



# Asian Network for Free Elections

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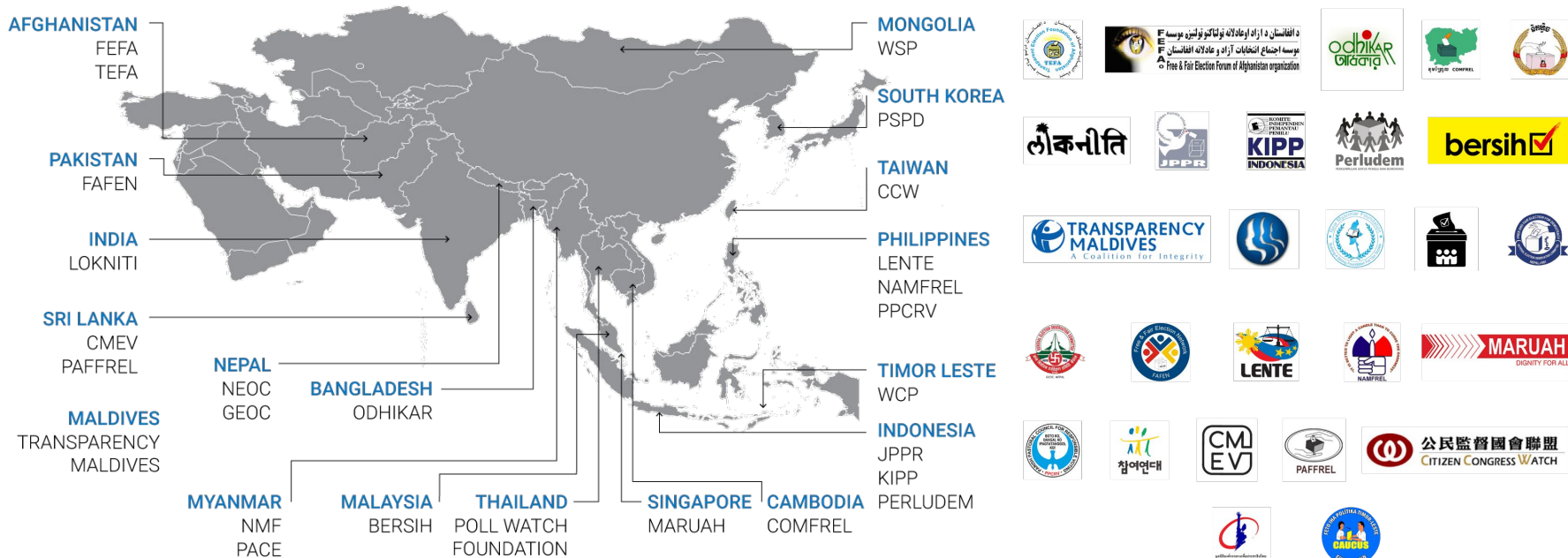
Advancing Electoral Democracy in Asia

# About ANFREL

ANFREL is a regional election observation group working to advance electoral democracy in Asia.

ANFREL envision that every State has a government whose authority derives from the will of the people as expressed by secret ballot in genuine free and fair elections held at regular intervals on the basis of universal and equal suffrage.

# ANFREL Members



# ANFREL Programs



**International Election  
Observation**



**Capacity Building**

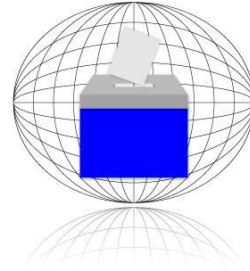


**Campaign & Advocacy**



**Outreach &  
Communication**

# 2024: A 'Super Year' for Elections

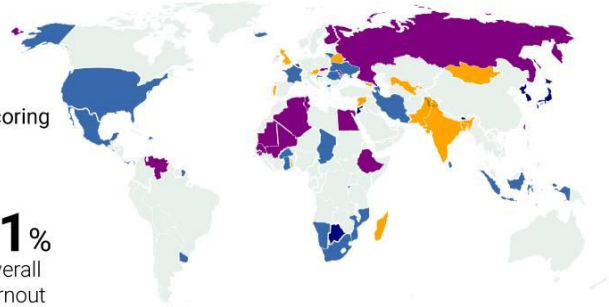


## Key Facts and Figures

In 2024, the world witnessed an unprecedented democratic event: approximately 3 billion people—nearly half of the global population — were eligible to vote in national elections across 73 countries. This massive electoral participation has significantly influenced the political, social, and economic landscapes worldwide.

## Record Voter Turnout:

The 2024 Global Elections Super-Cycle saw a remarkable number of ballots cast, underscoring the vitality of democratic engagement on a global scale.



**73**  
Number of National  
Elections held

**61%**  
Overall  
Turnout

**1,638,843,115**  
Total Number of Ballots Cast\*

- Presidential
- Legislative
- Parliamentary
- Presidential and Legislative/  
Parliamentary



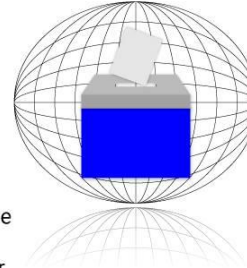
\*The figure includes the total number of ballots cast in 71 elections and the European Parliamentary Elections

Image Source: <https://www.anchorchange.com/election-cycle-calendar>  
Source: International IDEA; <https://www.idea.int/initiatives/the-2024-global-elections-supercycle>

