



Russian electoral system receives highest score for media's political content

The Russian federal electoral system received an overall score of 35 per cent for electoral fairness in a global study being conducted by the [Foundation for Democratic Advancement \(FDA\)](#), a non-partisan organization that advances fair and transparent democratic processes. Areas of analysis in the study includes fairness in electoral spending, equality of voter say, equality of candidate and party influence and equality of media coverage. A group of diverse and non-partisan FDA electoral auditors rated each section out of 10 points in terms of fairness.

Key points gleaned from the [study](#):

- The Russian overall electoral fairness score of 35 per cent means that there are deficiencies in electoral fairness in the constitutional and electoral foundation of Russian democracy.
- Russia received a higher score than countries like the USA (30 per cent), Canada (25.7 per cent) and Mexico (22.75 per cent), and yet Russia received a significantly lower score than France (91.75 per cent).
- Russia's score of 0 per cent for electoral finance equates to complete electoral unfairness in Russia's electoral finance laws, in which wealthy citizens, legal entities, candidates, and parties have significant electoral advantage over those citizens and organizations less wealthy.
- Russia received a 90 per cent score for political content based on legislated impartiality of public media and broadcasters

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About the FDA

The Foundation for Democratic Advancement ("FDA")'s mission is to advance fair and transparent democratic processes wherever elections occur. The FDA believes that fairer electoral systems and a more informed public will help ensure the election of candidates who truly represent the will of the people. The FDA fulfills its mission by performing detailed electoral audits on political candidates and parties to inform the public, objectively and impartially, about their electoral choices. Also, the FDA audits electoral legislation in terms of fairness and equity, and conducts ground level assessments of democratic processes.

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