



## **ELECTION CODE OF UKRAINE<sup>1</sup>**

{ Amended in accordance with the Laws of Ukraine

No. 720-IX dated 17.06.2020,

No. 805-IX dated 16.07.2020 }

This Code, in accordance with the Constitution of Ukraine, defines guarantees for the right of citizens to participate in elections and regulates preparation for and conduct of the elections of the President of Ukraine; Members of the Verkhovna Rada (Parliament) of Ukraine; deputies [members] of the Verkhovna Rada (Parliament) of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea; deputies [members] of oblast, rayon, village, settlement, city, and city rayon councils; and village, settlement and city mayors.

### **BOOK ONE. GENERAL SECTION**

#### **Chapter I. CONCEPTS OF ELECTIONS**

##### **Article 1. Elections as a Form of Direct Democracy**

1. Elections in Ukraine are a main form of the expression of people's will, and a way of direct exercise of power by the Ukrainian people.

2. Elections are free and shall be held based on general, equal and direct suffrage exercised by secret voting.

##### **Article 2. Legislation About Elections**

1. Preparation for and conduct of elections shall be governed by the Constitution of Ukraine, this Code, the laws of Ukraine "On Central Election Commission", "On the State Voter Register", other Laws of Ukraine as well as legislative acts and acts of the Central Election Commission.

##### **Article 3. Types of Elections**

1. According to the Constitution of Ukraine, the following types of elections are held in Ukraine:

- 1) elections of the President of Ukraine;
- 2) elections of Members of Parliament of Ukraine;
- 3) local elections:
  - a) elections of deputies of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea;
  - b) elections of deputies of village, settlement or city councils;
  - c) elections of village, settlement or city mayors;
  - d) elections of deputies of rayon councils;
  - e) elections of deputies of oblast councils;
  - f) elections of deputies of city rayon councils  
(in cities where city rayon councils are formed);
  - g) repealed.

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<sup>1</sup> This unofficial translation of the election code was prepared by the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR) and the International Foundation for Electoral Systems (IFES) through the support of USAID, UK aid, and Global Affairs Canada. The translation includes amendments made on June 17 and July 16, 2020.

2. The election of the President of Ukraine and the election of Members of Parliament of Ukraine are national elections.

National and local elections may be ordinary or extraordinary.

Ordinary local elections shall be held simultaneously throughout the territory of Ukraine, except for restrictions provided by law.

Extraordinary local elections shall be held in case of early termination of powers of certain local self-government bodies and/or village, settlement and city mayors.

3. National elections may be held concurrently with a local referendum and extraordinary, repeat, by-, first or supplementary local elections.

4. Regular and extraordinary national elections shall not be held concurrently with all-Ukrainian referendum, other ordinary or extraordinary national elections, or ordinary local elections.

#### **Article 4.** Procedure for Calculation of Time Periods

1. Time periods specified in this Code are calculated in calendar days.

2. In some cases, provided for by this Code time periods are calculated in years and months, as well as in hours and minutes.

3. The first day of the time period calculated in days, which, according to this Code shall commence in connection with the occurrence of a certain event, shall be the first day following the day of occurrence of the said event.

4. The last day of the time period calculated in days, which, according to this Code shall end in connection with the occurrence of a certain event, shall be the day preceding the day of occurrence of the said event.

5. The last day of the time period calculated in years, which, according to this Code shall commence or end in connection with occurrence of a certain event, shall be the day of the event occurring in a certain month and on a certain day, in a set number of years after or before the event, respectively.

6. The last day of the time period calculated in months, which, according to this Code shall begin or end in connection with occurrence of a certain event, shall be the day of the event occurring on a certain day, in a set number of months after or before the event, respectively.

#### **Article 5.** Day of Voting

1. The day on which the election is held is the day of voting in this election (election day). The day of voting in the election (the day of repeat voting) shall be Sunday.

Extraordinary local elections, by-, first and supplementary elections shall be held twice in a year, on the last Sunday in March and the last Sunday in October.

If the last Sunday in March or the last Sunday in October, on which the extraordinary, by-, first or supplementary local elections are scheduled, falls on a public holiday or a religious holiday determined as a day-off in accordance with the labor law, such elections are postponed to take place the following Sunday.

In a year when ordinary local elections shall be held, all local elections take place once a year on the day of ordinary local elections – the last Sunday in October of the fifth year of the terms of office of local councils and of village, settlement or city mayors elected in the last ordinary local elections.

2. The day of voting in an election shall be determined in accordance with the Constitution of Ukraine and this Code. In the cases determined by the Constitution of Ukraine, this Code or the law, the day of voting in the election shall be determined by the subject of appointing the election.

3. For certain types of elections, this Code provides for a day of repeat voting.

## **Chapter II. MAIN PRINCIPLES OF ELECTORAL LAW**

### **Article 6. Electoral Rights of Citizens of Ukraine**

1. Electoral rights of citizens of Ukraine are their rights to participate in elections held in Ukraine, which are guaranteed by the Constitution of Ukraine and this Code.
2. The basic electoral rights of citizens of Ukraine include the following:
  - 1) the right to freely elect (the right to vote in an election);
  - 2) the right to be elected.
3. Citizens of Ukraine shall have other rights, in connection with their basic electoral rights, to participate in the election process.
4. The electoral rights of citizens of Ukraine shall be exercised in the scope and in the manner prescribed by the electoral legislation.

### **Article 7. Universal Suffrage**

1. Elections in Ukraine shall be based on universal suffrage. The right to vote may be exercised by citizens of Ukraine who are eighteen years of age on the day of voting.
2. A citizen who has been declared incapacitated by a court shall not have the right to vote.
3. Ukrainian citizens who have the right to vote shall be the voters.
4. A voter may exercise his or her right to vote in the election, provided he or she is included in the voter list for the respective election precinct in accordance with this Code.
5. The right to vote in the election of deputies of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea may be exercised by voters whose electoral address is assigned to the territory of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea.

The right to vote in the election of deputies of village, settlement or city council and village, settlement or city mayor may be exercised by voters whose electoral address is assigned to the respective territorial community.

The right to vote in the elections of deputies of village, settlement or city council of a territorial community and village, settlement or city mayor may be exercised by voters whose electoral address is assigned to the respective territorial community.

The right to vote in the elections of deputies of a rayon council may be exercised by voters whose electoral address is assigned to one of the territorial communities of the respective rayon.

The right to vote in the election of deputies of an oblast council may be exercised by voters whose electoral address is assigned to the territory of the territorial communities of the respective oblast.

The right to vote in the election of deputies of a city rayon council (in cities with rayon division, in which city rayon councils are formed) may be exercised by voters whose electoral address is assigned to the territory of the respective city rayon. The right to vote in supplementary election of deputies of village, settlement council may be exercised by voters whose electoral address is assigned to the territorial community that joined another amalgamated territorial community in the manner prescribed by the Law of Ukraine “On Voluntary Amalgamation of Territorial Communities”.

6. A citizen’s affiliation with the respective territorial community and his or her residence in the respective territory shall be determined according to his or her electoral address (except for cases provided for by the Law).

7. Military servicemen, citizens of Ukraine who reside abroad, as well as persons declared legally incapacitated by a court, and citizens of Ukraine who are detained in penitentiary institutions by a court sentence shall be deemed such that do not belong to any territorial community and do not have the right to vote in local elections.

8. Any direct or indirect privileges or restrictions on the electoral rights of citizens of Ukraine on the ground of race, color of skin, political, religious or other beliefs, sex, ethnic and social origin, material status, place of residence, disability and health, language or other grounds shall be prohibited. Restrictions on participation of citizens of Ukraine in the election process, except those cases provided for by the Constitution of Ukraine and this Code, shall not be allowed.

9. In order to exercise their voting rights, voters with health problems (due to disability, temporary health disorder, age) have the right to be provided with reasonable accommodation in accordance with individual needs to ensure their unimpeded participation in the election process in the manner prescribed by this Code.