<https://anfrel.org/>






ANFREL @\_anfrel

# 2024: A 'Super Year' for Elections

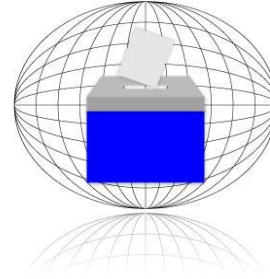


## Biggest Elections in Terms of Numbers

In 2024, approximately 3 billion people participated in elections, a figure significantly bolstered by polls held in some of the world's most populous nations. As of the most recent national elections, the number of registered voters in world's most populous countries that went for elections is as follows:

Country	Number of Registered Voters
 India	969,700,000
 USA	214,286,227
 Indonesia	204,807,222
 Pakistan	128,585,760
 Bangladesh	119,691,633

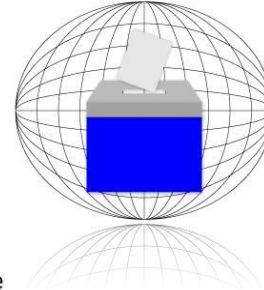
# 2024: A 'Super Year' for Elections



## 2024 Elections Reflected the Complexity of Global Democracy: Asian Context

-  • Right-wing governments in **India** and **Japan** retained power with reduced majorities, signalling widespread dissatisfaction with economic management.<sup>7</sup>
-  • In **Indonesia**, the general elections were closely watched as the world's third-largest democracy elected a new president, vice president and members of parliament. The elections highlighted the growing influence of young voters and civil society movements pushing for environmental and governance reforms, though challenges like unfair electoral competition, abuse of state resources in elections, vote-buying and disinformation persisted.<sup>8</sup>
-  • Meanwhile, **Sri Lanka** faced a critical electoral moment following the political and economic crises of 2022-2023. The back-to-back presidential and parliamentary elections reflected a deep desire for reform, with voters penalizing long-standing political dynasties and calling for accountability in governance.<sup>9</sup>
-  • **Pakistan** also underwent significant political shifts, with elections occurring amidst economic instability and political polarization. The return to the polls was marred by allegations of military interference and media suppression, raising concerns about the democratic trajectory of the country.<sup>10</sup>

# 2024: A 'Super Year' for Elections



## 2024 Elections Reflected the Complexity of Global Democracy: Asian Context



• In **Cambodia**, the ruling Cambodian People's Party (CPP) achieved a decisive victory in the Senate elections, paving the way for former Prime Minister Hun Sen to re-enter politics. Hun Sen, who governed Cambodia for nearly four decades, had transferred power to his son, military general Hun Manet, following last year's parliamentary elections, which faced widespread criticism for their lack of credibility and transparency.



• **Taiwan** elected Lai Ching-te as president amidst challenges from pro-China forces, though his party lost its parliamentary majority, complicating legislative reforms.<sup>11</sup>



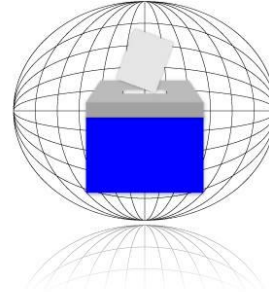
• **Bangladesh** saw mass protests result in the ousting of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, paving the way for an interim government led by economist Muhammad Yunus.<sup>12</sup> However, the erosion of citizen observers' rights emerged as a critical concern. Domestic election monitors faced significant restrictions, limiting their ability to independently assess the transparency and fairness of the electoral process. These limitations undermined accountability and weakened public confidence in the outcomes.

<sup>11</sup> <https://www.sbs.com.au/news/article/anger-and-resentment-worlds-super-election-year-results-capture-voters-mood/648yisupi>

<sup>12</sup> *Ibid.*

Data Dive Issue No. 10: Year-end Issue

## 2024: A 'Super Year' for Elections



### 2024 Elections Reflected the Complexity of Global Democracy: Asian Context



- The recent imposition of martial law in **South Korea** has sparked serious concerns about its implications for democratic governance and civil liberties. Such measures undermine the foundations of democracy and necessitate vigilance to protect fundamental rights.



- Looking at the **Maldives**, the passage of the Constitutional Amendments Bill by the Maldivian Parliament on 19 November 2024, followed by its ratification by President Dr. Mohamed Muizzu on 20 November, has drawn significant criticism. The process was marred by a lack of transparency, insufficient procedural safeguards, and a disregard for democratic principles.

# Democratic backsliding in ASEAN

Asia was transformed by the “**third wave of democratization**” that started in the mid-1970s, and many countries transitioned to more democratic forms of government between then and the mid-1990s, including the Philippines in 1986.

For instance: South Korea (1987), Cambodia (1991), Taiwan (1996), Indonesia (1998), Timor Leste (1999), etc.

# ASEAN

- **Myanmar** had started a timid transition to democracy in 2010, culminating in its first free elections in 2015, followed by those in 2020 and a violent coup by the military.
- **Cambodia**, once a promising nascent democracy in the 1990s, has progressively become a deeply authoritarian one-party state.
- **Vietnam** and **Laos** remain Communist dictatorships with no freedom of speech, assembly or association.

# More country cases

- **Thailand** went through a *thirteenth* successful coup in 2014, followed since by “partly free, not fair” elections and rampant abuse of power against dissidents.
- **Singapore** has been ruled by the PAP since 1959 and still fails to respect fundamental freedoms.
- **Malaysia** went through a successful transfer a power to the opposition in 2018 but still has numerous authoritarian practices.
- **Indonesia**’s democracy keeps going more than two decades after the end of the military régime, but shows signs of weakness as well. Election violence and systemic problems;
- **Brunei** remains an absolutist monarchy with all round repression.
- **Timor Leste** has been the most democratic country in Southeast Asia since its independence.

