



EUROPEAN UNION ELECTION OBSERVATION MISSION

SRI LANKA PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION 2024

The Mission will assess all aspects and stages of the electoral process including:

- the legal framework and its implementation
- the performance of the election administration
- the role of State institutions
- voter registration
- campaign activities and campaign finance
- the overall environment of the elections, including respect for fundamental freedoms, civil and political rights
- the participation of women
- the participation of persons with disabilities
- the role of the media, including online information sources and social media
- the role of civil society
- voting, counting and tabulation
- the complaints and appeals process
- the tabulation and announcement of the results



Mandate

The European Union Election Observation Mission's mandate is to assess the 2024 Presidential election in line with Sri Lanka's national legal framework as well as with the international and regional standards and commitments the country has made regarding democratic elections.

In line with the EU election observation methodology, observers do not interfere in the electoral process. All EU election observers are bound by a strict **code of conduct** and ethical guidelines that guarantee their **neutrality** and **impartiality**.

The EU EOM operates in accordance with the 'Declaration of Principles for International Election Observation' endorsed under United Nations auspices in 2005, and now signed by more than 50 international organisations involved in election observation worldwide.

The EOM is independent in its findings from the EU Delegation to Sri Lanka and the Maldives, EU Member States, and EU institutions.

Objectives

Following an invitation by the Election Commission of Sri Lanka, the European Union has deployed a mission to Sri Lanka to observe the presidential election scheduled for 21 September.

The main objectives of the EU Election Observation Mission (EU EOM) are as follows:

- to support the democratic process in Sri Lanka
- to enhance public confidence in the electoral process
- to strengthen respect for human rights and the rule of law.



Chief Observer

The European Union Election Observation Mission (EU EOM) is led by Chief Observer **Nacho Sánchez Amor**, a Member of the European Parliament from Spain.

Observers

The Core Team of the EU EOM consists of 10 election experts, who arrived in Colombo on 14 August. 26 Long-term Observers were deployed on the 29 August across the country to follow the electoral process. Thereafter, 32 Short-term Observers will join the mission around election day to observe the opening, voting, counting and tabulation of results. Other Short-term Observers recruited from the EU diplomatic community, as well as from partner countries, will also reinforce the mission shortly before election day. The EU EOM will remain in the country until the completion of the electoral process.

EOM Reports

The mission will provide a fact-based, comprehensive, and impartial analysis of the entire electoral process, in line with established EU methodology for observing elections.

The mission will issue a **preliminary statement** and hold a press conference in Colombo two days after the elections.

The **final report**, which will include a set of **recommendations** for future electoral processes, will be presented and shared with stakeholders after the finalisation of the entire electoral process.

The EU has a long history of accompanying electoral processes in Sri Lanka and has deployed six Election Observation Missions (EU EOM) since 2000, the last in 2019. This reflects the **EU's commitment to democratic processes and partnership** with the country.

FOR MORE DETAILS

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