#### **Article 8. Identity and Citizenship Documents**

1. The documents to identify a voter and his or her Ukrainian citizenship shall be:

- 1) a passport of a citizen of Ukraine (in the form of a passport book or a card);
- 2) a temporary certificate of a citizen of Ukraine (for persons who were recently granted a citizenship of Ukraine);
- 3) a card (certificate) of a penitentiary institution or pre-trial detention center that must contain: last name, first name, patronymic name, date of birth, citizenship, photograph, the director's signature and the institution's seal (for persons who are detained in penitentiary institutions);
- 4) a passport of a citizen of Ukraine for travelling abroad;
- 5) a diplomatic passport;
- 6) a service passport;
- 7) a military service record card (for military conscripts).

2. Documents specified in clauses 1, 2 and 7 of Part one of this Article shall be the basis for obtaining a ballot paper in both regular and special election precincts during the voting in national elections.

3. The document mentioned in clause 3 of Part one of this Article shall be the basis for obtaining a ballot paper and can be used in a special election precinct established in the respective penitentiary institution or pre-trial detention center during the voting in national elections.

4. The documents specified in clauses 4-6 of Part one of this Article shall be the basis for obtaining a ballot paper and can be used in out-of-country election precincts and special election precincts established on ships sailing under the National Flags of Ukraine, as well as at Ukraine's polar station during the voting in national elections.

5. A passport of a citizen of Ukraine may serve as the basis for obtaining a ballot paper in out-of-country election precincts created in countries that citizens of Ukraine may visit on the basis of their passports.

6. The documents referred to in paragraphs 1 and 2 of Part 1 of this Article are the basis for obtaining a ballot paper and may be used at regular and special election precincts during voting in local elections.

#### **Article 9. Voters' Rights to Participate in the Election Process in Connection with Their Right to Vote**

1. Voters shall have the right to:

- 1) participate as members of election commissions which organize the preparation for and conduct of the respective election;
- 2) receive and disseminate the information related to the preparation for and conduct of the respective election;

- 3) participate in election campaigning in the respective election;
- 4) observe the conduct of the respective election;
- 5) appeal against violations of their own electoral rights, other of their own personal rights and legitimate interests related to participation in the election process.

2. The rights specified in Part one of this Article shall be exercised by voters in the scope and in the manner prescribed by the electoral legislation.

3. When voters submit documents to the Central Election Commission, district or territorial election commissions to exercise the right to participate in the election process, the respective persons consent to the processing of their personal data to the extent provided by electoral legislation.

#### **Article 10. Right to Be Elected**

1. Requirement to candidates shall be established by the Constitution of Ukraine and this Code.

2. In order to verify the grounds for making a decision on registration or on refusal of registration of a candidate in the respective election, the Central Election Commission, the territorial election commission in the local election shall be entitled to inquire and to receive on a free of charge basis the information necessary for such verification from the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Ukraine, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine, the State Border Guard Service of Ukraine, the State Judicial Administration of Ukraine, the National Agency for Corruption Prevention, and if necessary – from other government agencies.

Institutions to which such an inquiry is addressed shall be obliged to immediately, but no later than within two days from the date of receipt of such an inquiry, provide the election commission with the respective information about a person nominated as a candidate, as follows: his or her departure outside of Ukraine for permanent residence; termination of his or her citizenship of Ukraine; information on existence or absence of criminal records pertaining to him or her; his or her departure from Ukraine and entry to Ukraine during the time period established by this Code prior to the day of voting; information on existence of a court decision declaring him or her incapacitated.

3. Failure to respond to the inquiry shall not serve the ground to suspend or to extend the time limits established by this Code for the Central Election Commission, the territorial election commission to make a decision on registration or on refusal of registration of a candidate in the respective election. Receipt of a response to the inquiry of the Central Election Commission, the territorial election commission, which confirms the existence of circumstances that deprive a person nominated as a candidate in the respective election of the right to be elected, in the time period after making a decision by the respective election commission on registration of such a candidate shall serve the ground to make a decision on cancellation of registration of the respective candidate.

#### **Article 11. Right to Nominate Candidates in Elections**

1. Citizens of Ukraine who are voters shall have the right to nominate candidates in elections that may be exercised by them through political parties (hereinafter – parties) and their local organizations or by self-nomination in the manner prescribed by this Code.

#### **Article 12. Equal Suffrage**

1. Elections shall be based on equal suffrage. Ukrainian citizens shall participate in the elections on an equal basis.

2. Each voter shall have one vote in each election, in which he or she is entitled to participate.

A voter may exercise his or her right to vote only at one election precinct where he or she is included in the voter list. In an event that different elections are held simultaneously a voter may exercise his or her right to vote only at one election precinct, common for all elections which take place simultaneously.

A voter shall exercise his or her right to vote in an election according to the procedure established by this Code.

3. All candidates registered in accordance with the procedure established by this Code shall have equal rights to participate in the election process in the election in which they are nominated, and shall participate in this process on equal terms for the respective election.

4. All parties (party organizations) that acquired a status of electoral subjects according to this Code shall have equal rights and opportunities to participate in the election process of the respective national (respective local) election in accordance with the procedure and within the limits prescribed by this Code.

5. In terms of participation in the election process of the respective election, the equality of rights and opportunities for both candidates and parties (party organizations) that are electoral subjects shall be ensured through:

- 1) prohibition of candidates' privileges or restrictions based on subject of nomination, race, color of skin, political, religious and other beliefs, sex, ethnic and social origin, material status, place of residence, disability and health, language or other grounds;
- 2) prohibition of interference of state executive bodies, state bodies of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and local self-government bodies, their officials with the election process, except the cases specified by this Code;
- 3) equal and unbiased treatment of candidates and parties (party organizations) that are electoral subjects by the state bodies, bodies of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, local self-government bodies, state and municipal enterprises, establishments, institutions or organizations, as well as their officials;
- 4) prohibition on the use of resources other than those of the electoral fund of the party (candidate, party organization) for election campaign funding;
- 5) equal and unbiased treatment of candidates and parties (party organizations) that are electoral subjects by mass media.

6. The mass media, information agencies shall report on the election process and events related to the elections ensuring balanced, reliable, complete, accurate and objective information being disseminated, and information accessibility; with due observance of the provisions of the Laws on information and mass media, as well as journalism ethics and standards.

#### **Article 13. Direct Suffrage**

1. Elections which are regulated by this Code shall be direct. Voters elect the President of Ukraine, Members of Parliament of Ukraine, deputies of the Verkhovna Rada of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, deputies of the local councils, and village, settlement or city mayors by voting for candidates (electoral lists of candidates) registered in accordance with the procedure established by this Code. Results of elections shall be determined directly by results of voting by voters.

#### **Article 14. Free Elections**

1. Elections in Ukraine shall be free. Citizens of Ukraine shall be provided with conditions for free formation of their will and its free expression when voting.

2. Citizens of Ukraine shall have the right to freely campaign for or against candidates and parties (party organizations) that are electoral subjects in the respective election process; to freely and comprehensively discuss the election programs of candidates and parties (party organizations), as well as political, business and personal qualities of candidates. Candidates and parties (party organizations) that are electoral subjects in the respective election process shall have the right to freely campaign with due observance of provisions of this Code.

3. Violence, threats, fraud, bribery or any other actions interfering with the free formation and expression of a voter's will shall be prohibited.

4. Military servicemen (except for servicemen of military units (formations) stationed outside Ukraine and in other cases provided for by this Code) shall vote at regular election precincts located outside military units (formations).

5. In order to ensure conditions for free expression of a voter's will, on the day of voting military conscripts shall be granted a leave, the duration of which shall be no less than four hours, so that they can take part in the voting within the time period for voting specified by this Code.

