



Canada receives failing grade for electoral fairness in global study

Canada received an overall score of 25.75 per cent in electoral fairness in a global study being conducted by the Calgary-based [Foundation for Democratic Advancement \(FDA\)](#). Areas of analysis included 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 electoral auditors rated each section out of 10 points in terms of fairness.

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

- Canada scored lower in electoral spending than the Tunisian dictatorship under Ben Ali
- Canada scored only 23 per cent for equality of political content from the media
- Study shows that freedom of expression is restricted by finance laws that favour dominant parties
- Study shows that there is severe inequality in the media and favoring of parties that were previously successful
- Canada's only passing grade of 60 per cent is in equality of voter say

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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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