



## Citizen Empowerment Course

### Module 3 | Assessment Exercise



Read each statement carefully and mark the correct answer.

1. A **civil society organization (CSO)** or **non-governmental organization (NGO)** is any non-profit, voluntary citizens' group which is organized on a local, national or international level. **True/False**

**Answer: True**

**Explanation:** According to the UN website, the CSOs are task-oriented and driven by people with a common interest, perform a variety of services and humanitarian functions, bring citizens' concerns to Governments, monitor policies, and encourage political participation at the community level.

2. Civil society practitioners only develop programs for democratic civic education. **True/False**

**Answer: False**

**Explanation:** Civil society practitioners are: watch how state officials use their powers, raise awareness on abuse of power by the government, giving access to information and freedom of information laws and control corruption, expose corrupt, promote political participation (educate people about their rights and obligations, encourage people to vote and be informed on election campaigns, help develop citizens skills), develop the other values of democratic life: tolerance, moderation, compromise, and respect for opposing points of view, develop programs for democratic civic education, an arena for the expression of diverse interests (lobby for the needs and concerns of their members, as women, students, farmers, environmentalists, trade unionists, lawyers, doctors, and so on.), inform the public for important public issues, help to resolve conflicts.

3. Media constitutes the third pillar of democracy. **True/False**

**Answer: False**

**Explanation:** Media constitutes the fourth pillar of democracy.

4. Democracy is meaningless without an unfree, biased and inactive media. **True/False**

**Answer: False**

**Explanation:** Democracy is **meaningless without a free, neutral and active media.**

5. Over the previous ten years, media freedom has increased globally. **True/False**

**Answer: False**

**Explanation:** Over the previous ten years, media freedom has decreased globally. Populist politicians have overseen systematic efforts to suppress the independence of the media sector in some of the most powerful democracies in the world. That influence is a risk for democracies around the world. However, the press can claim their freedom even after long periods of oppression.



# EMERGE

EMpowERinG civic Engagement and participation