#### **Article 15. Voluntary Participation in Elections**

1. 1. Participation of citizens of Ukraine in the election shall be voluntary. No one may be compelled to participate or not to participate in the election, as well as in the nomination of candidates, in election campaigning, in other election activities or in the implementation of other election procedures prescribed by this Code.

#### **Article 16. Secret Voting**

1. Voting in elections in Ukraine shall be secret. Any form of control over the content of the expression of a voter's will, establishing or disclosing the content of a voter's will with regard to a particular voter shall be prohibited.

2. It shall be prohibited for members of election commissions, official observers, representatives of mass media, and other persons to perform any action or to disclose the information that makes it possible to establish the content of expression of a voter's will with regard to a particular voter.

#### **Article 17. Personal Voting**

1. Each voter shall vote in person. Voting on behalf of other persons or transfer of the right to vote by a voter to any other person shall be prohibited.

2. Assistance to a voter who, due to disability and/or health condition, is unable to fill out the ballot paper or deposit it into the ballot box independently, while performing the above actions to express his or her will, in the cases specified by this Code shall not be deemed a violation of the provision on personal voting.

#### **Article 18. Use of innovative technologies in the election process**

1. The Central Election Commission may take a decision to introduce innovative technologies, hardware and software during the organization and conduct of elections in the form of an experiment or pilot project in relation to:

- 1) voting at the election precinct with the help of hardware and software technologies (machine voting);
- 2) counting of votes with the help of technical means for electronic counting of votes;
- 3) drawing up protocols on the counting of votes, results of voting using the information-analytical system.

2. Experiments or pilot projects referred to in Part one of this Article shall be conducted at the separate election precincts designated by the Central Election Commission at the same time as the elections at these election precincts are being held, in compliance with all requirements and procedures for the respective elections and voting in the manner prescribed by this Code.

3. The results of experiments or pilot projects provided for in Part one of this Article shall be used to make proposals for improving the legislation on the introduction of innovative technologies, hardware and software during the organization and conduct of elections.

4. The results of experiments or pilot projects provided for in Part one of this Article, as well as any information obtained during their conduct, may not be used to establish the results of voting or election results, to appeal the decisions, actions or inaction of the subjects of electoral process.

5. In case of a decision provided for in Part one of this article, the Central Election Commission shall ensure, without narrowing the scope, the exercise and protection of voting rights of Ukrainian citizens who vote at election precincts where experiments or pilot projects provided for in Part one of this Article are conducted.

6. The conduct of experiments or pilot projects provided for in Part one of this Article shall not give voters the false impression that the respective election procedures provided for in this Code shall be replaced by the procedures of the respective experiment or pilot project.

7. The Central Election Commission is obliged to inform voters who vote at election precincts where experiments or pilot projects provided for in part one of this article are conducted, that voters' participation in an experiment or pilot project does not create legal consequences for establishing voting results or election outcomes, does not create legal grounds and cannot be used to appeal against decisions, actions or inaction of the subjects of the election process.

8. The Central Election Commission, district and territorial election commissions (upon the decision of the Central Election Commission if technically possible) shall ensure interaction with parties (party organizations), candidates regarding the application of innovative technologies provided for in this Code by electronic services in accordance with this Code. The procedure for using electronic services is established by this Code.

9. In case of submission of documents provided by this Code to election commissions through electronic services, such documents must meet the requirements of the Laws of Ukraine "On electronic documents and electronic document management" and "On electronic trust services".

10. The documents provided for in this Code may be submitted to the election commission in the electronic form, in accordance with the peculiarities provided for in this Code. In this case, the documents must meet the requirements of the Laws of Ukraine "On electronic documents and electronic document management" and "On electronic trust services". The person who certifies the document with his or her qualified electronic signature shall be responsible for the authenticity of the copies of documents submitted to election commissions in electronic form.

#### **Article 19. Fair Elections. Liability for Violations of Legislation on Elections**

1. Electoral rights of citizens of Ukraine shall be protected by law. Citizens shall have the right to protection of their electoral rights and other rights to participate in the election process by way of appealing against violations to the respective election commissions or in court. Guilty persons shall be liable for violations of the electoral rights of citizens in accordance with the procedure established by the Law.

2. It shall be guaranteed that proper conditions are ensured for citizens to exercise their electoral rights; observance of basic principles of suffrage; proper implementation of electoral procedures and mechanisms provided for in this Code, as well as establishing the election results in an accurate and reliable way shall be ensured.

3. Persons guilty of violating the legislation on elections or the electoral rights of voters, candidates and parties (party organizations) that are electoral subjects shall be brought to criminal, administrative or other liability in the manner prescribed by the Law.

### **Chapter III. THE ELECTION PROCESS**

#### **Article 20. The Election Process**

1. The election process shall mean the implementation by the subjects listed in Article 22 of this Code during the time period established by this Code of the election procedures related to the preparation for and conduct of the respective election, and the establishing and official announcement (official promulgation) of the election results.



The election process is continuous and cannot be canceled, suspended or postponed.

In the event of martial law or state of emergency being imposed in Ukraine or in its separate territories, the election process of national elections and/or local elections held in these territories or their parts shall be terminated from the date of entry into force of the respective decree of the President of Ukraine.

After the entry into force of the decree of the President of Ukraine, the Central Election Commission shall make a decision to terminate the election process throughout Ukraine or in its separate territories and determine the rules for completing election procedures initiated in the framework of the election process.

After the cessation or abolition of martial law or a state of emergency, the electoral process, which has been suspended in this connection, shall begin again.

The decision on calling elections, the electoral process of which was suspended or did not begin due to the imposition of martial law or state of emergency, shall be adopted by the subject of their appointment not later than one month from the date of termination or abolition of martial law or state of emergency, and if the law does not require a separate decision on the appointment for holding the elections, the Central Election Commission shall announce the start of the election process no later than one month from the date of termination or abolition of martial law or state of emergency.

#### **Article 21.** Basic Principles of the Election Process

1. The election process of each election provided for by this Code shall be based on principles of:

- 1) guarantee of exercise of citizens' electoral rights, as stipulated by the Constitution of Ukraine and this Code;
- 2) compliance with the principles of suffrage laid down in the Constitution of Ukraine and this Code;
- 3) legality and prohibition of unlawful interference of anyone in the election process;
- 4) political pluralism and multi-party system;
- 5) public nature and transparency of the election process, all its procedures, with due observance of restrictions established by the Law, and the requirement to duly inform voters and other electoral subjects;
- 6) freedom of election campaigning, equal access of all candidates and the subjects of their nomination in the respective election to mass media, regardless of their form of ownership, except mass media established (owned) by parties (party organizations).

2. Impartial treatment of candidates and parties by the state executive bodies, bodies of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, local self-government bodies, enterprises, establishments, institutions and organizations, as well as their heads and other officials.

3. The requirements of Article 9 of the Law of Ukraine "On Personal Data Protection" regarding the notification of the Verkhovna Rada Commissioner for Human Rights on the processing of personal data do not apply to legal relations arising during the election process, namely, the processing of personal data by election commissions, legal entities and individuals in connection with the preparation, submission and processing of documents provided for in this Code.

#### **Article 22.** Electoral Subjects

1. Electoral subjects in the respective election shall be:

- 1) a voter who has the right to vote in the respective election;
- 2) an election commission authorized to prepare for and conduct the respective election;
- 3) a party (party organization) which nominated candidates in the respective election;

- 4) a candidate registered to participate in the respective election in accordance with the procedure established by this Code;
- 5) an official observer from a candidate or a party (party organization) that are electoral subjects, or from a nongovernmental organization, registered in accordance with the procedure established by this Code.

2. A candidate whose registration has been canceled on the grounds and in accordance with the procedure established by this Code, shall lose the status of a candidate in the respective election from the day following the expiry of the term for appealing against such a decision, or, in case of appeal, from the day following the day of entry into force of the respective court decision.

