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General Assembly Issue #3: The question of finding measures to prevent electoral fraud.

Electoral fraud is the illegal interference in an election with the purpose of modifying its outcome. This includes actions like ballot stuffing, voter impersonation, vote buying, or tampering with vote counts ("Electoral Fraud"). In democracy, the conduct of credible and fair elections is one of the most salient features provided. Being that elections are the only legitimate way of choosing representatives of democracy, winning at any cost becomes the norm for political competitors. Consequently, electoral malpractice becomes the norm too. Electoral malpractice undermines democracy by making the election results unreliable and not a true reflection of the people's vote, leading to a lack of political trust from them (Mauk). Moreover, the media plays a large role in moderating the effects of electoral malpractice in this trust. This means that in democracies, where the freedom of press is relevant, reporting on electoral fraud is necessary, allowing citizens to construct their individual political opinions. Moreover, the combating of electoral fraud is necessary to maintain a democratic representation of global citizens.

In June 2025, Greece's electoral court removed three Members of Parliament from the "Spartans" party, a far-right affiliation, after discovering they had misled voters regarding their party's leadership. Although Vasilis Stigkas was titled as the party's leader, they were being secretly directed by a convicted neo-Nazi, Ilias Kasidiaris. Greek parties cannot participate in elections, should their leader have been convicted in crimes, meaning the "Spartans" were violating electoral rules. Due to this election not being conducted legally and there being the deception of voters to manipulate the outcome of an election, Greece acted immediately and invalidated their seats in Parliament (Smith).

In India's recent elections, there were allegations of "match-fixing," the deliberate conceding of votes, made by "refuted Congress leader Rahul Gandhi." These were labeled as "absurd" by the election commission of India (ECI) (Desk). In the West Bengal district of Kakdwip, election officials were found to have tampered with voter registration lists by removing names and adding fake entries to manipulate results.

This eventually led to the suspension of several officials (Nag). However, in Kerala, a legal challenge against Priyanka Gandhi, Congress party leader, accusing her of lying in her election declaration (Times of India).

Both cases show how electoral fraud poses a threat to the integrity of democracy, a necessary system which upholds justice and representation of civilians in their quotidian lives.

To combat electoral fraud, many governments have implemented stricter laws, improved transparency, and invested in secure voting technologies. The reconciliation of ballot numbers is also crucial. For example, in the Philippines, ballot numbers are checked before and after the vote occurs, ensuring that no ballots have been added or removed. The competency of poll workers is also an improvement governments have been trying to adhere to, ensuring that there is an officer for each station, ensuring conduct and that polling at that station is equitable. The neutrality of polling sites is also a requirement most citizens feel they need. Sites should be in safe and neutral locations, such as schools or sports centers. Confirmation of voter identity, along with ensuring ballot integrity are absolutely ´vital in voting processes (“Election Integrity”).

Delegates should focus on finding measures that recognize what has worked in the past, and what creates barriers between a fair and tampered election. It is essential that Member States work in unison to find solutions that are appropriate for all election types.

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