

Curriculum Vitae – Ronan McDermott

Date of Birth: 21st October 1962 ♦ **Place of Birth:** Dublin, Ireland ♦ **Nationality:** Irish

Education

University of Liverpool (UK) – MSc in Information Technology (2009). My dissertation was entitled “*A methodology for the data-driven evaluation of voter registration databases in developing and post-conflict countries*”.

University of Limerick, Ireland – National Diploma in Computer Engineering (1983)

Publications

“Cybersecurity of Election Results Management Systems”, in Electoral Cybersecurity Briefing Series for USAID/DAI/IFES, October 2022, lead author. Available at:

<https://www.ifes.org/publications/electoral-cybersecurity-briefing-series>

“Lessons on the Use of Technology in Elections”, in IFES Election Case Law Analysis Series, November 2022, co-author, available <https://www.ifes.org/publications/ifes-election-case-law-analysis-series-lessons-use-technology-elections>

“Feasibility Study - On the Introduction of New Elections Technology for Ukraine”, IFES Ukraine, on behalf of the Ministry of Digital Transformation, Ukraine, February 2020, available <https://ifesukraine.org/publications/?lang=en>

“Pakistan’s Internet Voting Experiment”, Proceedings of the E-Vote-ID 2019 Conference, R. Krimmer, et al (eds), TalTech Press, 2019, ISBN 978-9949-83-473-0 Awarded Best Paper (Practitioners Track).

“Electoral Results Management Systems: Catalogue of Options”, EU/UNDP Joint Task Force on Electoral Assistance, 2015, lead author. Available at www.ec-undp-electoralassistance.org

“Towards 2015 Elections in Indonesia - the need to develop e-Recap and avoid EVM”, IFES Indonesia, 2015, lead author. Available at www.rumahpemilu.org

“Summary Report – Thematic Workshop on ICT and Elections Management”, EU/UNDP Joint Task Force on Electoral Assistance, 2012, lead author. Available at www.ec-undp-electoralassistance.org

“Electronic Voting Machines – DRI Briefing Paper 11”, Democracy Reporting International, 2011, lead author, available at www.democracy-reporting.org

“Electronic Voting in Ireland – a case study” in *“Direct Democracy: Progress and Pitfalls of Election Technology”*, IFES/Applied Research Center, July 2010, Michael Yard (editor).

Available at www.ifes.org

“From Power Outages to Paper Trails: Experiences in Introducing Technology into the Elections Process”, IFES/Applied Research Center, March 2007, co-authored a chapter.

Available at www.ifes.org

“Evaluation of UNDP contribution to strengthening electoral systems and processes”, UNDP Evaluation Office, 2012, Team Member, author of ICT Thematic Case Study component.

Employment History

I am pre-cleared on UN roster at P5 (Senior Electoral Officer) and P4 (Electoral Officer) levels. I am also on the UNDP's Crisis Response Unit roster.

2009 – 2020 Elections Management, Technology and Voter Registration Consultant

- Q1-Q4-2023 – **UNDP Pakistan** – providing technical assistance to the Elections Commission of **Pakistan** - ongoing
- Q3-2022 – co-authoring guide on cybersecurity and election results management for **IFES**
- Q2-2023 – **Global Campus for Human Rights**, Venice, Italy, developed and delivered course material for GCHR's "Strengthening Political Processes through Technical Assistance" training course.
- 2022 - Member of team conducting study on the cost of elections procurement, NIRAS (Denmark) on behalf of **European Commission** (INTPA/G1)
- Q2-2022 Preparing technology content for training of judiciaries (global, multiple clients)
- Q2-2022 – **Global Campus for Human Rights**, Venice, Italy, developed and delivered course material for GCHR's "Strengthening Political Processes through Technical Assistance" training course.
- Q3-2021 – Preparatory work/Moderator/Summary Report lead author – **Ukraine** – National Cybersecurity Summit 2021 on behalf of CRDF Global
- Q1-2021 – Team Leader, UNDP **Armenia**, preparatory work towards feasibility study on the introduction of new technologies into electoral processes.
- Q4-2020 - UNDP **Kyrgyzstan**. Ongoing support to UNDP procurement.
- Q2-2020 – Participated on behalf of IFES Ukraine in working groups led by Central Elections Commission on introduction of new technologies in elections processes.
- Q1-2020, Senior Advisor on Elections Technology, UNDP **Kyrgyzstan**. Support to Elections project on strategic options for technology procurement.
- Q4-2019, team leader and co-author of Feasibility Study on new electoral technologies for Ministry of Digital Transformation, IFES **Ukraine**
- May-September 2019 – Transition managing move from Switzerland to Ukraine
- Q2-2019, wrap-up mission to UNDP **Pakistan** to conduct post-electoral workshops and prepare ICT-related inputs for strategic planning at ECP.
- Q1-2019 - Senior Advisor/BVR - feasibility study, UNDP **Ethiopia**
- Q4-2018 - presenter and moderator, IFES conference on Cybersecurity and Elections in **Ukraine**
- Q2-Q4 2018 - RMS/IT Operations Advisor, UNDP **Pakistan**
- Q1-2018 - Results Management Expert, consultancy for IFES **Ukraine**
- Q4-2017 - Voter Registration and Results Management - EU Expert **Cambodia** (Konrad Adenauer Foundation/UNOPS/European Union)
- Q3-2017 - Developed and delivered BVR workshop content for civil society and citizen observer organisations, **Zimbabwe** for DAI Europe
- Q3-2017 - Developed electoral database (Observer Roster) for **SADC Electoral Support Unit** Gaborone, Botswana on behalf of UN/DPA/EAD
- Q2-2017 - electoral results management consultancy for UNDP **Sierra Leone**
- Q1-2017 - United Nations Electoral Needs Assessment Mission to **Somalia**
- February 2017 - Senior VR and Technology Advisor, UNDP **Afghanistan**
- Q4-2016 - Developed electoral information system for **CARICOM** Foreign and Community Relations division on behalf of UN/DPA Electoral Assistance Division (Guyana).
- Q3-2016 - lead author of Democracy Reporting International **Pakistan** briefing paper on Voter Registration

