



## Resolution on the presidential elections in Mexico

CDI-IDC recognizes and defends democracy as the only form of political organization of nations which guarantees the participation of all citizens in public life, through free, general and regular elections, by means of the secret ballot, enabling the possibility of an alternance in power, within the framework of the rule of law based on a constitutional balance between the powers and organs of the state.

During the past five years, institutional life in Mexico has witnessed a serious deterioration as regards democratic rules and compliance with the rule of law, the reparation of power, checks and balances, respect for the federal system, and the protection of the freedom of expression. In the electoral sphere, the local electoral processes of 2016 and 2017 were marred by illegal governmental intervention by the party in power, which employed anti-democratic practices that we believed had been put behind us since the time of the transition to democracy.

On July 1st, elections will be held in Mexico to renew the holder of the Executive Power as well as all the members of the Federal Legislative Power. In addition, 9 governorships, 19 local parliaments and more than 1,200 city-councils will be elected. In total, more than 3,000 elected positions will be on the ballot. Given governmental meddling, the legality and legitimacy of the electoral process is at serious risk by such practices such as the unjustified dismissal of the prosecutor specialized in investigating electoral offences ; the absence of a chief public prosecutor and the lack of willingness to complete and implement constitutional reforms providing for an autonomous and independent public prosecutor ; the weakening of local administrative electoral authorities ; illegal pressures against the jurisdictional authority (Electoral Tribunal) ; undue influence by the media as well as the diversion of public resources for electoral purposes as has been the case in the state of Chihuahua.

This situation has been denounced before the Secretary General of the Organization of American States (OAS) and before a delegation of the European People's Party (EPP) of the European Parliament, with the aim of alerting international instances about risks to the democratic quality of this year's elections.

In the face of this, CDI-IDC resolves :

- a) To keep a close watch of the Mexican electoral process in order to help guaranteeing the observance of democratic principles and good practices;
- b) To encourage international efforts to send electoral observers;
- c) To support and respond to pertinent denunciations which may put into jeopardy the democratic quality of the election.