.

Gender Distribution in Ballot Box Committees

An answer was given to the question regarding the gender of the Ballot Committee Chairperson is 914 forms. According to the data, 747 Ballot Box Committee chairpersons were men and 167 were women in the places observed. The observation forms also asked the gender distribution of the Ballot Box Committee members. Although there are a high number of observers who did not answer this question, it is understood from the answers that

Gender of Committee Chairperson	FREQUENCY	PERCENTAGE
WOMEN	167	17.5
MEN	747	78.2
Total	914	95.7
MISSING	41	4.3
Total	955	100.0

there were 1-2

WOMEN MEMBERS	FREQUENCY	PERCENTAGE
0	189	19.8
1	306	32.0
2	212	22.2
3	84	8.8
4	42	4.4
5	4	.4
6	3	.3
7	1	.1
Total	841	88.1
MISSING	114	11.9
Total	955	100.0

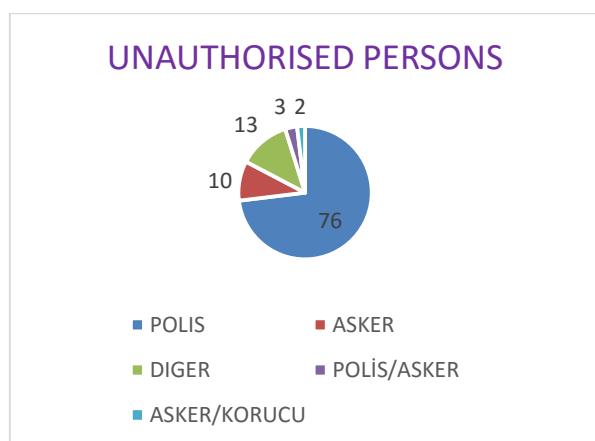
women in most ballot box committees. In 189 of the observed ballot box committees, there were no women members.

In 23 ballot box committees, all members were men while there were 3-4 or 5 male members in many committees.

MALE MEMBERS	FREQUENCY	PERCENTAGE
0	2	,2
1	21	2,2
2	125	13,1
3	191	20,0
4	256	26,8
5	199	20,8
6	92	9,6
7	23	2,4
Total	909	95,2
MISSING	46	4,8
Total	955	100,0

Unauthorised Persons at Polling Stations

There were unauthorised persons present in 104 of the ballot box areas observed. This question was answered in 269 forms. The information offered mostly shows that there were police or military officials present. Unauthorised persons other than police officers and military staff were reported in 13 forms.



Unauthorised persons	FREQUENCY	PERCENTAGE
NONE	582	60,9
POLICE	76	8,0
MILITARY	10	1,0
OTHER	13	1,4
POLICE/MILITARY	3	,3
MILITARY/VILLAGE GUARD	2	,2
Total	686	71,8
MISSING	269	28,2
Total	955	100,0

Examples of notes by observers:

'There was a police officer right in front of the polling booth in the classroom. We were told that the Ballot Box Committee Chairperson had him stand there', 'A police officer was sitting in the polling area (classroom)', 'There was a police officer in the classroom', 'There were people in civilian clothes carrying rifles without name tags', 'They were patrolling the polling area. He was not intervening', 'The neighbourhood headman and members of the ... party were waiting at the ballot box', 'There were police officers in the polling room.'

With regard to interventions made by unauthorised persons on the Ballot Box Committee, the observers noted the following: *'The village headman was constantly interfering with the ballot box committee members', 'A ballot box committee member was battered by unknown persons, the ballot box chairperson was physically and verbally assaulted. The warnings of the Chairperson were not taken heeded.'*

Missing Supplies and Shortcomings in Procedures

The following conclusions were drawn in terms of whether there were missing supplies in the ballot box area and whether all procedures were followed in the casting of votes. With respect to missing supplies, it was reported that one ballot box did not have a polling booth; 5 ballot boxes in each place had missing envelopes of ballots.

Observer testimonies; 'There were missing envelopes in almost all classes.' The stamp went missing at Ballot Box 1261.', 'There were envelopes missing in almost all classrooms.'

Missing Supplies	FREQUENCY	PERCENTAGE
NONE	578	60.5
BOOTH	1	.1
BALLOTS	5	.5
ENVELOPES	5	.5
OTHER	1	.1
Total	590	61.8
MISSING	365	38.2
Total	955	100.0

In 11 ballot boxes, the voters' IDs were not checked in some cases. The following were noted in the observation forms: 'One person cast his vote without an ID. Later he came back and signed the list with a photocopy of his ID.', 'One voter cast his vote using his Driver's License which did not have a RoT ID number. A ballot box committee member objected to this', 'People cast their votes without showing an ID', 'There were people casting votes without an ID' 'We saw some people who threatened the Ballot box Committee Chairperson because he didn't allow for them to cast their vote without an ID', 'Some people are well known so their IDs are not checked.', 'There were complaints because a police was trying to cast a vote even though he didn't have a document proving he was on duty.', '.... Deputy Muhammet Balta swore at the Ballot Box Committee Chairperson because he asked to see his MP ID Card and didn't want to show his ID at first. Then he threw all his ID cards at the Chairperson's face'.

ID Check	FREQUENCY	PERCENTAGE
YES	869	91.0
NO	11	1.2
Total	880	92.1
MISSING	75	7.9
Total	955	100.0

Explaining the Voting Procedure to the Voters

Explaining the voting procedure to voters is the most important factor directly affecting the number of invalid votes. At 216 ballot boxes observed, it was observed that the Ballot Box Committee Chairperson did not explain the procedure to the voters. This question was left blank in 110 forms. According to the law, the Ballot Box Committee chairperson has to explain the procedure to the voters.

