

Participating/Partner State: San Marino

UPR Session and Date of Review: 34th Session, 2019

Background

San Marino has been a participating State in the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) since 1973 and has thus undertaken and has recently reaffirmed a wide range of political commitments in the “human dimension” of security as outlined in relevant OSCE documents.¹

The present submission provides publicly available country-specific information that may assist participants in the Universal Periodic Review process in assessing the situation in San Marino and its implementation of past recommendations, as well as to formulate new recommendations that may be relevant to enhancing the enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms in San Marino.

The OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR) has been mandated by OSCE participating States to assist them in implementing their human dimension commitments. ODIHR assistance includes election observation and assessment activities as well as monitoring and providing assessments, advice and recommendations relating to implementation of commitments in the fields of human rights, democracy, tolerance and non-discrimination, and the situation of Roma and Sinti in the OSCE area.

Election-related activities

Following an invitation from the authorities of San Marino to observe the 11 November 2019 early parliamentary elections, ODIHR deployed a Needs Assessment Mission (NAM). The NAM report concluded that “Almost all OSCE/ODIHR NAM interlocutors expressed full confidence in the professionalism and impartiality of the election administration. No significant concerns were expressed with regard to voter and candidate registration or the ability to campaign freely. Systemic issues with campaign finance and media oversight were identified. All OSCE/ODIHR NAM interlocutors welcomed a potential election observation activity, noting the value of OSCE/ODIHR assessments and recommendations in contributing to potential electoral reform in the future.”

Based on its findings, the NAM recommended deploying an Election Expert Team (EET) for the 20 November early parliamentary elections, to focus its efforts on the effectiveness of the campaign finance regulation and overall independence and effectiveness of media oversight. Given the number of concurrent election-related activities that took place across the OSCE region in the autumn of 2016, and non-available resources, the EET to the 2016 early parliamentary elections in San Marino was not deployed.” *The full report is annexed to this submission.*²

¹ Compendium of OSCE Human Dimension Commitments, vol 1 and 2; Astana Commemorative Declaration, 2010.

² <https://www.osce.org/odihr/elections/san-marino/280341?download=true>