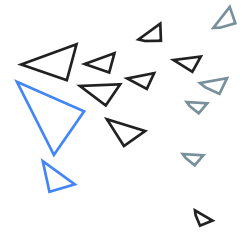


# The 2019 Thai General Election: A Missed Opportunity for Democracy

บัตรดี

บัตรเสีย

บัตรที่ไม่เลือก  
ผู้สมัครผู้ใด



# ANFREL's Election Observation Mission

- The only international election observer group accredited for the 2019 General Election
- A total of 34 international observers:
  - 2 Electoral Analysts (45 days)
  - 8 Observers covering Advance Voting (14 days)
  - 24 other Observers (10 days)
- A variety of observation practices:
  - campaign monitoring
  - visits to polling stations during Advance Voting, Election Day, and an election re-run (26 May)
  - in-depth interviews with electoral stakeholders
  - desk review
- An assessment based on international standards and regional best practices of democratic elections

*“The 2019 Thai General Election was found wanting in the most important element required for an election to be considered truly democratic.*


*Thai authorities did ultimately fulfill their promise to hold an election, but they failed to establish a healthy political climate that lies at the heart of free and fair electoral process.”*

*“As the political future of Thailand looms uncertain yet once again, an unfortunate predicament that has been normalized in the minds of Thais, it is essential to address the fact that this latest Thai election was not a truly democratic process but at best a missed opportunity which failed to deliver on the people’s expectations.”*

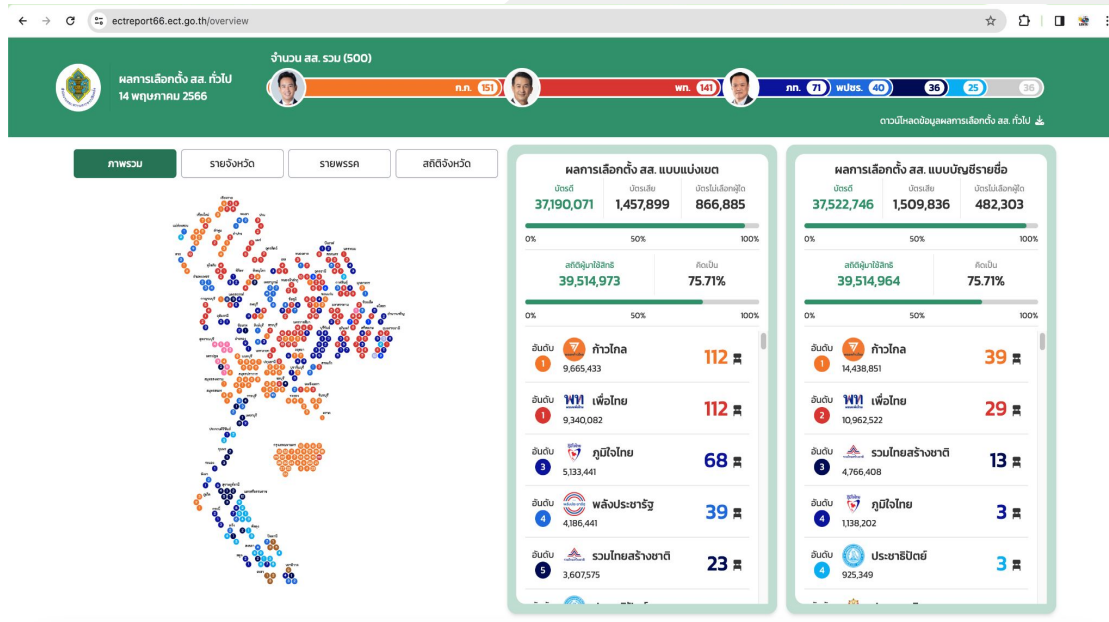
# Electoral Environment



- The reintroduction of electoral processes after a hiatus of 8 years provided a brief opening for people to assemble, have debates, and discuss their views openly. The election period was more peaceful than anticipated, with no major instances of violence.
- The election campaign was relatively vibrant with a record number of political parties and candidates competing.
- **The media and civil society contributed tremendously in providing awareness to the voters by presenting policies and the candidates to the voters. However, these two important institutions operated in a controlled environment hindering the effect of their efforts.**
- **There were reported instances of rampant vote-buying reported. However, of much greater concern to us was the use of government resources during campaign.**



**“The 2023 Thai general election showed improved accountability, transparency and inclusivity as evidenced by the general public’s acceptance and confidence in the final official election results.”**

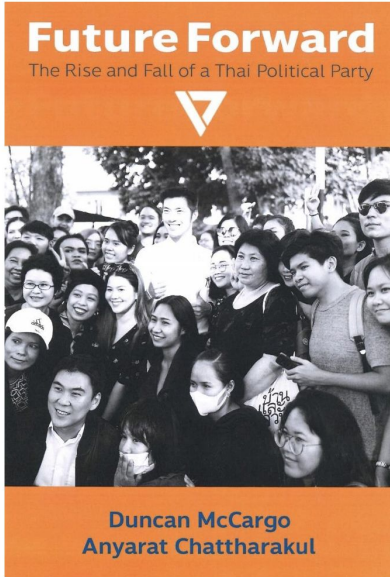


The new reporting system called ECT Report provided results that were timely, accurate, and easily accessible.

**Analysis:** Access by political parties, the media and election observers to tabulation centers could have further strengthened the transparency of the tabulation and announcement of results.