Voter Information	FREQUENCY	PERCENTAGE
YES	629	65.9
NO	216	22.6
Total	845	88.5
MISSING	110	11.5
Total	955	100.0

Secrecy of Votes

There were 26 reported violations of secrecy. The secrecy of votes is violated when voters cast their vote in the open, when ballot box committee members enter the polling booth with the voter for various reasons as well as at the time of creating the ballot boxes.

Some observer testimonies are as follows: 'We observed more than one person entering the polling booth at the same time', *'Civilians entered the polling booth with the voters'*, *'It was observed that the Ballot Box Committee Chairperson entered the polling booth with the voters'*, *'The*

SECRECY OF VOTES	FREQUENCY	PERCENTAGE
YES	801	83.9
NO	26	2.7
Total	827	86.6
MISSING	128	13.4
Total	955	100.0

Ballot Box Committee Chairperson entered the polling booth with some voters although they were not disabled; some people entered with their relatives', *'A disabled voter asked for her/his spouse to enter the polling booth. But the chairperson said he would not allow it and that he could give assistance if they wanted. The voter objected and then entered the booth alone to cast his/her vote.'*

In some cases where disabled voters could not access the ballot boxes, members of the ballot box committee went down to the school yard and had voters cast a vote in the open. This practice is unlawful and the fact that it is taking place shows that the training given to ballot box committee chairpersons is insufficient. The observations are as follows: *'A patient was brought in from a hospital to cast her vote. The ballot box committee went to their car to have them cast their vote. The voter's son put the envelope in the ballot box together with the chairperson'*, *'There were no measures for disabled individuals. A committee member went downstairs and had them cast their vote'*, *'There was a patient. He/she wasn't able to come up to the ballot box so the chairperson and 4 members went to the patient to have him/her vote.'*, *'A voter in a wheelchair cast his/her vote together with his/her son. The Chairperson accompanied them'*, *'A disabled woman was not brought to the ballot box and cast her vote outside with the help of the Chairperson'*.

In all observations since 2011, we have been noting that voters do not cast a vote if they are registered at ballot boxes with few registered voters. The only exception is when the ballot box committee members are not voters registered at that ballot box.

Ballot Boxes Located in Areas with Few Voters

PROVINCE	DISTRICT	NEIGHBOURHOOD/VILLAGE	BALLOT BOX NO	NUMBER OF VOTERS	NUMBER OF VOTERS WHO VOTED
BİNGÖL	GENÇ	DİKPINAR KÖYÜ	1061	3	0
BİNGÖL	YAYLADERE	BOĞAZKÖY	1012	3	0
BİNGÖL	YAYLADERE	GÖKÇEDAL KÖYÜ	1018	6	0
BİNGÖL	YAYLADERE	KIRKÖY	1022	3	0
BİTLİS	BİTLİS MERKEZ	AĞAÇPINAR KÖYÜ	1099	5	0
BİTLİS	BİTLİS MERKEZ	CEVİZDALI KÖYÜ	1115	8	0
BİTLİS	BİTLİS MERKEZ	KAYALIBAĞ KÖYÜ	1141	2	0
BİTLİS	BİTLİS MERKEZ	ÜÇEVLER KÖYÜ	1160	7	0
ÇANAKKALE	ÇAN	KAZABAT KÖYÜ	1121	6	0
DIYARBAKIR	ÇÜNGÜŞ	YENİCE MAH.	1043	5	0
ELAZIĞ	KARAKOÇAN	PAŞAYAYLASI KÖYÜ	1104	1	0
HAKKARİ	MERKEZ	YONCALI KÖYÜ	1161	3	0
İZMİR	KONAK-1	NAMAZGAH MAH.	1366	4	0
İZMİR	KONAK-2	İMARİYE MAH.	2149	5	0
MANİSA	SALİHLİ	AKÇAKÖY MAH.	1007	6	0
MARDİN	DARGEÇİT	ORMANIÇI MAH.	1041	2	0
MARDİN	DARGEÇİT	YANILMAZ MAH.	1066	1	0
MARDİN	NUSAYBİN	TEKAĞAÇ MAH.	1161	2	0
SİİRT	KURTALAN	EKİNLİ KÖYÜ	1087	4	0
TUNCELİ	HOZAT	KOZLUCA KÖYÜ	1030	2	0
TUNCELİ	OVACIK	KARATAŞ KÖYÜ	1041	1	0
TUNCELİ	PÜLÜMÜR	AĞAŞENLİK KÖYÜ	1007	7	0
TUNCELİ	PÜLÜMÜR	GÖCENEK KÖYÜ	1026	5	0
TUNCELİ	PÜLÜMÜR	NOHUTLU KÖYÜ	1044	7	0

The same pattern is observed in ballot boxes in prisons where there are few voters.

