



## **Statement by the International Community: Internationale Politik für junge Profis on Youth Engagement in Democratic Processes**

Dear esteemed participants of the 2024 Warsaw Human Dimension Conference,

At International Community, we are driven by the firm belief that young people, who make up 25% of the EU population, must be at the heart of the European Union's democratic future. Their struggles, concerns, and innovative ideas should shape the policies and decisions that will steer the EU's next chapter.

Youth organizations play a pivotal role in fostering engagement and participation, especially in crucial democratic processes such as elections. To truly ensure that democracy thrives at the national, regional, and local levels, it is essential that youth have a voice in shaping these institutions. One vital step toward achieving this is by allowing youth organizations to participate in the observation of elections. By being involved as observers, young people can better understand the importance of transparency, fairness, and accountability in democratic elections, and inspire their peers to take a more active role.

We urge all stakeholders to ensure that youth not only have access to information about elections but are also actively involved in the process itself. Through election observation, they can develop a deeper connection to the democratic systems that impact their lives, as well as become advocates for improvements where necessary.

As we participate in the discussions on democratic institutions and elections at this OSCE plenary session, we look forward to contributing toward creating a more inclusive, youth-driven democracy.

Sincerely,

Anastasiia

President of the NGO International Community

Todoruk