# Generational Cleavage Post-2019



- ❑ Rise of young voters in Thailand
- ❑ The Future Forward Party capitalised on progressive sentiments among Gen Z especially
- ❑ Won 6.3 million votes, 81 seats
- ❑ Now banned but has been reincarnated as Move Forward
- ❑ Move Forward highly critical of current political order
- ❑ Overlap with groups who supported youth-led anti government protests since 2020
- ❑ Rivalry with Pheu Thai Party






“The Senate race is not really an election, per se.” “It’s a self-selection process where it allows **patronage politics** to run rampant at every stage.”

“Thailand, **after two decades dominated by conservatives, can only be described as semi-autocratic at best,**” says Thitinan. “**It cannot be considered a democracy when election winners are repeatedly kicked out and dissolved either by military coups or judicial interventions.**”

Cogan is more blunt in his assessment: Thailand, he says, “**is simply an authoritarian regime which has the illusion of democracy.**”

*<https://time.com/6993473/thailand-2024-senate-election-results-democracy/>*





# Beyond Power: Upholding the Rule of Law amid Democratic Adversities

Final Report of the ANFREL International Expert  
Election Observation Mission (IEEOM)  
to the 2024 Indonesian General Elections





**Genuine elections are fundamental to democracy, requiring several essential elements for their fulfillment.**

These include a fair legal framework, independent election management authorities, equitable campaign finance laws, equal opportunities for all election stakeholders (including candidates, media, and civil society), a vibrant and active civil society, voter education, universal access to electoral processes, and an effective electoral dispute resolution process.



Deter electoral fraud through their engagements



Boost public trust in the electoral system, promote understanding of elections and voter participation



Legitimize or delegitimize elections



Catalyze reforms by providing recommendations which promote transparency, inclusion and integrity



Promote best practices and prevent bad ones

# ANFREL IEEOM Team

Electoral analysts

Short-term observers

Mission management team

## Methodology

Desk research

Engagement with stakeholders

Fieldwork

Pre-election process

Campaign period

Election Day



**11** Provinces

**126** Stakeholders

**113** Polling Stations



# Electoral Issues and Recommendations

## **The Constitutional Court's judgment on the minimum age requirement to run for the presidential election posted legal uncertainty.**

- Inclusion the age qualifications in the Constitution to ensure stability and consistency in the eligibility criteria for political office.
- Review and amend constitutional provisions and laws to address electoral uncertainties stemming from the potential loopholes in the legal system.

## Misuse of State Resources

The current legal framework lacks the necessary provisions to effectively address instances of misuse of state resources in elections.

**ANFREL urges the Parliament to tackle this issue through legislation, and the KPU to take proactive steps to focus on the substantive aspects of the electoral process.**

## Independence of KPU

The independence of KPU has been questioned on multiple occasions due to actions perceived as biased and incompetent by both political parties and civil society organizations.

**ANFREL recommends KPU to enhance transparency and inclusivity in its regulatory decision-making process, making regular consultations with relevant stakeholders a practice.**

**Bawaslu** should take proactive measures to be transparent about complaints resolutions.

## Pervasiveness of mis- and disinformation

There should be a **multi-pronged approach to address information disorder** which includes promoting media, information and digital literacy, upholding media freedom as well as ethical and professional standards, pushing for accountability and transparency of social media platforms, and nuancing guidelines and further discussions to curb the misuse and abuse of generative AI and other emerging technology that may be used to distort and malign the truth.



The biggest flaw in Philippine elections is the prevalence of vote buying, which may plague the country more than any other in Asia. Our observers reported the rampant use of money and goods to woo voters all over the country, as well as the common abuse of state resources, from both local and national governments, for campaign purposes. Incumbents were more often seen to benefit from such malpractices, but the impunity afforded to those who violate campaign finance laws ensures that all sorts of candidates and parties engage in vote buying. The enforcement of existing laws is essential in order to establish a playing field that is somewhat level from now on, as it certainly was not the case for the 2022 elections.

Campaign finance is also in dire need of election reform, with outdated spending limits that are routinely ignored by candidates with rare repercussions. The fact that candidates can keep leftover campaign funds for personal use also incentivizes nuisance candidates and vote buying, while ever-increasing campaign spending further tilts the playing field.

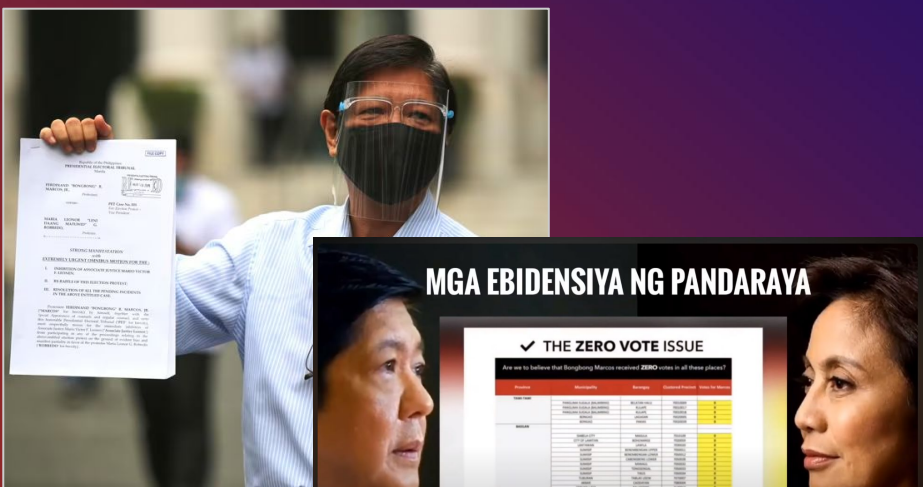
1. Poverty and social vulnerability
2. Political Clientelism
3. Expectation of Reciprocity
4. Social Norm of Gift Giving
5. Kinship system
6. Personality-driven
7. Incumbent advantage
8. Electoral System
9. Voters' Expectations
10. Enforcement

# Sowing Distrust Against Democratic Institutions

NATION

## Marcos to file electoral protest 'to find out the truth'

By: Nestor Corrales - Reporter / @NCorralesINQ INQUIRER.net / 12:56 PM June 11, 2016



BAKIT AYAW TINGNAN NG PET?