Ballot Boxes in Prisons

PROVINCE	DISTRICT	NAME OF PRISON	BALLOT BOX NO	# OF VOTERS	NUMBER OF VOTERS WHO VOTED
ADIYAMAN	KAHTA	KAHTA KAPALI CEZA VE İNFAZ KURUMU	9900	1	0
DENİZLİ	BOZKURT	T.C.DENİZLİ-BOZKURT KADIN AÇIK CEZA İNFAZ KURUMU	9900	4	0
İZMİR	TORBALI	TORBALI CEZA VE TUTUK EVİ	9900	14	0
İZMİR	KINIK	KINIK KAPALI CEZAEVİ	9900	2	0
İZMİR	TİRE	TİRE CEZAEVİ İNFAZ KORUMA BAŞ MEMURLUĞU	9900	2	0
ANKARA	GÜDÜL	GÜDÜL K1 TİPİ KAPALI CEZAEVİ İNFAZ KORUMA	9900	2	0
KAYSERİ	PINARBAŞI	PINARBAŞI AÇIK CEZA İNFAZ KURUMU MÜDÜRLÜĞÜ	9900	4	0
KAYSERİ	TOMARZA	TOMARZA KAPALI CEZAEVİ	9900	1	0
KAYSERİ	YAHYALI	YAHYALI KAPALI CEZA VE TUTUKEVİ	9900	1	0
MANİSA	KULA	MANİSA KULA K2 TİPİ KAPALI CEZA İNFAZ KURUMU	9900	3	0
MANİSA	SELENDİ	MANİSA SELENDİ K2 TİPİ KAPALI CEZA İNFAZ KURUMU	9900	2	0
TEKİRDAĞ	SARAY	SARAY KAPALI CEZAEVİ	9900	1	0
TRABZON	ARAKLI	ARAKLI AÇIK CEZA İNFAZ KURUMU MÜD.	9900	5	0

* The table above was created by scanning the ballot box results published on the SBE web site under the title Ballot Box-based Countrywide Election Results.

As can be understood from the above table, voters do not cast their vote if they are registered in a ballot box with few voters. In addition, in ballot boxes where there are one or two voters, the counting will reveal which party the voter voted for. This situation is a violation of the principle of secrecy of votes by the SBE right at the beginning when the ballot boxes are being created.

In the November 1st elections, observers also reported collective voting and voting for someone else: 'A person who came to cast a vote saw that someone had already signed across his/her name on the registry. Someone else had cast a vote in his/her name.', 'People being unable to vote because of others signing across their names', 'The village headman said that they were a tribe and that women would not come to the ballot box to cast their vote. He was voting in the name of the village women.' 'Someone signed for their spouse, this was objected to. Then everyone voted for themselves', 'A mentally disabled voter was accompanied by her mother', 'A voter who had walking difficulties was accompanied by his/her son to the polling booth. The son directed his/her vote. The Ballot Box Committee member from the made an official complaint'. 'We arrived at the ballot box area at 10:00 and observed that 111 votes had already been cast. The signatures were all very similar.', 'Collective voting took place'. 'There was open collective voting while we were observing.' 'There was open voting. All voting was completed by 10:00 o'clock'.

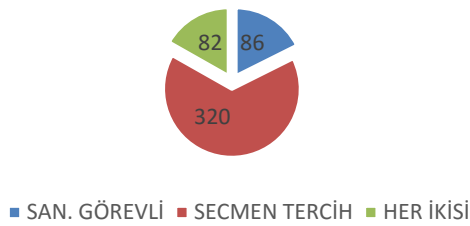
Upon examination of the ballot box results, we have found that in at least 447 ballot boxes throughout Turkey, all of the valid votes were cast for the same political party. In those ballot boxes where the same political party received all the votes, the total number of votes was 44857 and only 218 invalid votes were found. In 320 of 447 ballot boxes, there are no invalid votes. The fact that all votes are given to the same political party or candidates and the absence of any invalid votes raises doubts that there may have been collective voting.

Accompanied Disabled Voters

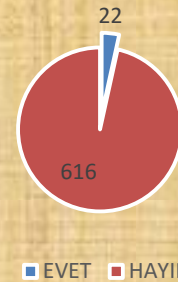
It is unlawful for ballot box committee chairpersons or members to enter the booth with voters. Despite the prohibition in 86 out of 488 forms in which this question was answered, observers reported that ballot box committee chairpersons or members entered the polling booth disabled voters. In addition, under certain conditions a persons chosen by the voter or ballot box committee chairpersons or members accompanied the voter in the polling booth in 82 ballot boxes. These figures show that the legal prohibition is violated to a great extent.

Accompanying Disabled Voters	FREQUENCY	PERCENTAGE
Committee member	86	9.0
Person chosen by voter	320	33.5
BOTH	82	8.6
Total	488	51.1
MISSING	467	48.9
Total	955	100.0

ACCOMPANIED DISABLED VOTERS



PERSONS ASSISTING MORE THAN ONE VOTER



Observers have answered the question of whether the same person assisted more than one voter in 638 forms. Observers have noted that in 22 ballot boxes the same person assisted more than one voter. This is an unlawful practice.

Voters Not Permitted to Vote and Reasons

It was observed that 28 voters were not permitted to cast their vote. The reason for refusal in 5 of the cases was not identified by the observer (the voter or ballot box committee member did not give information to the observer). 6 people were refused because they names were not on the voter list, 8 people had no valid ID, 9 people were not registered, were registered in another ballot box or already had a signature across their names

on the list (they appeared to have already cast their vote). It could not be determined whether the people who were on duty at a ballot box were able to cast their vote at the assigned ballot box.

NOT PERMITTED TO VOTE	FREQUENCY	PERCENTAGE
YES	28	2.9
NO	751	78.6
Total	779	81.6
MISSING	176	18.4
Total	955	100.0

The following were noted on the observation forms: 'A voter who had a photocopy of his ID was not permitted to vote.' 'A voter who had lost his ID could not vote and was sent to a place where he could obtain an ID', 'A voter who had no photo on his ID was not permitted to vote.' 'A voter who showed a Driver's License without a RoT ID number was not permitted to vote', 'The voter did not have his ID with him', 'A voter who had his/her marriage certificate was not permitted to vote because he/she did not have an ID'.