3. A party (party organization), which has been denied the registration of all candidates which it has nominated, or the registration of all candidates from which has been cancelled on the grounds and in accordance with the procedure established by this Code, shall lose the status of an electoral subject from the day following the day on which the term to appeal against such a decision expires or, in case of an appeal, from the day following the day of entry into force of the respective court decision.

4. Precinct election commissions shall be deemed electoral subjects of all election processes, in the preparation and conduct of which they participate at the same time.

### **Article 23.** Publicity and Transparency of the Election Process

1. The elections provided for by this Code shall be conducted in a public and transparent manner.

2. The election commissions that prepare for and conduct the respective election shall ensure the public nature and transparency of the election process by:

- 1) informing citizens of the composition, location and working schedule of election commissions; the establishment of the election districts and election precincts; and the main rights of voters, including the right to challenge illegal decisions, actions or inaction of election commissions and their members, and state executive bodies, bodies of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, local self-government bodies, enterprises, establishments, institutions and organizations, and their heads and other officials who violate or restrict electoral rights;
- 2) ensuring that voters, other electoral subjects of the respective electoral process have the opportunity to familiarize themselves with the voter lists, election programs of parties (local party organizations), candidates, electoral lists of parties (party organizations), and information on candidates;
- 3) providing voters with explanation of voting procedures, including the procedure of filling out ballot papers;
- 4) making public the results of the voting and the results of the respective election;
- 5) providing other information in the cases and in accordance with the procedure stipulated by this Code.

3. Decisions of state executive bodies, bodies of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and local self-government bodies relating to elections shall be made public by the aforementioned bodies in accordance with the procedure established by the Law.

4. All decisions of the Central Commission shall be immediately published on its official website with the ability to view, copy and print the information, as well as in the form of a data set organized in a way to allow its automated processing by electronic means (machine reading) for the purpose of reuse.

District election commissions in national elections shall submit all their decisions to the Central Election Commission in electronic form no later than on the day following the day of their adoption.

These decisions of district election commissions shall be published on the official website of the Central Election Commission after their receipt with the possibility to view and print the information.

Territorial election commissions publish their decisions on their official websites (if available), the websites of the respective local councils (if available) or in another manner specified by this Code.

District and territorial election commissions shall submit all their decisions for publication on the official websites of the respective regional or territorial offices of the Central Election Commission no later than on the day following the day of their adoption. These decisions of district and territorial election commissions shall be published on the official websites of the respective regional or territorial offices of the Central Election Commission.

5. When holding national elections, foreign diplomatic institutions of Ukraine, at which out-of-country election precincts are established, shall ensure the publication on their official websites or in another manner of the information about the time and place of voting, about the location of respective election commissions and voting premises, as well as the procedure and deadlines for applying to precinct election commissions, in particular, with regard to a voter's inclusion in the voter list for an out-of-country election precinct, the voting procedure and the procedure for filling out the ballot paper.

6. The National Agency for the Corruption Prevention shall ensure the publication of financial reports on the receipt and use of election funds submitted by the managers of the respective election funds in the public part of the Unified State Register of Political Parties Reporting on Property, Income, Expenditures and Liabilities of a Financial Nature.

7. The National Agency for the Corruption Prevention monitors the timely submission of reports on the receipt and use of resources of electoral funds in national and local elections, the completeness and accuracy of the information provided in the reports.

8. The day before the day of voting, bodies of the National Police of Ukraine shall on their official websites publish preliminary information on the number of registered complaints about violations of the electoral legislation during the respective election process and clarification of responsibility for violations of the electoral legislation. Within ten days after the day of voting, the National Police of Ukraine shall publish on the official website summary information on the number of initiated criminal proceedings and the number of complaints registered by the bodies of the National Police of Ukraine related to violations of electoral legislation during the respective election process.

#### **Article 24. Organization of Activities of State Executive Bodies during the Election Process**

1. State executive bodies, including the specially authorized central executive body implementing the state policy in the area of treasury management of the budget funds, state budget accounting, and the central executive body, which implements the state policy in the field of state registration of legal entities, public associations (not having a status of the legal entity) and individual entrepreneurs, as well as courts, election commissions, the State Voter Register maintenance bodies, law enforcement authorities of Ukraine (prosecutor's office, the National Police of Ukraine, the Security Service of Ukraine) shall organize their work during the election process, including on the weekends and on the day of voting, so as to ensure the safeguarding of election commission premises, and the safeguarding of ballot papers and other election documents, as well as to ensure the receipt and consideration of documents related to the preparation for and conduct of elections, law suits, complaints and appeals on behalf of election commissions, timely transfers of payments, and carry out of respective registration actions within the time period and in the manner prescribed by this Code.

### **Chapter IV. TERRITORIAL ORGANIZATION OF ELECTIONS**

#### **Article 25. System of Territorial Organization of Elections**

1. The system of territorial organization of the nationwide election consists of the following:
  - 1) a single nationwide election district;

- 2) territorial election districts;
  - 3) election precincts.
2. The system of territorial organization of local elections shall be established by this Code.
  3. The system of territorial organization of each type of elections shall be determined by this Code.

**Article 26. Single Nationwide Election District**

1. A single nationwide election district (hereinafter referred to as the nationwide election district) shall include the entire territory of Ukraine and the out-of-country election district (hereinafter, the out-of-country election district).

2. The nationwide election district shall be used for preparation, administration and conduct of the national elections.

3. The out-of-country election district shall include all out-of-country election precincts established in accordance with this Code.

No decision is required to establish the out-of-country election district.

**Article 27. Territorial Election Districts**

1. The Central Election Commission shall create territorial election districts (hereinafter, territorial districts) that shall exist on a permanent basis for preparation, administration and conduct of national elections.

The procedure for the creation of such territorial districts, changes of their boundaries and centers shall be established by the Central Election Commission.

2. Territorial districts shall be created within the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, the oblasts, and the cities of Kyiv and Sevastopol.

3. The boundaries of territorial districts shall be defined with due consideration of the boundaries of administrative-territorial units.

It shall not be allowed to create a territorial district from territories that are not contiguous to each other.

4. A territorial district shall be defined by the territory, within which the election precincts that are part of it are located.

5. A center of the territorial district is the administrative-territorial unit at the location of the district election commission.

In exceptional cases, in order to ensure the proper organization of the work of the district election commission, its location may be changed by the Central Election Commission and may be established outside the boundaries of the respective territorial district.

6. When forming a territorial district, a decision with regard to its center shall be made.

7. The boundaries and center of a territorial district shall be changed by the Central Election Commission.

**Article 28. Election Precincts**

1. Preparation for and conduct of voting and vote counting shall take place at election precincts, which shall be created by the Central Election Commission or a district election commission in accordance with this Code and shall exist on a permanent basis.

2. Election precincts that exist on a permanent basis shall be created and liquidated by the Central Election Commission in accordance with the procedure established by it.

3. An election precinct may be regular, special, or out-of-country.

4. Election precincts shall be established with the number of voters ranging from twenty to two thousand five hundred.

Election precincts shall be divided into:

- 1) Small – with the number of voters below 500 persons;
- 2) medium-sized – with the number of voters from 500 to 1,500 persons;
- 3) large – with the number of voters exceeding 1,500 persons.

5. If the number of voters in a particular territory, establishment, or institution is less than twenty, an election precinct may be established by a decision of the Central Election Commission in the respective territory, establishment, or institution with a number of voters falling short of the limit established by paragraph one of Part four of this Article. Out-of-country election precincts and, in exceptional cases, regular election precincts, may be established with more than two thousand five hundred voters.

6. Regular and out-of-country election precincts shall exist on a permanent basis. A special election precinct may exist on a permanent or temporary basis, as provided for by this Code.

7. Each election precinct shall have its own number, address of the premises for voting, and location (address of office) of the precinct election commission. The premises for voting and the office of a precinct election commission may have the same address.