SA WAKASI NAKAKAKILABOT NA MGA EBIDENSIYA NG PANDARAYA NI LENI ROBREDO, SINIWALAT NI BONGBONG MARCOS!

Filipino Future ©  
 7.1K | Share | Download | Thanks | Clip

## TRUTH & CLARITY | Pangilinan urges lawmakers to probe 2022 elections fraud allegations

August 22, 2023, 12:41 PM

NEWS 5

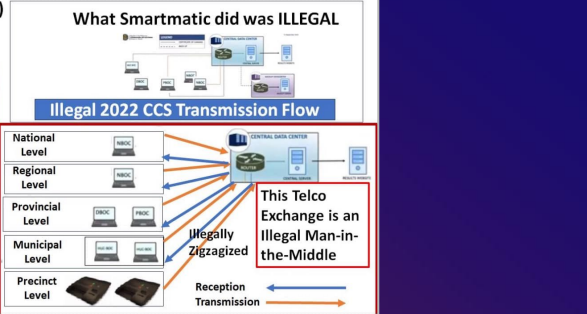
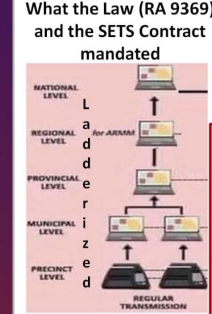
The sentiment of one voter stating, 'Slowest internet in Asia Pacific but the fastest results in an election. How does that happen? Why?', underscores the legitimacy of the concerns forwarded by the Truth and Transparency Trio.

[W]e urge the Comelec to answer the questions raised squarely so as to ensure that the public's trust in our electoral processes, as a bulwark of democracy, remains undiminished.

**KIKO PANGILINAN**  
 Former senator  
 August 22, 2023

**EVIDENCES FROM COMELEC'S WEBSITE SHOW THE 2022 ELECTION WAS RIGGED**

Globe's Transmission Log from 1:15:00 PM to 7:08:50 PM of May 9, 2022, clearly shows that 7,975 VCMs transmissions BEFORE being received in the COMELEC Server whose first entry in its Reception Log was 7:08:50 PM, May 9, 2022. This means that there was a secret, illegal "Man-in-the-Middle" device in the COMELEC-Smartmatic Secure Electronic Transmission Services (SETS) Contract that intercepted and relayed (store and forward) fabricated data using these VCMs (PCOSMATIC) within the Globe's Network.



# The Battle for 2028





**300+ Stakeholder Interviews**

**147 Polling Stations**

**74 Rural and 73 Urban**

**8 provinces**

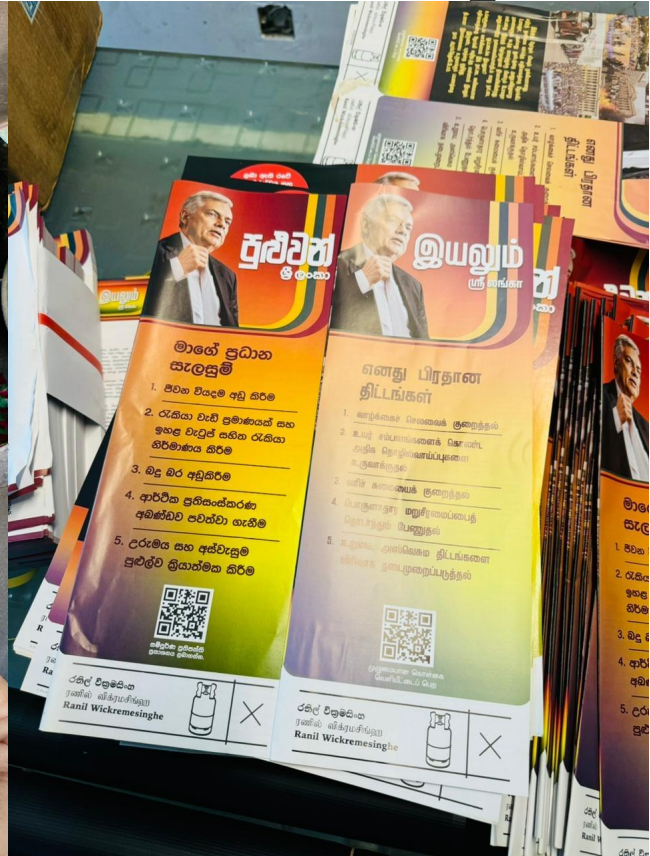
**15 cities**



2024 Sri Lanka Parliamentary Elections  
**Peaceful and Orderly Process  
Observed amid projected  
Low Voter Turnout, Prevailing  
Accessibility Challenges,  
and Ballot Secrecy Concerns**

SCAN THE QR CODE:





SUNDAY OBSERVER  
SEPTEMBER 15, 2024

FROM FEBRUARY 2025  
**All vehicle import bans to be lifted**

FROM APRIL 2025  
**PERSONAL INCOME TAX RELIEF**

**LANDSLIDE VICTORY**  
FOR PRESIDENT RANIL AND SRI LANKA OVER THE PAST TWO YEARS

This ongoing victory is for all the people of Sri Lanka.