REASON FOR REFUSAL	FREQUENCY	PERCENTAGE
NOT REGISTERED	6	.6
INVALID ID	8	.8
OTHER	9	.9
Total	23	2.4
Missing	932	97.6
Total	955	100.0

Voters Who Faced Discrimination When Voting

The fact that polling stations are not accessible by the disabled and elderly voters, and the situation created by the election materials not being prepared in a manner suitable for non-Turkish speakers amounts to discrimination. At 748 ballot boxes discrimination was observed against disabled voters; discrimination against elderly voters was observed at 3 ballot boxes; discrimination against non-Turkish speakers was observed at 1 ballot box. In addition discrimination based on both disability and ethnicity was observed at 3 ballot boxes; discrimination based on disability and age was observed at 3 ballot boxes.

DISCRIMINATION	FREQUENCY	PERCENTAGE
DISABILITY	748	78.3
AGE	3	.3
MOTHER TONGUE	1	.1
DISABILITY/ETHNICITY	3	.3
DISABILITY /AGE	3	.3
Total	758	79.4
MISSING	197	20.6
TOTAL	955	100.0

Observations about discrimination based on disability and age are related to the accessibility of polling stations whereas observations about discrimination based on mother tongue and ethnicity are related to the negative conditions faced by non-Turkish speaking voters.

Discrimination against disabled and non-Turkish speaking voters was observed in 375 ballot boxes observed.

Observing the Counting Process

The counting process was observed at 255 ballot boxes in 19 provinces across Turkey. Observers reported on whether the counting proceeded according to rules starting from the time the ballot boxes were closed for voting. According to Article 95 of the LBPEVR No. 298, everyone present has the right to observe the counting process.

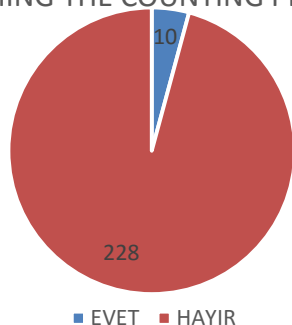
Reports were made that, in many ballot boxes, the Ballot Box Committee Chairpersons had the committee members sign an empty tally in the morning hours of election day. The issue was reported to the SBE by the Human Rights Association, which is a member of the Platform. The following were noted by the observers: 'At some ballot boxes, the tallies were signed before they were filled out in order to save time', 'At one ballot box, 15 tallies were signed before the counting took place. We were told that they were signed in advance to save time', 'Empty tally sheets were signed by the ballot box committee members in advance'.

Observers and Citizens Prevented From Observing the Counting

Despite the provision stipulating open counting, both independent observers and citizens were prevented from observing the counting process at some ballot boxes. Observers were prevented from observing the counting in 10 ballot boxes whereas citizens were prevented in 16 ballot boxes. Observers were prevented by the police at 2, the military at 1, the neighbourhood headmen at 1 and by unknown persons at 5 ballot boxes.

OBSERVERS PREVENTED	FREQUENCY	PERCENTAGE
YES	10	3.9
NO	228	89.4
Total	238	93.3
Missing	17	6.7
Total	255	100.0

OBSERVERS PREVENTED FROM WATCHING THE COUNTING PROCESS



PREVENTED BY	FREQUENCY	PERCENTAGE
POLICE	2	.8
MILITARY STAFF	1	.4
HEADMAN	2	.8
UNKNOWN	5	.8
Total	10	3.9
Missing	245	97.3
Overall Total	255	100.0

Observer notes: "The counting started 15 minutes late because he political party observer from party tried to prevent the observer from observing the process. *Although the Ballot Box Chairperson and members allowed the observer to watch, the member from the ... threatened the observer.* 'We were taken out of the school by the Headman. Observers were threatened and not allowed in the school'. 'The counting could not be observed because of the attitude of the people in the ballot box area', 'Counting could not be observed due to tension'. 'We were told that we could not observe the counting in any place other than where we cast our vote. We observed the counting not as Observers but as regular citizens', 'The observer was not allowed in the school'.

Despite the clear provision in the law, the observing of the counting of votes was not permitted in some ballot boxes.

Observers noted the following: ‘After the ballots were closed in Mezitli M. Develi Middle School, the entrance to the building was blocked by the school principal and the police and citizens were not permitted to observe the counting.’, ‘At Ticaret Lisesi, the police made an announcement at 17:00 for everyone to leave and no one was permitted to enter the building’.