Requirements for the premises of the precinct election commission and the premises for voting shall be established by the Central Election Commission taking into account the requirements of this Code.

8. Amendments to the list of election precincts existing on a permanent basis, description of their boundaries, change of location address, temporary closure, liquidation, as well as other changes to information on election precincts shall be made by the Central Election Commission in accordance with the procedure established by it.

#### **Article 29. Regular Election Precincts**

1. Regular election precincts shall be established to provide for the administration and conduct of voting by voters residing in that area.

2. A regular election precinct shall have its own territory with defined boundaries and its own number, which shall be determined by the Central Election Commission.

3. Regular election precincts shall be used for preparation, administration and conduct of voting in national and local elections.

#### **Article 30. Special Election Precincts**

1. Special election precincts shall be established in inpatient care establishments, penitentiary institutions, pretrial detention centers, on ships which on the day of voting are sailing under the National Flag of Ukraine, at Ukraine's polar stations, and in other places where the voters with restricted mobility temporarily stay.

The establishment of one election precinct for two or more establishments or institutions shall not be allowed.

The Central Election Commission can establish, on a permanent basis, special election precincts in inpatient care establishments, at Ukraine's polar stations, in penitentiary institutions, pretrial detention centers.

2. Special election precincts shall be created so as to provide voters with the possibility to vote without violating the internal regime of the establishment (institution) in which they are located.

In order to ensure that voting does not conflict with the internal regime at the respective establishment (institution), more than one special election precinct may be established within an establishment (institution).

3. A special election precinct shall be determined by the institution, establishment, ship, Ukraine's polar station, a military unit (command) at which it has been formed. A special election precinct shall have its own number and the address (location) of the institution, establishment, Ukraine's polar station, the dislocation of the military unit (command) which shall be determined by the Central Election Commission or by a district election commission, or it shall be characterized by the ship's name and port of registration.

4. Special election precincts existing on a temporary basis shall be established in national elections by the district election commissions no later than thirty days prior to the day of voting in a presidential election, and no later than nineteen days prior to the day of voting in parliamentary elections on the basis of a submission, of a form approved by the Central Election Commission, from the rayon or city rayon state administrations or the executive committees of the city councils in cities of oblast (or, in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, republican) subordination. The aforementioned submissions shall be presented to the respective district election commission no later than thirty-five days prior to the day of voting in a presidential election, and no later than twenty-four days prior to the day of voting in parliamentary elections.

5. In the exceptional case of the establishment of a new inpatient care establishment, penitentiary institution, pretrial detention center or another establishment (institution) where voters with restricted mobility temporarily stay, in case of the unforeseen departure of a ship sailing under the National Flag of Ukraine, as well as in the territory of a military unit (command) a special election precinct may be established by the Central Election Commission no later than ten days prior to the day of voting upon a submission of the respective district election commission or the Ministry of Defense.

6. Special election precincts existing on a permanent basis in inpatient care establishments shall be used for preparation and conduct of voting and vote counting in the local elections.

#### **Article 31. Out-of-country Election Precincts**

1. An out-of-country election precinct shall be established with the purpose of the preparation for and the conduct of voting for voters who are residing or, on the day of voting in the election, are staying in the respective territory of a foreign state.

2. Out-of-country election precincts shall be established by the Central Election Commission at diplomatic institutions of Ukraine abroad and at military units (commands) deployed outside Ukraine.

3. An out-of-country election precinct shall have its premises for voting located in a diplomatic institution of Ukraine or at the location of a military unit (command) outside Ukraine.

4. An out-of-country election precinct shall have its own number and address of the premises for voting, and address of the office of the precinct election commission of the out-of-country election precinct.

5. Out-of-country election precincts shall be used for the preparation for and conduct of voting and vote counting in national election.

### **Chapter V. ELECTION COMMISSIONS**

#### **Article 32. Election Commissions**

1. In Ukraine, election commissions shall be created, as provided for by this Code, and shall operate as independent bodies responsible for the administration of election processes, in order to ensure, within the scope of their powers, the realization of the basic principles of suffrage, the principles of the election process, the exercise of electoral rights of citizens of Ukraine, as provided for by the Constitution of Ukraine and this Code, and preparation for and conduct of elections.

2. Election commissions shall include the following:

- 1) the Central Election Commission;

- 2) district election commissions;
- 3) territorial election commissions;
- 4) precinct election commissions.

3. Election commissions operate on the grounds, within the scope of powers and in the manner established by the Constitution of Ukraine, this Code and other Laws of Ukraine.

4. No one shall have the right to interfere with activities of election commissions, in particular in managing issues within the scope of their powers, except in the cases provided for by the Law.

5. A system of election commissions for each type of elections shall be determined by this Code.

6. Should national elections be held in the respective territory concurrently with local elections, the precinct election commissions for local elections shall not be formed within this territory, and their powers shall be exercised by the respective precinct election commissions established for the national elections.

### **Article 33. Status of Election Commissions**

1. Election commissions shall be deemed special collective bodies responsible for the preparation and conduct of elections and ensuring the exercise of the electoral rights of citizens of Ukraine, and for the observance and uniform application of the electoral legislation.

2. The status of the Central Election Commission shall be determined by the Constitution of Ukraine, this Code, the Law of Ukraine “On the Central Election Commission”, and other Laws of Ukraine.

The Central Election Commission shall lead the system of election commissions that ensure preparation and conduct of national elections, and shall be the higher-level commission for all district and precinct election commissions and all election commissions for all local elections. The Central Election Commission shall exercise the powers of the district election commission in the out-of-country election district in the national election.

3. District election commissions shall, within the scope of their powers provided for by this Code, ensure preparation for and conduct of national elections within the respective territorial districts in national elections.

District election commissions shall be the higher-level commissions for all precinct election commissions within the respective territorial districts in national elections.

4. Territorial election commissions shall ensure preparation for and conduct of local elections within the scope of their powers provided for by this Code.

Territorial election commissions shall be the higher-level commissions for all precinct election commissions in the respective local elections.

5. Precinct election commissions shall, within the scope of their powers provided for by this Code, ensure preparation for and conduct of the national and local elections within the respective election precincts.

6. A district election commission or a territorial election commission shall be a legal entity, except for cases provided for in paragraph two of this Part.

District election commissions shall be formed without registration as legal entity in the event that territorial representations of the Central Election Commission are formed and assigned the functions of providing financial and logistical support to district election commissions.

The Central Election Commission shall not be a legal successor of district or territorial election commissions.

7. A precinct election commission shall not be a legal entity. Financial and material support for activities of a precinct election commission in the respective election process shall be provided by the respective district election commission (territorial representation of the Central Election

Commission) or territorial election commission in accordance with the procedure established by this Code.

8. District and precinct election commissions shall be deemed temporary bodies formed for the period of preparation for and conduct of the respective election in accordance with the requirements of this Code. Territorial election commissions shall be permanent bodies.

Members of the territorial election commission shall exercise their powers until a new composition of the respective territorial election commission is formed in the manner prescribed by this Code. Territorial election commissions may be liquidated in the event of a corresponding change in the administrative-territorial structure.

9. An election commission shall have a seal, the specimen of which shall be approved by the Central Election Commission.

10. In order to ensure organizational, legal, informational and technical support for the exercise of the powers provided for by this Code, an election commission, and in case of its formation – a territorial representation of the Central Election Commission shall be granted the right to engage, on the basis of contracts, respective specialists, experts and technical personnel in accordance with the procedure established by the Central Election Commission.

11. State executive bodies, state bodies of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, local self-government bodies, state enterprises, establishments and organizations shall be obliged to create due conditions for the exercise of powers of the election commissions.

#### **Article 34.** Requirements to Members of Election Commissions

1. Citizens of Ukraine that have the right to vote in accordance with Article 70 of the Constitution of Ukraine may be members of an election commission.

2. Should the election process of elections or the referendum process be conducted simultaneously, a voter may be a member of only one election commission or referendum commission in the all-Ukrainian or local referendum.