Significant strides were made by President Ranil Wickremesinghe since 2022 to restore stability in Sri Lanka after the collapse suffered in the wake of economic and political crises. Coming out of the crisis was to steady state.

The President's strong firm stance, his strategic warlike plan and his responsiveness to key areas and policies, have put the restoration of forward progress on track. These achievements under his leadership as the President of Sri Lanka, speak volumes.

**Comparison of Retail Prices of Essential Food Items - 2022 to 2024**

Item	2022	2023	2024
Onion	100	100	100
Garlic	100	100	100
Tomato	100	100	100
Carrot	100	100	100
Spinach	100	100	100
Broccoli	100	100	100
Cauliflower	100	100	100
Green Beans	100	100	100
Peas	100	100	100
Beans	100	100	100
Chickpeas	100	100	100
Lentils	100	100	100
Wheat Flour	100	100	100
Rice	100	100	100
Tea	100	100	100
Sugar	100	100	100
Oil	100	100	100

**STATISTICS FROM 2022-2024**

- Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) inflows increased by 100% from 2022 to 2024.
- Exports increased by 150% from 2022 to 2024.
- Imports decreased by 20% from 2022 to 2024.
- Government Revenue increased by 50% from 2022 to 2024.
- Government Expenditure decreased by 10% from 2022 to 2024.
- Public Debt decreased by 30% from 2022 to 2024.
- Unemployment rate decreased from 12% in 2022 to 8% in 2024.
- Inflation rate decreased from 50% in 2022 to 5% in 2024.
- Consumer Confidence Index increased from 20 in 2022 to 80 in 2024.
- Business Confidence Index increased from 10 in 2022 to 70 in 2024.
- Stock Market Index increased by 200% from 2022 to 2024.
- Real Estate Market Index increased by 150% from 2022 to 2024.
- Construction Sector Index increased by 100% from 2022 to 2024.
- Manufacturing Sector Index increased by 80% from 2022 to 2024.
- Services Sector Index increased by 60% from 2022 to 2024.
- Overall Economic Growth Rate increased from 1% in 2022 to 5% in 2024.

**රනිල් වික්‍රමසිංහ**  
රනිල් වික්‍රමසිංහ  
Ranil Wickremesinghe

the sunday morning  
SEPTEMBER 15, 2024

**OUR COUNTRY CANNOT GO BACKWARDS**

**SRI LANKA'S RECOVERY IS FRAGILE**

**INSTABILITY IN BANGLADESH; A GRAVE WARNING**

Foreign sources reveal that instability and uncertainty stalk Bangladesh and the troubles in Bangladesh is by no means over. It is observed that Bangladesh's post-crisis recovery faces continued headwinds and the crisis may have affected the economy through various channels.

The Bangladesh Economic Outlook for 2024 is uncertainly where the economy is still recovering from the impact of the 2022-2023 crisis. The government's economic policy is to stabilize the economy and to attract foreign investment. However, the high inflation, food and fuel shortages, and the political uncertainty are still a major concern. The IMF has reported that the risks to the growth outlook are still high. The recovery in Bangladesh is still fragile and the country needs to take more steps to stabilize the economy.

**SINCE RANIL WICKREMESINGHE TOOK OVER AS PRESIDENT OF SRI LANKA IN 2022**

**STATISTICS FROM 2022-2024**

- FDI Inflows: 2022: 100, 2023: 100, 2024: 100
- Exports: 2022: 100, 2023: 100, 2024: 100
- Imports: 2022: 100, 2023: 100, 2024: 100
- Government Revenue: 2022: 100, 2023: 100, 2024: 100
- Government Expenditure: 2022: 100, 2023: 100, 2024: 100
- Public Debt: 2022: 100, 2023: 100, 2024: 100
- Unemployment Rate: 2022: 12%, 2023: 10%, 2024: 8%
- Inflation Rate: 2022: 50%, 2023: 10%, 2024: 5%
- Consumer Confidence Index: 2022: 20, 2023: 50, 2024: 80
- Business Confidence Index: 2022: 10, 2023: 40, 2024: 70
- Stock Market Index: 2022: 100, 2023: 200, 2024: 300
- Real Estate Market Index: 2022: 100, 2023: 150, 2024: 200
- Construction Sector Index: 2022: 100, 2023: 120, 2024: 150
- Manufacturing Sector Index: 2022: 100, 2023: 110, 2024: 130
- Services Sector Index: 2022: 100, 2023: 110, 2024: 120
- Overall Economic Growth Rate: 2022: 1%, 2023: 3%, 2024: 5%

**රනිල් වික්‍රමසිංහ**  
රනිල් වික්‍රමසිංහ  
Ranil Wickremesinghe

SUNDAY OBSERVER  
SEPTEMBER 15, 2024

**BOON FOR TAXPAYERS**  
**PAYEE TAX TO BE REDUCED**

**Import restrictions on vehicles to be lifted**

**Boon for Taxpayers**  
The Finance Minister announced that the payee tax on interest income will be reduced from 10% to 5% from 2025 onwards. This move is expected to provide a significant relief to taxpayers and is seen as a positive step towards simplifying the tax system.

**Import restrictions on vehicles to be lifted**  
The government has announced that it will lift the import restrictions on vehicles from 2025 onwards. This move is expected to provide a significant relief to consumers and is seen as a positive step towards liberalizing the market.

**EC requests voters to go with necessary identification documents to polling stations**  
The Electoral Commission (EC) has requested voters to go to polling stations with necessary identification documents to ensure a smooth and secure voting process. The EC has emphasized the importance of voters bringing their National Identity Cards (NICs) and other valid identification documents.