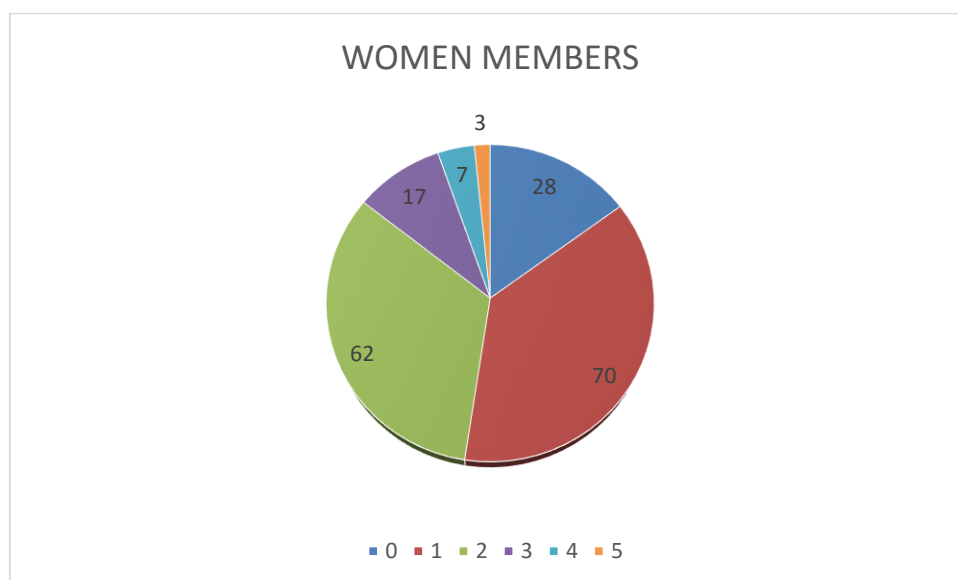
CITIZENS PERMITTED TO OBSERVE	FREQUENCY	PERCENTAGE
YES	201	78.8
NO	16	6.3
Total	217	85.1
Missing	38	14.9
Overall Total	255	100.0

Ballot Box Committee Gender Distribution

An examination was made regarding the gender distribution of the Ballot Box Committee Chairpersons and members where the counting was observed. The question was responded to by 230 observers. 34 Committee Chairpersons were women, 196 were men.

GENDER OF CHAIRPERSON	FREQUENCY	PERCENTAGE
WOMEN	34	13.3
MEN	196	76.9
Total	230	90.2
Missing	25	9.8
Overall Total	255	100.0

The number of women who were members of Ballot Box Committees are given in the graph below. There was one woman member in 70 Ballot Box Committees 2 women at 62, 5 women at 62, 5 women at 3 and 4 women in 7 committees.



Transparency of the Counting Process

According to Article 95 of LBPEVR 298, observing the counting of votes is the legal right of all citizens. The counting has to be conducted openly in a manner that can be followed by those present. In the counting observation form, there were questions regarding whether observers were prevented from observing the counting process. The answers show that the law was violated in a small number of places. Van is the province where counting observations were prevented to the largest extent . Van, in particular, is one of the places where voters were not allowed to observe the counting process (7).

CITIZENS PERMITTED TO OBSERVE

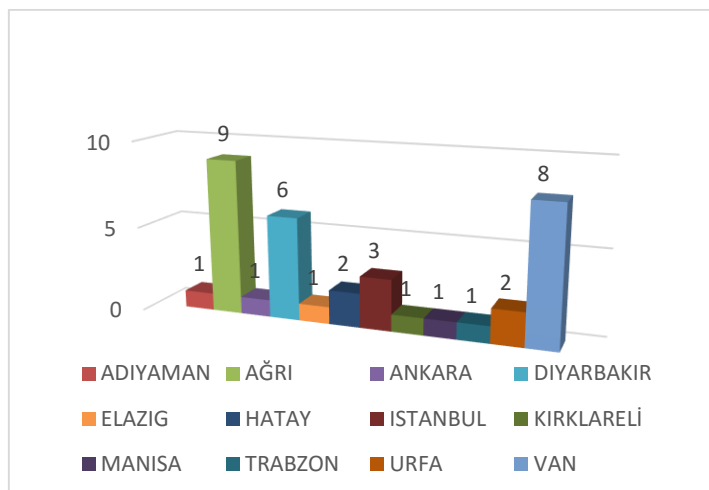


OBSERVERS PERMITTED	FREQUENCY	PERCENTAGE
YES	201	78.8
NO	16	6.3
Total	217	85.1
Missing	38	14.9
Overall Total	255	100.0

Observers have noted the following: ‘After the ballots were closed in Mezitli M. Develi Middle School, the entrance to the building was blocked by the school principal and the police and citizens were not permitted to observe the counting.’, ‘At Ticaret Lisesi, the police made an announcement at 17:00 for everyone to leave and no one was permitted to enter the building’, At ballot boxes 1016 and 1003, the officials blocked the entry to the classrooms with wooden chairs when the counting was taking place and did not permit citizens to watch the process.’

Unauthorised Persons in the Counting Area

At 36 of the ballot boxes observed there were unauthorised persons present. Police were present at 31 ballot boxes and unknown civilian persons at 5 ballot boxes. The provinces where the highest number of unauthorised persons were observed were Ağrı (9), Van (8) and Diyarbakır (6). There is one observation on the intervention of unauthorised persons to the ballot box committee. ‘A thin, 40-45 year-old bearded policeman of medium height carrying a long-range rifle stood at the door, verbally interfered in the counting and made threats.



UNAUTHORISED PERSONS	FREQUENCY	PERCENTAGE
NONE	155	60.8
POLICE	31	12.2
OTHER	5	2.0
Overall Total	191	74.9
Missing	64	25.1
Overall Total	255	100.0

Procedural Mistakes in Counting

Procedural mistakes in counting were observed in only 4 of the ballot boxes observed. Two of these are about invalid votes. Observer testimonies: 'At ballot box no. 1086, a vote for was counted invalid because the stamp violated the lines of the box on the ballot, yet an vote was counted valid although it had a similar problem.', 'A vote was counted valid although the stamp was not in the right place'.