3. The following persons may not be election commission members: candidates in the respective elections (all elections, the election processes of which are conducted simultaneously); their agents, their representatives in election commissions; authorized persons (representatives) of the parties (party organizations), official observers, officials of state executive bodies, state bodies of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and local self-government bodies, judges and employees of courts and law enforcement bodies as well as citizens detained in penitentiary institutions or pretrial detention centers or those having criminal records for committing a grave or especially grave crime or a crime against citizens' electoral rights or a corruption crime, unless this criminal record has been lifted or expunged pursuant to the procedure established by the Law.

4. Employees of inpatient care establishments or a penitentiary institution or a pretrial detention center may not be members of a precinct election commission established in the respective establishment or an institution.

5. An election commission which forms the respective election commission or forms its composition shall, simultaneously with the formation of this election commission or its composition, appoint the chair, deputy chair, and secretary of such election commission.

6. The secretary of an election commission must have command the state language.

#### **Article 35.** Acquisition and Termination of Legal Personality by District and Territorial Election Commissions

1. A district (territorial) election commission shall acquire and lose legal personality pursuant to the procedure set forth by the Law of Ukraine "On State Registration of Legal Entities, Individual Entrepreneurs and Civic Organizations".



2. A district (territorial) election commission shall acquire the status of a legal person on the day of the state registration of this legal person.

3. To perform the state registration of a legal person, the chair of the commission or, in case of his or her absence, the deputy chair, or in case of absence of the chair and deputy chair, the secretary of the commission shall, no later than on the fourth day following the day of the establishment of the commission, personally submit to the state registrar at the location of the district or territorial election commission a copy of the respective resolution of the Central Election Commission or territorial election commission of higher level on the establishment of the commission and an application on the state registration of a legal person. The state registration of the district (territorial) election commission as a legal person shall be performed on the day of the receipt of the documents submitted for its state registration as a legal person.

4. The status of a district (territorial) election commission as a legal person shall be terminated on the day of making an entry in the Unified State Register of Legal Persons, Individual Entrepreneurs and Civic Organizations on its liquidation as a legal person.

5. No later than within five days following the day of official announcement (official promulgation) of the results of the national election, the chair of a district election commission or, in case of his or her absence, the deputy chair, or in case of absence of the chair and deputy chair, the secretary of a commission shall personally apply to the registration authority with a written notification on the decision about the termination of the legal person in accordance with the requirements of the Law.

6. To officially register the termination of a district election commission as a legal person through its liquidation, the chair of the commission or, in case of his or her absence, the deputy chair, or in case of absence of the chair and deputy chair, the secretary of the commission shall, after the completion of the procedure for termination of the commission, but not earlier than the expiry of the time period for creditors' claims, personally submit to the state registrar at the location of the commission an application on the state registration of the termination of a legal person as a result of its liquidation, a certificate issued by the archival institution on the receipt of the documents subject to long-term storage under the law, as well as the report on auditing conducted by the respective body of the state financial control, and the respective documents issued by the territorial bodies of Pensions Fund of Ukraine and the revenue collection bodies.

Territorial bodies of the state financial control, the Pension Fund of Ukraine, and the revenue collection bodies shall be obliged to perform the respective audits prior to the termination of term of powers of the district election commission.

In case the aforementioned bodies do not carry out the respective audits within the time period prescribed for state registration of the termination as a legal person due to its liquidation, the submission of documents prescribed by paragraph one of this Part (audit report conducted by the respective body of the state financial control, the territorial bodies of Pensions Fund of Ukraine, and the revenue collection bodies) is not required.

7. The powers of the district election commission as a legal person (to perform the functions of financial and logistical support of the election process) may be exercised by the respective territorial representation of the Central Election Commission formed with the status of a legal person by the decision of and in the manner established by the Central Election Commission. In this case, the state registration of the district election commission as a legal person is not carried out.

#### **Article 36.** Organization of the Work of Election Commissions

1. Central Election Commission conducts its work according to the Law of Ukraine "On the Central Election Commission" and the Rule of Procedure of the Central Election Commission.

The organization of work of lower-level election commissions shall be determined by the Central Election Commission in accordance with this code.

The main form of work of an election commission shall be its meeting, which shall be convened by the chair of the commission or, in case of his or her absence, by the deputy chair, or, in case of absence of the chair and deputy chair, by the secretary of the commission. Should a written request be submitted on behalf of one third of the members of an election commission, the chair of the commission or his or her deputy shall be obliged to convene a meeting of the commission no later than the next day following the day of receipt of such a request.

The conduct of voting of voters shall not be deemed a meeting of a precinct election commission.

2. If necessary, a meeting of an election commission may be convened by a decision of the higher-level election commission.

3. The first meeting of an election commission shall be convened no later than on the second day following the day of its establishment, with subsequent meetings being convened as needed.

4. A meeting of an election commission has quorum if more than half of the commission members are present.

5. A meeting of an election commission shall be convened with mandatory notification of all members of a commission of the time, place where the meeting will be held, and its agenda.

A meeting may be notified by telephone, e-mail or other means of telecommunication. The person shall be deemed to have been notified, in particular, if the information was sent to his or her contact telephone number indicated in the submission to the respective election commission.

6. Members of an election commission shall be provided with draft decisions of the commission and the necessary documents, as a rule, no later than on the day preceding the day of the commission's meeting, but in any case, no later than before the beginning of the meeting.

7. A meeting of an election commission shall be chaired by the chair of the commission or his or her deputy. Should they fail to perform this function, the commission shall elect a chairperson of the meeting from among its members.

8. At meetings of an election commission, in particular during vote counting and tabulation of the voting results on the day of voting or on the day of repeat voting at the voting premises, only the following persons shall be entitled to be present without any permission or invitation of the respective commission: members of the Central Election Commission, staff members of the Secretariat of the Central Election Commission and the Service of the State Voter Register Administrator; employees of the respective territorial and regional representative office of the Central Election Commission; members of higher-level election commissions; candidates in the respective election and their agents; authorized persons of parties (party organizations) that are electoral subjects in the respective election process; official observers from candidates and parties (party organizations) (no more than one person from each candidate and each party (party organization)), official observers from nongovernmental organizations that have been granted permission to have official observers during the respective election (no more than two persons from one nongovernmental organization), as well as official observers from foreign states and international organizations, mass media representatives (no more than two persons from each mass media outlet).

Should several elections be held simultaneously, the following persons shall be entitled to be present at the meetings of a precinct election commission, including the meetings dedicated to the vote counting and establishing the results of an election, on the day of voting in the premises for voting without the need to obtain a consent or an invitation of the respective commission: candidates, parties (party organizations) that are electoral subjects in the respective elections conducted at the same time; their agents, authorized persons of parties (party organizations), and official observers.

The applicant, subject of the complaint, subject of an appeal, interested persons indicated in the complaint, or their representatives have the right to be present at the meeting, where the application or complaint is being considered.

The persons accompanying the persons referred to in this Part who need such accompanying for health reasons (due to disability, temporary health disorder, age) shall be also entitled to be present at the meetings of election commissions.

9. Persons other than those listed in Part eight of this Article may be present at a meeting of an election commission only on permission or invitation of the commission, which shall be approved by a decision made at the meeting of the election commission.

10. An election commission may adopt a motivated decision to deprive a candidate in the respective election, his or her authorized person, an authorized representative of a party (party organization), an official observer, a mass media representative or a person specified in Part nine of this Article of the right to be present at the commission meeting, if he or she unlawfully obstructs the conduct of the meeting. Such a decision shall be adopted by no less than two-thirds of the commission members.

Law enforcement officers shall ensure the protection of law and order on the day of voting and during the vote counting only outside the voting premises. Should any violations of law and order occur inside the voting premises, the chair, deputy chair or the secretary of a commission may invite law enforcement officers to take such measures as are necessary, and only for as long as necessary, to restore law and order.