**No clear answer from Anura Dissanayake on his economic policy**  
The Prime Minister, Anura Kumara Dissanayake, has not provided a clear answer on his economic policy. He has only stated that his government will focus on economic growth and job creation. This has led to speculation and uncertainty among investors and the public.

**Some candidates are trying to incite fear**  
Some candidates in the upcoming elections are trying to incite fear among voters. They are using inflammatory language and making false promises to gain support. This is a concerning trend that needs to be addressed.

**No evidence that the Rajapaksa are thieves**  
There is no evidence that the Rajapaksa family are thieves. This is a baseless accusation that has been made against them. The Rajapaksa family has always been open and transparent about their assets and income.

**These from other parties have flocked to S.P.P.**  
Many candidates from other parties have flocked to the Sri Lanka People's Party (S.L.P.). This indicates that the S.L.P. has a strong appeal and is seen as a viable alternative to the current government.

**Our promise: UNBEATABLE LOW PRICES**  
Page 02 for more information.

**Stay Super Best Diabetes**  
GINSOMIN  
Many medicinal herbs are known to be high blood pressure, further lowering the risk of heart disease.




Report  
courtesy of TI  
Sri Lanka

**A Candidate used two helicopter owned by Sri Lankan Air Force, air force unit for security, Kilinochchi a hospital ambulance, and vehicles of task forces and police vehicles were used for security.**

## ***Misuse/Abuse of State Resources***

- Need for **stronger regulations and enforcement mechanisms**
- Ensure **transparency and accountability** in future elections.


## ***Campaign Finance Law***

- Parliament should **review and refine** campaign finance law to address emerging challenges
  - ECSL should review the **enforcement timeline** to broaden its scope
  - The Parliament and ECSL should provide **clear guidelines on categories**
  - Robust **monitoring** mechanisms, including digital platforms
- 

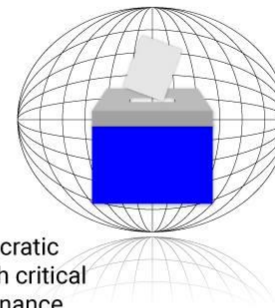
## ***Media Independence and Access***

- Adopt stronger **self-regulation**
- Uphold high **ethical standards**
- Stricter enforcement of **media guidelines**
- Greater support for **independent journalism**
- Editorial **independence** and fair media representation
- Fostering a **transparent and equitable** electoral environment

## ***Misinformation and Disinformation***

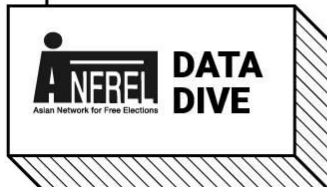
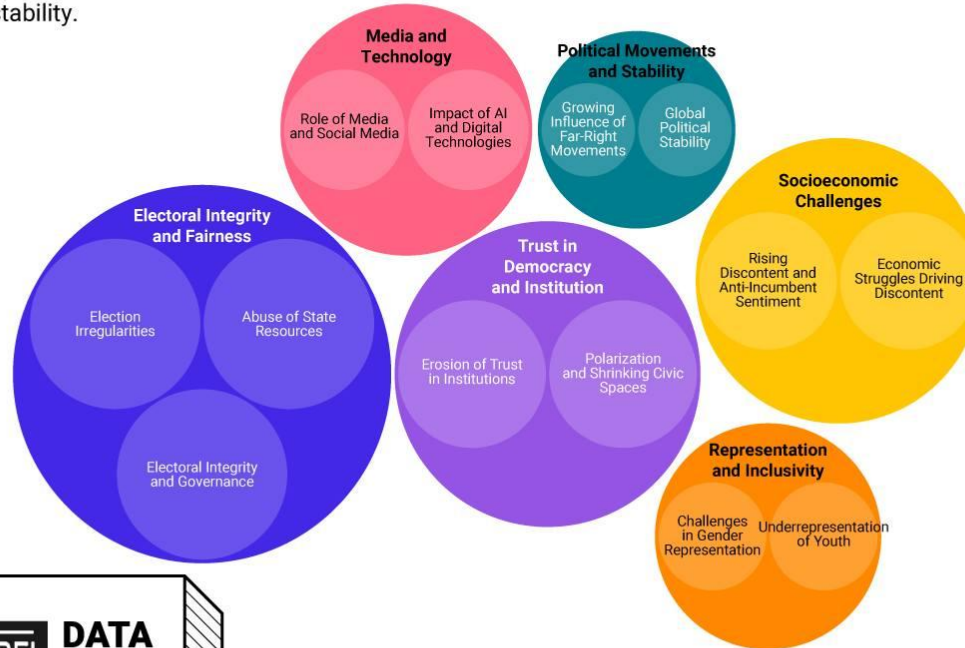
- Strong need for **transparency** and fact-checking initiatives
  - **Fact-checking** initiatives
  - Enhanced oversight of **social media** platforms
- 

# 2024: A 'Super Year' for Elections



## Key Challenges and Concerns

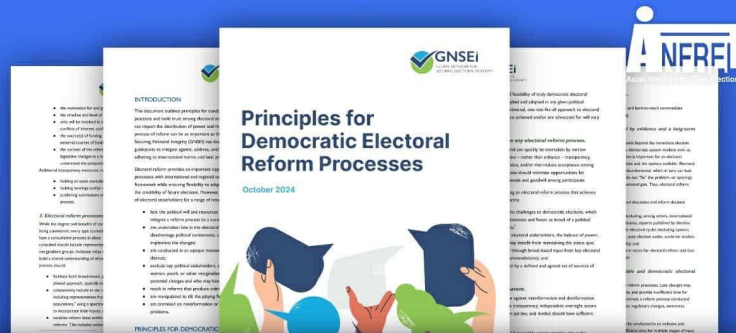
The 2024 "super election year" revealed a complex landscape of democratic resilience and vulnerabilities, as nations across the globe grappled with critical challenges to electoral integrity, public trust, representation, and governance stability.