PROCEDURAL MISTAKE	FREQUENCY	PERCENTAGE
YES	4	1.6
NO	196	76.9
Total	200	78.4
Missing	55	21.6
Overall Total	255	100.0

Information on the examination of the ballots by all political party observers is as follows: 'the political party observers did not clearly see the ballots'

EXAMINATION OF BALLOTS	FREQUENCY	PERCENTAGE
YES	212	83.1
NO	1	.4
Total	213	83.5
Missing	41	16.5
Overall Total	255	100.0

Three formal complaints were filed at ballot boxes where observers observed the counting. One observed stated as follows: 'A complaint was filed to count a vote valid that was counted invalid by the Committee'

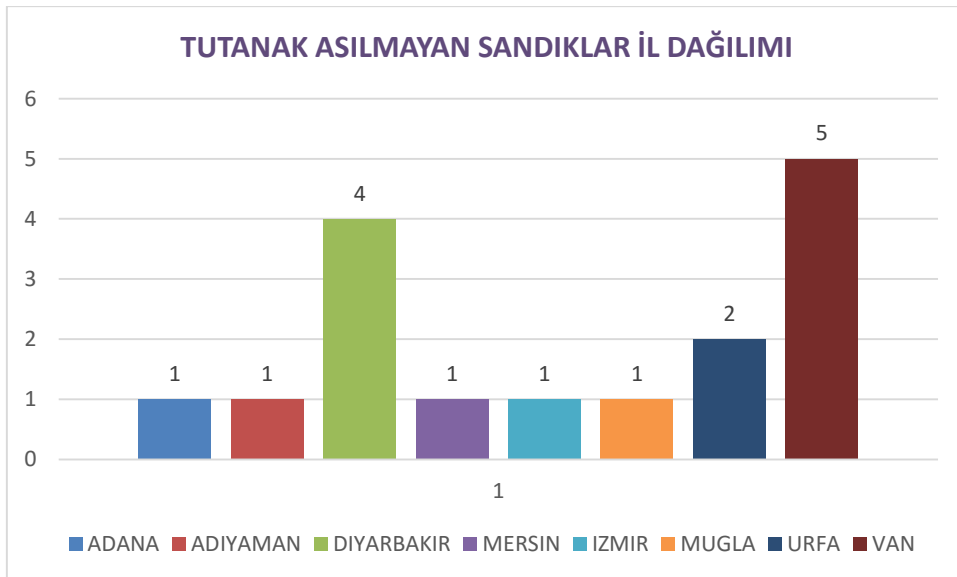
FORMAL COMPLAINT	FREQUENCY	PERCENTAGE
YES	3	1.2
NO	185	72.5
DOESN'T KNOW	12	4.7
Total	200	78.4
Missing	55	21.6
Overall Total	255	100.0

Hanging up a Copy of the Tally

Observers noted that at 16 ballot boxes, the tallies were not hung up on the doors to the classrooms to be examined.

In 8 provinces (Adana, Adıyaman, Diyarbakır, Mersin, Muğla, İzmir, Şanlıurfa, Van) there were ballot boxes at which the tallies were not hung up on the doors after the counting.

TALLIES HUNG UP	FREQUENCY	PERCENTAGE
YES	133	52.2
NO	16	6.3
I DON'T KNOW	30	11.8
Total	179	70.2
Missing	76	29.8
Overall Total	255	100.0



Election Results and Appeals

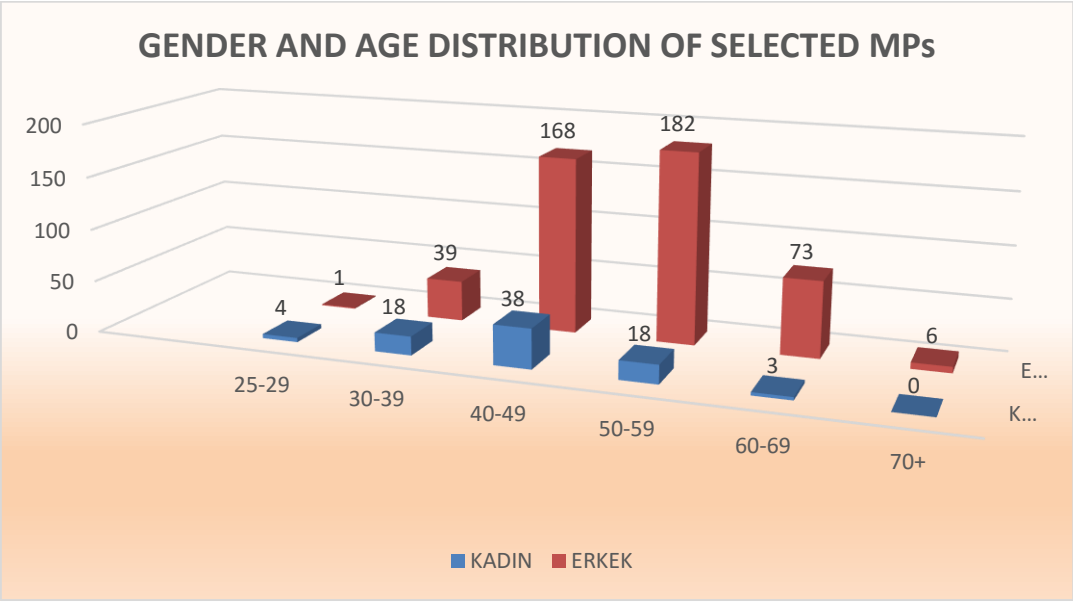
After the counting was completed and the preliminary results announced, many appeals were made by political parties and independent candidates to provincial and district election boards. Since the SBE has not disclosed any information on the appeals, the appeals were evaluated based on media coverage.