- 2016 - Senior Elections and Technology Advisor, UNDP **Afghanistan**. A brief mission to assess and discuss elections and technology policy issues with electoral stakeholders including the government, the IEC and civil society.
- 2016 - ICT and Voter Registration Advisor with IFES **Nigeria** assessing INEC's information systems and capacity and providing expert advice and support.
- 2016 - Prepare and deliver workshops to civil society groups on voter registration processes including biometric technologies for IFES **Zimbabwe**.
- 2016 - invited to present on biometrics, electronic voter identification and electronic voting to a Election Technology Seminar for members of parliamentary committee on electoral reforms in **Pakistan** (UNDP Pakistan, co-hosted with Election Commission of Pakistan)
- 2015, **Cambodia**, EU Expert on voter registration in support of National Elections Commission. (Contracted by Altair/CEU for European Union)
- 2015, UNDP **Solomon Islands**, conduct data-driven evaluation of BVR database, make recommendations for field survey and future options for VR update
- 2015, IFES Kenya, research and recommendations to IEBC on sustainable electoral technology options, Nairobi, **Kenya**
- 2015 - **European Union** (EEAS, contracted via DAI Europe) co-author of study on Voter Registration and Biometrics designed to increase capacity of EU EOM/EEM with respect to observation of voter registration. **Brussels**, Belgium and home.
- 2015 - invited by **OSCE/ODIHR** to participate in conference on Population Registration, Data Protection and the Right to Private Life, Bishkek, **Kyrgyzstan**
- IFES Indonesia - research and briefing paper advice on results management systems and electronic voting machines. Jakarta, **Indonesia**
- 2014 - attended **eVoting 2014** conference, Bregenz, Austria, taking German language course, Bern, Switzerland
- 2014 - **Fiji** Elections Office - advisor on RMS for DRI.
- 2014 - member of UNDP electoral project formulation mission to **Kyrgyzstan**
- 2013 - 2014 **UNDP Yemen** -Voter Registration Specialist advising STEP Project and the Supreme Commission on Elections and Referenda, Yemen, year-long LTA including missions to Denmark, Yemen, France.
- 2014 - Facilitated workshop on Citizen Observation of Biometric Voter Registration, **NDI**, Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire
- 2014 - contributing technical content to an **EU/UNDP JTF** publication on Results Management Systems
- 2014 - Developed and delivered training modules on biometric voter registration for EU-EOM Core Team Electoral Analysts for **EODS**, Brussels, Belgium
- 2014 - UN EAD - member of Needs Assessment Mission team to **Kyrgyzstan**
- 2013 Mission to Dhaka to review preparations for polling-station results management system on behalf of UNDP **Bangladesh** Country Office
- 2013 IFES project preparing training curricula and course content for the Elections Commission of **India**.
- 2012 - 2013 - IFES **Kenya** - ICT consultant, counterparting the Director of ICT of the Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission of Kenya. Follow up visit to Kenya in July 2013.
- 2013 - International IDEA/**ACE Project** - update to ACE Project Vote Counting topic, now titled Results Management Systems
- 2012 - contracted by UNDP **Kenya** to provide technical assistance to BVR, EVID, RMS and other electoral technology procurement and implementation processes. Nairobi, Kenya (approximately 6 months in Kenya over 1 year)
- 2011 - 2012 - member of **UNDP** team conducting thematic evaluation of the contribution of UNDP to electoral systems and processes.
- 2011- 2012 - curriculum development and training delivery for **NEEDS** project on new EU Election Observation Mission core team Electoral Data Analyst role, Brussels, Belgium