## GNSEI launches guidelines for safeguarding EMB independence in engagement with other public institutions

The guidelines intend to "support EMBs to maintain their independence and political neutrality while effectively collaborating with and leveraging the capacities of other public institutions, including during crises."



## GNSEI launches 'Principles for Democratic Electoral Reform Processes'

The document outlines "principles for conducting electoral reform processes that align with global best practices and build trust among electoral stakeholders" and "provides stakeholders with guideposts to mitigate against, address, and/or expose these challenges, as well as to advocate for adhering to international norms and best practices."

SCAN THE QR CODE:



# ASIAN ELECTORAL STAKEHOLDER FORUM VII

Bangkok Declaration on Free and Fair Elections (2012)  
Dili Indicators of Democratic Elections (2015)  
Bali Commitments: 8 Keys to Electoral Transparency and Integrity (2016)  
Colombo Pledge on Promoting and Defending Democracy in Asia (2018)

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Building Sustainable Democracies:  
Addressing Electoral Challenges and Opportunities

Kathmandu, Nepal | 6-7 December 2023



ASIAN ELECTORAL  
STAKEHOLDER FORUM - VI

## Kathmandu Declaration on Strengthening Democracy and Promoting Electoral Integrity through Electoral Reforms in Asia

The Kathmandu Declaration affirms the dedication of electoral stakeholders that achieving free, fair, accountable, transparent, inclusive peaceful, and democratic elections is attainable in every Asian country. As active participants in the Asian electoral community, they commit to concerted efforts to transform this belief into a tangible reality.



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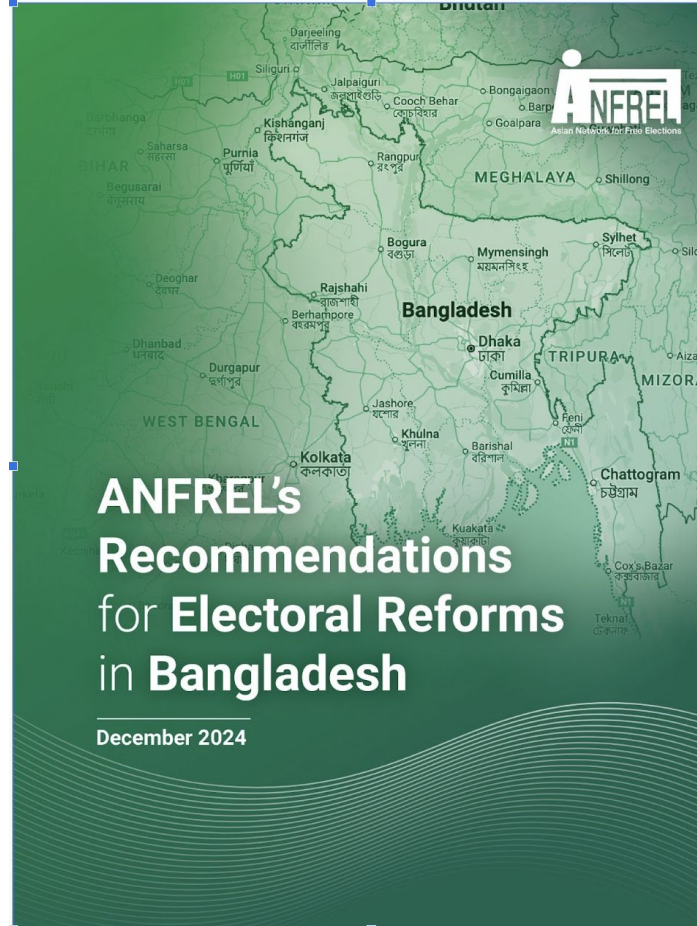
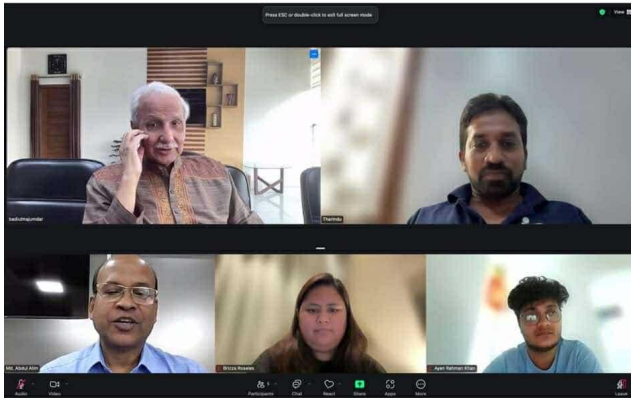


ANFREL - Asian Network for Free Elections

Nov 22

ANFREL - Asian Network for Free Elections actively supports electoral reforms in #Bangladesh, championing the citizen observer rights of international observers, domestic election monitors, and human rights defenders in strengthening the democratic process.

Through its engagement with the Electoral Reform Commission (ERC), led by Mr. Badiul Alam Majumdar (Chairperson of Electoral Reform Commission), and Dr. Md. Abdul Alim (Commissioner), ANFREL emphasizes the importance of #electionobservation, capacity-building for local monitoring groups, media engagement, and systematically pursuing reforms across the electoral cycle to ensure transparency and credibility in the process.





# Asian Network for Free Elections

Advancing Electoral Democracy in Asia

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