Persons who provide cyber protection and ensure cyber-security of the automated informational-analytical system or its communication channels, necessary for the functioning of an election commission, and which are designated by a decision of the Central Election Commission or the respective election commission, and are employed by the bodies specified in the list provided in the respective decision of the Central Election Commission, may be present in premises of an election commission, in which units of the automated information-analytical system are installed.

11. Upon request of three members of a commission, as well as by decision of a higher-level election commission, an election commission shall consider at its meeting matters within the scope of its competence, no later than within three days of the submission of the request or the adoption of the decision, but in any case, no later than on the day of voting; and on the day of voting (except for a precinct election commission), without delay. A precinct election commission shall consider at its meeting matters submitted on the day of voting, or on the day of repeat voting, immediately after the close of voting.

12. Any decision of an election commission following its consideration and discussion at the meeting of an election commission shall be adopted in an open vote by a majority of the commission members, except for cases provided by this Code.

A decision of a commission comes into force from the moment it is adopted.

At a meeting of a district, territorial or precinct election commission taking place on election day, in particular, when counting the votes at the precinct, establishing the voting results within the election district, when less than two thirds of the commission members are present, the commission decision shall be adopted with no less than two thirds of the votes from the number of commission members present at the meeting.

13. Any member of an election commission present at a meeting who disagrees with the commission's decision shall have the right to file a written dissenting opinion on the decision within two days of the meeting at which the decision was adopted; the opinion shall be attached to the minutes of the respective meeting of the election commission.

14. A decision of an election commission made within the scope of its competence shall be binding.

15. Any decision of an election commission which fails to comply with the legislation of Ukraine or has been adopted beyond the scope of its powers can be canceled by the higher-level election commission or by a court. In such case, the higher-level commission shall have the right to make a decision on the merits of the issue.

16. Applications, complaints and other documents filed with an election commission shall be accepted by members of the respective election commission, authorized by its decision. All applications, complaints and other documents shall be accepted and registered in accordance with the procedure approved by the Central Election Commission.

An application submitted to an election commission shall be considered within five days of the day of its receipt, unless otherwise provided for by this Code.

17. The procedure for production of and requirements to protocols of precinct election commissions on the vote counting shall be determined by the Central Election Commission.

18. In national elections, prior to the transportation of precinct election commission protocols and district election commission protocols to the district election commission or the Central Election Commission, respectively, they shall be packaged in packages with special security features, produced and numbered by the manufacturing enterprise upon the order of the Central Election Commission for each district and precinct election commission, so that it would be impossible to remove any other document from the package or insert any other document into the package without damaging the seal and the package itself.

19. In case of termination, including early termination of powers of the election commission composition, the election commission, whose powers have been terminated, is obliged to hand over electoral and other documents, material asserts, including seals and "Withdrawn"-stamps, to the election commission which formed (approved) in its new composition.

The chair of the election commission in question, or, in case of his or her absence, the deputy chair, or in case of absence of the chair and deputy chair, the secretary of the commission, whose powers have been terminated, shall be responsible for the aforementioned handover.

#### **Article 37.** Documenting activities of an Election Commission

1. Activities of election commissions shall be documented in accordance with the procedure established by this Code and in accordance with the procedure for keeping records of election commissions established by the Central Election Commission.

2. At a meeting of an election commission, minutes of the meeting shall be kept by the secretary of the commission. Should the secretary of a commission be absent or fail to exercise his or her duties at the meeting, the commission shall appoint a secretary of the meeting from among its members who shall exercise the duties of the secretary at the respective meeting and complete the documents of the meeting. The minutes of a commission meeting shall be signed by the chairperson of the meeting and by the secretary of the commission (or by the secretary of the meeting). Members of a commission shall be granted access to the minutes of a commission meeting, upon their request, no later than at the next commission meeting, and each member of the commission shall have the right to sign the minutes. The minutes of a commission meeting can be released to an electoral subject upon his /her/their request no later than at the next commission meeting.

3. A decision of an election commission on any issue considered shall be drawn up in the form of a resolution which shall include:

- 1) the name of the commission;
- 2) the name of the resolution;
- 3) the time, date, and place of adoption and the number of the resolution;
- 4) a rationale with reference to the circumstances that caused consideration of the issue at the commission meeting;
- 5) references to the respective provisions of normative legal acts or the resolution of a higher-level election commission or a court decision that the commission had in mind when adopting its resolution;
- 6) an operative part.

A resolution shall be signed by the chairperson of the meeting and by the secretary of the election commission (the secretary of the meeting).

4. Any resolution adopted by an election commission shall be posted on the official information stand the commission for public review no later than 11:00 after the day on which it was adopted; and if adopted on the day preceding the day of voting, on the day of voting, or in the course of vote counting and tabulation of the voting results, it shall be so displayed no later than four hours after the end of the election commission's meeting.

Any resolution adopted by a district election commission shall be dispatched within the same time period to the Central Election Commission (using the automated information and analytical system) for publication on its official website.

A copy of a resolution adopted by an election commission, certified by the chair of the election commission or the deputy chair and by the secretary of the election commission and affixed with the election commission's seal, shall be issued to the electoral subject whom it concerns, upon his /her/their request, no later than four hours after its adoption; and if adopted on the day preceding the day of voting or on the day of voting, it shall be issued without delay.

5. With respect to its current activities, a commission shall be entitled to make protocol decisions the content of which shall be entered in the minutes of the election commission [meeting] and shall not be drawn up as a separate document.

6. An election commission shall draw up acts and protocols. A commission act shall confirm a certain fact or event detected and approved by the commission. A commission protocol shall present the results of actions performed by the commission.

Acts and protocols of an election commission shall be drawn up in cases provided for by this Code, in accordance with the forms approved by a decision of the Central Election Commission, and in the number of copies specified by this Code. Any commission act or protocol shall be signed by all members of the election commission present at the meeting and affixed with the commission's seal. Candidates, their agents, authorized representatives of parties (local party organizations) and candidates, authorized persons of parties, as well as official observers present at a meeting, shall be entitled to sign the first copy of the act or protocol.

#### **Article 38.** Status of a Member of an Election Commission

1. At the first meeting of an election commission attended by a member of an election commission, he or she shall familiarize himself or herself with the provisions of Parts three -six of this Article and shall take an oath which shall read as follows:

"I (last name, first name, patronymic name), undertaking the powers of a member of the election commission and understanding my high responsibility to the Ukrainian people, do swear that I will abide by the Constitution of Ukraine and the Laws of Ukraine, exercise my duties honestly and in good faith, based on the principles of the rule of law, legality, objectivity and impartiality, ensure the exercise and protection of the electoral rights of the citizens of Ukraine".

A person who has taken the oath shall sign the text of the oath. This document shall be an integral part of the documentation of the respective election commission. Upon taking an oath, the member of a commission shall be given an identification document of a form approved by the Central Election Commission, signed by the chair of the higher-level commission.

A refusal to take an oath shall mean a refusal to be a member of a commission.

2. A voter may be a member of only one election commission that provides for preparation for and conduct of the respective election or other elections held at the same time.

3. A member of an election commission shall be entitled to:

1) participate in preparation of the issues submitted for consideration to the election commission;

- 2) be given a floor at the meetings of an election commission, ask questions of other participants of the meeting regarding the agenda, submit proposals regarding issues falling within the competence of a commission;
  - 3) upon instruction of the respective election commission, check activities of any lower level election commissions;
  - 4) have unimpeded access to all the premises of the election commission, and to the documents of the election commission of which he or she is a member, and any lower level election commissions within the respective territory;
  - 5) be compensated for any damage to his or her health, life or property in connection with the performance of duties of a member of the election commission, in accordance with the procedure and in the amount set forth by the Laws of Ukraine.
4. A member of an election commission shall:
- 1) adhere to the Constitution of Ukraine, this Code and other Laws of Ukraine governing preparation and conduct of elections;
  - 2) participate in the meetings of the election commission;
  - 3) implement the decisions of the election commission and perform the duties entrusted to him or her in accordance with their distribution within the commission.
5. Every member of an election commission shall also have other rights and duties as provided for by this Code and other Laws of Ukraine.