According to the information we could access, a total of 35 appeals were made in 25 provinces against the election results. Considering that many appeals made to the election boards has not been reflected in the media, it is estimated that the number of formal appeals is much higher. 28 of the appeals decided by the Provincial Election Boards were brought to the SBE. The SBE accepted two appeals and rejected all the others. The HDP applied to the SBE on November 15th for the cancellation of the elections throughout the country on grounds that the election process was not free and fair. The SBE rejected the application by its Decision dated 17/11/2015 on 2015/2392. The HDP brought the case to the Constitutional Court.

The SBE announced the final results of the November 1st Parliamentary Elections on 11/11/2015. The results and the turnout rate are as follows:

RESULTS OF PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS INCLUDING DOMESTIC, OVERSEAS AND CUSTOMS GATE VOTES	
REGISTERED VOTERS	56,949,009
VOTES CAST	48,537,695
VALID VOTES	47,840,231
INVALID VOTES	697,464
TURNOUT	85.23 %

According to the results announced by the SBE, four political parties passed the threshold and entered parliament. The distribution of MPs by parties is as follows: AKP 317, CHP 134, HDP 59 and MHP 40. 469 parliamentarians are male and 81 are women. The age and gender distribution of the parliamentarians are given in the graph below



Findings

Findings about Voter Registries:

- The address-based voter registry system prevents the exercise of the right to vote for the homeless, women in shelter homes, seasonal agricultural, construction and tourism workers and those who are left homeless due to urban transformation.
- After the voter registries are finalized, persons who have to change address due to mandatory reasons have no opportunity to cast a vote at their new address,
- A large majority of the neighbourhood headmen buildings where the voter registries are hung up are not accessible to the disabled and the elderly who have problems walking.
- The methods used to announce the voter registries prevent illiterate and blind voters from checking them. This includes the method of hanging up the voter registries in print and access via the web site. The web site of the SBE is not accessible to the blind,
- Procedures related to registration in and appeals against the voter registries as well as the methods used to announce them, assume that all voters are literate and have knowledge of Turkish.
- The process of being erased from the voter registries does not require notifications to be made to the relevant voter. This results in voters being erased from the voter registry due to mistakes.

Findings about Voter Education;

- The printed material for voter training is not suitable for those who are illiterate, do not speak Turkish and for the blind,
- The audio-visual material produced for voter training is not suitable for visually impaired and hearing impaired voters or for those voters do not speak Turkish,

Findings about materials used in the election process;

- The voter certificates are not suitable for blind voters or for voters who are illiterate,
- The voter certificates are not sent to the addresses of all voters,
- The sign posts used in polling stations are not suitable for the blind and for those voters who are illiterate,
- The ballots make it impossible for blind and illiterate voters to cast their votes independently,
- The design of the ballots create inequality between political parties and independent candidates,

- The design of the ballots put illiterate voters at a disadvantage if they wish to vote for an independent candidate,
- The sign posts placed in the polling booths are not suitable for illiterate and blind voters,

Findings about Ballot Box Committees;

- Disadvantaged voter groups are not represented when ballot box committee members are chosen.
- With respect to the selection of the ballot box committee chairman, the criteria in Law No. 298 are not objective.
- The current political party observer system gives an advantage to large political parties.
- There are voters who are chosen as a ballot box committee member or political party observer outside their will.
- In an effort to assist elderly, disabled and illiterate voters, ballot box committee chairmen and members have entered the polling booths in violation of Law No. 298 on the Basic Provisions of Elections and Voter Registries as well as the Circular of the SBE.

Recommendations

- In order to ensure fair representation and enable a pluralistic political life and parliament, Article 33 of Law No. 2839 should be amended to abolish the 10% electoral threshold,
- Article 76 of the Constitution should be amended to lower the age to be elected from 25 to 18,
- Necessary legal regulations should be adopted to open the decisions of the SBE for judicial review,
- Article 7 of Law No. 298 on the Basic Provisions of Elections and Voter Registries should be amended to allow convicted prisoners to vote,
- Provisions should be adopted under Article 33 of Law No. 298 on the Basic Provisions of Elections and Voter Registries, to allow for the homeless, those living in women shelters, nursing homes and homes for persons with disabilities to be included in the voter registry,
- Citizens whose names have been deleted from the voter registries or those who have been newly registered should be officially notified,
- Voter registries should be reorganized to include the ages and disability information of citizens. The polling stations should then be assigned based on this information,
- Mentally disabled individuals should be given the right to vote regardless of whether they have been appointed a guardian,
- Article 52 of Law No. 298 on the Basic Provisions of Elections and Voter Registries should be amended to eliminate those provisions creating inequality between political parties and independent candidates in terms of the propaganda periods each are allowed to have,
- Article 26 of Law No. 2839 on The Parliamentary Elections, which includes provisions on the form of ballots, should be amended to ensure equality between political parties and independent candidates,
- The article in Law No. 2839 on The Parliamentary Elections, which sets forth the conditions of state aid to political parties for electioneering purposes, should be amended to allow all political parties to benefit from state aid depending on the share of votes they have received,
- Voter education should be carried out in all languages spoken in Turkey. The opinions of NGOs who work with disadvantaged voter groups should be collected when preparing the relevant materials,
- Due to their role in the Overseas Voting Process, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs should also be appointed an independent Minister in addition to the other three ministries by making an amendment in Article 114 of the Constitution,
- Legal arrangements should be made to allow voters living abroad to be able to use their right to be elected,
- Ballot boxes should be set up in all countries for overseas voters and in a greater number of centres,
- Ballot boxes where only a few voters are registered and where their votes can be associated with them, should be joined with the nearest ballot boxes,

