



INNOVATIONS FOR SUCCESSFUL SOCIETIES

Building Institutions, Escaping Development Traps

Tunisia: Organizing the Post-Arab Spring Elections of 2011

Tunisia continues to stand out as an Arab Spring success as it consolidates its democracy. The country held its first post-constitution parliamentary election on October 26 and the presidential election is scheduled for November. These elections mark the end of the country's three-year political transition that began with the 2011 ouster of then-President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali. A [new ISS case study](#) describes the 2011 general elections for the National Constituent Assembly, the government body that re-wrote the country's constitution and paved the way for this fall's parliamentary and presidential elections.



Photo by Ahmed Charfi

In May 2011, Tunisia's newly-formed Independent High Authority for Elections was given just five months to organize and implement elections for the Assembly. The commission navigated the pressures of a compressed electoral calendar, an agitated electorate, and public skepticism of the transitional government. The Authority's efforts offer insight into how an electoral commission can leverage relationships with political parties, the government, and the public to succeed in volatile circumstances.

[Read more](#)

Featured ISS Interview

[Alex Paila](#), the voter education and public relations officer at the Electoral Commission in Sierra Leone, describes the national and local elections in 2007 and 2008. While discussing efforts to recruit and train staff, register voters, and enfranchise marginalized groups, Paila emphasizes the importance of cooperation with community-based civilian organizations and support from international organizations.

Share Your Feedback

[ISS values your thoughts and feedback. We invite you to take a brief 12-question survey to help us better understand how you access and utilize our work.](#)

Where ISS Has Worked

[Africa](#)

[Asia & Pacific](#)

[Europe & Central Asia](#)

ISS: Improving Government Accountability and Leading Reform

Innovations for Successful Societies (ISS) helps public servants, policy makers, and scholars share institution-building strategies that work in especially challenging contexts. Interview-based case studies facilitate these exchanges and provide a basis for scholarly research.

To date, ISS has published [132 case studies](#) and [370 interviews](#), all of which are available for free online. Governments use the materials to learn from each other, inspire discussion in their ranks, and recall the steps they took to implement a reform. Universities and training programs use the case studies in the classroom to engage students in the operational and strategic aspects of public sector reform.

[The Americas](#)

[Middle East & North Africa](#)

Contact Us

206 Bobst Hall
Princeton University
83 Prospect Avenue
Princeton, New Jersey
08544
U.S.A.

Phone: +1 609-258-5258
Fax: +1 609-258-7762
Email: iss@princeton.edu

Join Our Mailing List!

Follow us to keep updated on
Innovations for Successful Societies:



www.princeton.edu/successfulsocieties

Innovations for Successful Societies (ISS)
is a joint program of Princeton University's
[Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs](#) and
[Bobst Center for Peace & Justice](#).

[Forward this email](#)



This email was sent by _____ iss@princeton.edu |
[Update Profile/Email Address](#) | Rapid removal with [SafeUnsubscribe™](#) | [Privacy Policy](#).



Innovations for Successful Societies | Bobst Center for Peace and Justice | Princeton University | Princeton | NJ | 08544