- 2011 – 2012 Contracted by **EC/UNDP Joint Task Force** as Elections ICT Expert to develop content for eLearning course on technology in elections, and facilitate Thematic Workshop in March 2012, prepare workshop proceedings for publication. Brussels, Belgium; Mombasa, Kenya
- 2011 – Contracted by IFES to guide evaluation of voter registration and related databases in **Moldova**.
- 2011 – Missions to **Sierra Leone** for UNDP. Advising on voter registration processes and biometric voter registration kit hardware, software, back end AFIS and related systems procurement.
- 2010 – Local Election Framework Assessment of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province, **Pakistan** for Democracy Reporting International
- 2010 – EU Election Expert Mission to **Zambia** – three month mission to Zambia to observe voter registration.
- 2010 – Democracy Reporting International, preparing Local Election Framework Assessments as part of an EU project in **Pakistan**.
- 2010 – four-week project formulation mission at UNDP **Bangladesh**.
- 2010 – two week voter registration assessment in **Moldova** for IFES. Prepared report entitled “Functional Review of Voter Registration Process in Moldova”, available from IFES Moldova.
- 2009 - three week assessment mission to Phnom Penh on voter registration options in **Cambodia** for UNDP
- 2009 - OSCE/ODIHR Election Support Team - Voter Registration Specialist - Presidential elections in **Afghanistan**

2006 – 2009 – IFES Pakistan

Senior Voter Registration Advisor on the IFES Pakistan project. Provided technical inputs to IFES electoral projects in Puerto Rico, Afghanistan, Iraq and Egypt.

2000 – 2006 McDermott Information Systems

Established McDermott Information Systems (mcdis) in 2000. From March 2004, the emphasis was on IT in elections administration. Clients / projects include:

- **UN** (MINUSTAH, UN Mission in Haiti www.minustah.org), Senior IT Advisor, Electoral Assistance Section, Port au Prince, **Haiti**, Dec 2005 – June 2006.
- **IFES** (www.ifesnigeria.org) Assessment of ICT capacity of INEC **Nigeria** (consultancy, funded by DFID, Oct/Nov 2005).
- **UNDP**, ICT Consultancy, APEC (Electoral Support) Project, Kinshasa, **Democratic Republic of Congo**, April/May 2005. Follow-up mission to Zetes (Belgium) for Software Validation, May 2005.
- **IFES** (www.ifes.org) IT Advisor to National Electoral Commission of **Liberia**, January/February 2005.
- **UN** (United Nations Mission to Liberia UNMIL), IT Advisor to the UNMIL Electoral Division, October/November 2004. Planning and establishment of IT unit in support of voter registration and elections, **Liberia** 2005.
- **IFES (UK) Ltd** IT Advisor to National Electoral Commission of **Sierra Leone**, Local Government Elections 2004 (March-June).
- **The International Foundation for Elections Systems** (www.ifes.org), IT Operations Manual for Guyana Elections Commission, Consultancy (USAID project), Q4 2003.
- **The Delegation of the European Commission** to Guyana & Suriname (contract IT support, [website](#) development, training)
- **The Guyana Elections Commission** (member Database Integrity Test Committee 2000/Technical Oversight Committee General Elections 2001)
- Developed websites for a variety of clients including the **British High Commission**, and **Delegation of the European Commission** in Guyana.

1997 to 2000 – Industrial Engineering Limited, Guyana. IT Systems Engineer
1995 to 1997 – Guyana Publications Limited, Georgetown, Guyana. General Manager.
1989 to 1995 – Ericsson United Kingdom. Technical Training Officer, Local Switching Systems Division
1987 to 1989 – NorthWest Associates, Sligo, Ireland (NWA) for FAS. Program Leader.

Other Information

Hobbies and pastimes include music, travel, literature, hiking, cookery, technology and current affairs. In August 2009 I trekked the Baltoro Glacier to Concordia (adjacent K2 Base Camp) and crossed Gondogoro La Pass – 5,940m – in Northern Pakistan. I live in Bern, Switzerland, where my wife works with the Swiss agency for development co-operation (SDC)

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| Professional and Character References - on request* |
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| *UN system recruiters please note that I am rostered at P4 and P5 on UN/DPA/EAD electoral roster. I am also on the UNDP Crisis Response Unit's roster. |
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