- Factors that prevent disadvantaged groups from voting and being elected should be eliminated; policies and laws should be devised to encourage the right to vote and be elected,
- In legal regulations regarding freedom of expression and association, arrangements should be made to allow for the effective exercise of the right to vote and be elected,
- Legal arrangements should be made to allow for seasonal workers (agriculture, construction, tourism etc.) to cast their votes in the provinces where they are working,
- Mobile ballot box committees should be set up for voters who cannot leave their homes,
- Legal arrangements should be made to allow for alternative voting methods such as voting by letters etc.,
- The media and political parties should not use denigrating, humiliating and discriminatory expressions and this should be guaranteed by law,
- After each election, the SBE should carry out an analysis on voters who did not cast their vote and share the results with the public,
- All stages of the election process should be open to independent observation,
- Independent candidates should be allowed to use a symbol or photograph on the ballots,
- Independent candidates should also be allocated votes from the votes collected from overseas ballot boxes,
- The Law on Political Parties should be rewritten to allow for anyone who wishes to take part in politics and with an understanding to ensure internal democracy in political parties and to enable transparency in political parties.

EK 1: MEMBERS OF INDEPENDENT ELECTION OBSERVATION PLATFORM

1. ADANA KADIN DANIŞMA MERKEZİ VE SİĞİNMA EVİ DERNEĞİ -ADANA
2. AKDENİZ'E GÖÇ EDENLER BİLİM-KÜLTÜR SOSYAL YARDIMLAŞMA VE DAYANIŞMA DERNEĞİ – MERSİN
3. ANTALYA KADIN DAYANIŞMA DERNEĞİ
4. BUCA ENGELLİLER DERNEĞİ – İZMİR
5. BODRUM KADIN DAYANIŞMA DERNEĞİ
6. ÇIĞLI EVKA 2 KADIN KÜLTÜR EVİ DERNEĞİ (ÇEKEV)- İZMİR
7. EDİRNE DERNEKLER FEDERASYONU
8. EDİRNE ENGELLİ GÖNÜLLÜLERİ DERNEĞİ
9. EDİRNE KADIN MECLİSİ DANIŞMA DERNEĞİ
10. EDİRNE KENT KONSEYİ KADIN MECLİSİ
11. EDİRNE TARİH TURİZM KÜLTÜR DERNEĞİ
12. ENGELLİ HAKLARI ENGELSİZ YAŞAM DERNEĞİ
13. ENGELLİ KADIN DERNEĞİ
14. EŞİT HAKLAR İÇİN DERNEĞİ (KOORDİNATÖR STÖ)
15. GENÇ ENGELLİLER SPOR KULÜBÜ -ADANA
16. GÖÇ EDENLER SOSYAL YARDIMLAŞMA VE KÜLTÜR DERNEĞİ (GÖÇ-DER) İSTANBUL
17. GÖÇ SORUNLARINI BİLİMSEL ARAŞTIRMA VE KÜLTÜR DERNEĞİ (VAN GÖÇ-DER) VAN
18. BOTAN-CİZRE GÖÇ EDENLER SOSYAL YARDIMLAŞMA VE KÜLTÜR DERNEĞİ
19. İNSAN HAKLARI DERNEĞ (İHD) GENEL MERKEZİ
20. İNSAN HAKLARI DERNEĞ (İHD) MERSİN ŞUBE
21. İNSAN HAKLARI DERNEĞİ (İHD) İZMİR ŞUBESİ
22. İNSAN HAKLARI DERNEĞİ (İHD) ELAZIĞ ŞUBESİ
23. İNSAN HAKLARI DERNEĞİ (İHD) URFA ŞUBESİ
24. İNSAN HAKLARI DERNEĞİ (İHD) VAN ŞUBESİ
25. İNSAN HAKLARI DERNEĞİ (İHD) ADANA ŞUBESİ
26. İNSAN HAKLARI DERNEĞİ (İHD) ADIYAMAN ŞUBESİ

27. İNSAN HAKLARI DERNEĞİ (İHD) DİYARBAKIR ŞUBESİ
28. İNSAN HAKLARI DERNEĞİ (İHD) HATAY ŞUBESİ
29. İNSAN HAKLARI DERNEĞİ (İHD) ŞIRNAK ŞUBESİ
30. KADIN ADAYLARI DESTEKLEME VE EĞİTME DERNEĞİ (KA-DER) ADANA ŞUBESİ
31. KADIN ADAYLARI DESTEKLEME VE EĞİTME DERNEĞİ (KA-DER) ANKARA ŞUBESİ
32. KARADENİZ KADIN DAYANIŞMA DERNEĞİ
33. MERSİN ORTOPEDİK ENGELLİLER DERNEĞİ
34. ÖZÜRLÜLER VAKFI
35. ÖZGÜR KADIN VE YAŞAM DERNEĞİ (FETHİYE)
36. ROMAN ENGELLİLER DERNEĞİ EDİRNE
37. TÜRKİYE SPİNA BİFİDA DERNEĞİ MANİSA TEMSİLCİLİĞİ
38. TÜRK KADINLAR BİRLİĞİ ADANA ŞUBESİ
39. TÜRK KADINLAR BİRLİĞİ SEYHAN ŞUBESİ
40. TÜRKİYE SAKATLAR DERNEĞİ MERSİN ŞUBESİ