

**Curriculum Vitae for  
Professor, Dr Jørgen Elklit  
Department of Political Science,**



**Aarhus University, Denmark**

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**Key qualifications:**

Political scientist with specialization in electoral systems and administration, electoral behaviour, political party membership, and democratization. Has written extensively on these subjects as well as on electoral administration. Extensive experience since 1990 as an international advisor on elections and electoral systems in Asia, Africa, and Europe. Member of the South African Independent Electoral Commission (IEC) responsible for the conduct of the 1994 South African Parliamentary and Provincial Elections. Secretary to the Independent Review Commission (Kenya) April-September 2008

- 1942 Born in Frederiksværk, Denmark. Danish citizen
- 1970 Graduate (history) from Aarhus University, Denmark
- 1970-99 Research scholar, assistant professor, and associate professor, Department of Political Science, Aarhus University
- 1988 Doctor of Political Science (dr.scient.pol.) Dissertation title: *From Open to Secret Voting. Aspects of the Development of a Party System*
- 1993 Democratization and electoral support advisor, Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- 2000 Professor of Political Science (political behaviour and political attitudes) at Aarhus University
- 2014 (January- June) van Zyl Slabbert Visiting Professor at the Department of Political Studies, University of Cape Town

**Awards:**

- 1970 Aarhus University's Gold Medal for Young Researchers
- 2004 Ten Years of Democracy Award (bestowed by the Electoral Commission of south Africa)

2012 The Erik Rasmussen Prize (bestowed by the Danish Political Science Association)

**Selected Board and Committee Memberships:**

1993 Member of the Goldstone Commission's Panel Inquiring into the Curbing of Violence and Intimidation Before, During, and After the 1994 South African Elections

1994–97 Member of the South African Independent Electoral Commission (IEC)

1996-09 Member of the Board of Directors of the Electoral Institute for Southern Africa

1997 Chairman of the OSCE Steering Board for *out-of-country* voting in connection with the municipal and RS Entity Elections in Bosnia-i-Herzegovina

1998-99 Member of the High Representative's International Advisory Board on a Permanent Electoral Law for Bosnia-i-Herzegovina

2002 Member of the South African "Electoral Task Team" (ETT), mandated by the SA Cabinet to formulate new legislation for national and provincial elections

2014+ Member of the IPSA Executive committee

**Selected Activities related to advisory work on elections and democratization, election administration, election observation abroad, democratization support etc.**

1990–91 On four occasions DANIDA democratization and election adviser in Nepal, assigned to the Electoral Commission in Kathmandu.

1992 (October, December) Member of The International Human Rights Law Group's mission to Kenya to assess the situation before the December 1992 elections. Also member of the Danish election observation mission to the elections.

1995-96 (December/June) Member of the OSCE Election Field Assessment Mission to Bosnia and Herzegovina; followed by membership of the joint ODIHR/IFES Electoral Code Working Group and the OSCE Election Advisory Group.

1997-98 (June/February) Head of Consultancy Mission: Review of Tanzania's 1995 Electoral Process

2000 (August 2000 - May 2002) International Expert Advisor to the Lesotho Independent Electoral Commission

(September) Head of Danida Project Identification Team (Yunnan Province, China). Also later visits to Yunnan Province under the same project

2003 Member of the Joint IFES/Elections Canada Team travelling to Afghanistan to prepare issue papers for the planning process before the June 2004 elections

(June/July) Member of a joint UNPD/Danida team preparing a draft consolidated election law for the Lesotho IEC

2004 (February) Expert advisor on the new electoral system for Afghanistan (working with IFES/Kabul and the UNMAG Electoral Unit)

2005 (February) Member of team assessing the overall quality and validity of the Out of Country Voting in the January 2005 Iraqi elections

2008 (April-Sept.) Secretary to the Independent Review Commission (IREC) in Kenya

### **Books:**

More than 20 books (including co-authored, edited, and co-edited volumes). Among these are:  
*Fra åben til hemmelig afstemning. Aspekter af et partisystems udvikling* (From Open to Secret Voting: Aspects of the Development of a Party System), Aarhus: Politica, 1988.  
*Electoral Systems for Emerging Democracies: Experiences and Suggestions* (edited); Copenhagen: Ministry of Foreign Affairs, 1997.  
*Challenges of Conflict, Democracy and Development in Africa*, Johannesburg: EISA, 2007 (co-edited with Khabele Matlosa & Bertha Chiroro).  
*Duality by Design: The Iranian Electoral System*, Washington DC: IFES, 2011. Lead author: Yasmin Alem, contributors: Jørgen Elklit and Mehrangiz Kar.

A fuller list is provided in the List of Publications

### **Articles:**

My articles have appeared in the following professional journals: *representation, Democratization, Journal of Democracy, American Journal of Political Science, Journal of African Elections, China Information, Electoral Studies, European Journal of Political Research, Scandinavian Political Studies, Recherches Sociologiques, Universidad y Sociedad, Journal of Behavioral and Social Sciences, Journal of Interdisciplinary History, Social Science History, Statsvetenskaplig Tidskrift, Politica, Historie, udenrigs, Den ny verden, Fortid og nutid, Sønderjysk Månedsskrift, Sønderjyske Årbøger, Økonomi og Politik, Commonwealth & Comparative Politics, Forum for Development Studies, Party Politics, and Local Government Studies*

A selection of my articles is provided in the List of Publications

**The Elklit-Reynolds' election administration quality index is available at:**  
[www.democracy-assesment.dk](http://www.democracy-assesment.dk)