



Roles of Election Observers

	Nonpartisan Observation	Partisan Observation	Election Protection
Demonstrates the community's interest and support for elections that are credible, transparent, accessible to all voters, and that represent a true democratic process	✓	✓	✓
Reinforces the efforts of civil society and voting rights groups in the electoral process and increases the credibility of their work	✓	✓	✓
Protects, advances, and defends the right to vote	✓	✓	✓
Works to ensure the right of access the ballot	✓	✓	✓
Systematically collects data and publicly reports on adherence to election law during absentee voting, in-person voting, and vote tabulation	✓		
Provides an <i>impartial</i> assessment of the electoral process – analyzing its strengths and weaknesses	✓		

Provides a <i>partial</i> assessment of the electoral process		✓	
Provides public recommendations on ways to improve the election process	✓		
Places observers inside polling locations	✓	✓	
Monitors outside polling locations and has internal reporting systems for incidences of voter suppression			✓
Follows a strict code of conduct holding observers accountable	✓		
Uses observation findings to advance the candidate, party, or ballot initiative interests		✓	
Intervenes at the polls and calls state election management offices when there are clear breaches in electoral law or voters are being prevented from accessing the ballot		✓	✓