Each member of an election commission is subject to guarantees and compensations provided by law for employees during their performance of state or public duties during working hours, for the time of their direct performance of duties as an election commission member (participation in meetings of the commission, in other activities pursuant to this Law or decisions of the commission). Members of the election commission shall be relieved of their duties at the place of permanent employment for the time necessary for the performance of their duties as a commission member, on the basis of a written notice of the chair, deputy chair or secretary of the election commission regarding convening of a commission meeting, or on the basis of the election commission decision to involve a commission member in other activities provided for in this Code. Such notices or decisions shall indicate the date, time and planned duration of the election commission meeting or other activity.

6. A member of an election commission shall not campaign for or against any candidate in the respective election, or publicly assess activities of candidates, parties (local party organizations) that are electoral subjects.

7. Members of election commissions (except for members of the Central Election Commission) are not covered by anti-corruption legislation.

8. The election commission shall provide reasonable accommodation in accordance with individual needs to an election commission member who has a health problem (due to disability, temporary health disorder, age) to ensure his or her unimpeded participation in the work of the election commission.

## **Chapter VI. VOTER LISTS**

### **Article 39. Procedure for Compiling Preliminary Voter Lists for Regular Election Precincts**

1. To prepare for and conduct voting in the election, the State Voter Register maintenance bodies shall compile preliminary voter lists based on the data of the State Voter Register for regular election precincts created within the territories within the scope of their powers.

2. A preliminary voter list for a regular election precinct shall include the citizens of Ukraine who have reached or, as of the day of voting, will have reached eighteen years of age and who have the right to vote in the respective elections and whose electoral address is within the precinct in accordance with the data of the State Voter Register. A voter shall be included in a voter list only in one election precinct.

3. If a voter whose place of voting has temporarily changed is included in a preliminary voter list, the column “Notes” shall contain, next to his or her last name, the note about it.

4. A preliminary voter list shall be compiled in accordance with the form which has been approved by the Central Election Commission in accordance with the requirements of Part five and six of this Article.

5. A preliminary voter list shall have continuous numbering of the voters and continuous numbering of the sheets. Voters shall be included in a preliminary voter list so that information on the voters having the same address shall be grouped.

6. A preliminary voter list shall contain the following information about each voter:

- 1) the last name, first name (all first names), patronymic name (if any) of the voter;
- 2) his or her date of birth;
- 3) his or her electoral address (without specifying the postal code and country of residence or stay);
- 4) if appropriate, a mark in the “Notes” column indicating that the voter is permanently incapable of moving independently.

7. A paper copy of the preliminary voter list for a regular election precinct shall be produced in one copy, and each page shall be certified by the signature of the head of the State Voter Register maintenance body and affixed with the seal of this body.

8. Should national elections be held concurrently with local elections, the procedure for compiling and correcting voter lists shall be specified by the Central Election Commission.

**Article 40.** Notifying Voters of His or Her Inclusion in the Preliminary Voter List for a Regular Election Precinct

1. The State Voter Register maintenance body shall produce a personal invitation to each voter, by which it shall notify the voter of his or her inclusion in the preliminary voter list for a regular election precinct, the name of all elections in which he or she is proposed to vote, the address of the precinct election commission, its telephone number and working schedule, as well as the time and place of voting.

2. Voters who have been noted on the voter list as being permanently incapable of moving independently shall be simultaneously notified that they shall be provided with an opportunity to vote at their place of stay.

3. The form of a personal invitation shall be approved by the Central Election Commission.

**Article 41.** Transfer of Preliminary Voter Lists and Personal Invitations to Precinct Election Commissions of Regular Election Precincts

1. No later than eleven days prior to the day of voting the State Voter Register maintenance body shall, in the office where it is located, transfer a paper copy of the preliminary voter lists and produced personal invitations to the respective precinct election commission.

2. On behalf of the precinct election commission, the preliminary voter list shall be received by at least three members of this commission, one of whom shall be the chair of the commission or, if he or she is not available, the deputy chair or the secretary of the commission.

3. The fact of delivery of the preliminary voter list shall be entered into an act in a form approved by the Central Election Commission, which shall be produced in two copies. One copy of the act shall be stored at the State Voter Register maintenance body and the other at the precinct election commission.

**Article 42.** Procedure for Familiarizing Voters with the Preliminary Voter Lists in Regular Election Precincts and for Correcting Inaccuracies in Voter Lists

1. On the day following the day of the receipt of the preliminary voter list, the precinct election commission of a regular election precinct shall make it available for public review at the premises of the precinct election commission.

2. A precinct election commission of a regular election precinct shall send or deliver in another manner to each voter a personal invitation, received from the State Voter Register maintenance body.

Such personal invitations shall be sent or delivered no later than nine days prior to the day of voting.

3. A voter shall have the right to access the preliminary voter list at the premises of the precinct election commission and to verify the correctness of the information it includes.

A voter may submit an application to the precinct election commission or directly to the State Voter Register maintenance body, requesting a correction of the preliminary voter list, in particular concerning the inclusion in or the exclusion from the voter list of him or herself or any other persons, as well as concerning the presence or absence of a note indicating that the voter is permanently incapable of moving independently.

4. A voter shall personally submit an application concerning the circumstances specified in Part three of this Article to the precinct election commission or directly to the State Voter Register maintenance body. Should a voter not be able to submit an application personally due to health reasons (due to disability, temporary health disorder, age), the precinct election commission shall, upon application of such voter, provide for the receipt of the application from such voter in another manner. Such an application may also be submitted to the body maintaining the State Voter Register by means of electronic services in accordance with the procedure established by the Central Election Commission.

The application shall have the documents (copies of documents) certifying the information presented therein attached to it.

5. The application specified in Part three of this Article may be filed no later than five days prior to the day of voting and shall be considered by the election commission within one day of receipt. An application submitted after the expiry of the aforementioned term shall not be considered.

6. Based on the result of the consideration of the application, the precinct election commission shall adopt a decision to deliver the application to the State Voter Register maintenance body. The decision of the election commission shall immediately be sent to the respective State Voter Register maintenance body along with the voter's application and documents (copies of documents) attached to it and shall also be issued to the applicant as well as sent to a person concerned (if it concerns a person other than the applicant) no later than on the day following the day of its adoption.

7. The State Voter Register maintenance body shall ensure consideration of voters' applications in accordance with the procedure prescribed by the Law of Ukraine "On the State Voter Register". The applicant as well as a person concerned (if the voter's application concerns another person) shall be informed of the result of the consideration of the respective application.

8. An administrative lawsuit requesting a correction to a voter list may be filed with a court in accordance with the procedure prescribed by the Code of Administrative Adjudication of Ukraine.

9. A court decision requiring amendments to be made to the preliminary voter list shall no later than five days before the day of voting be presented by the voter to the respective State Voter Register maintenance body or to the respective precinct election commission for immediate delivery to such body; and after the expiry of that term, to the precinct election commission.



**Article 43.** Procedure for Updating Preliminary Voter Lists in Regular Election Precincts

1. The State Voter Register maintenance body shall compile an updated voter list, based on the information submitted in accordance with the Law of Ukraine “On the State Voter Register”, decisions of the respective election commissions on the establishment of precinct election commissions of special election precincts (as regards inclusion of precinct election commission members in the voter lists for the respective special election precinct), the results of the consideration of voters’ applications, notifications of inclusion of voters in the voter list for the special election precinct issued by precinct election commissions of special election precincts, applications of members of district and precinct election commissions submitted in accordance with Part two of this Article, and court decisions received no later than five days prior to the day of voting.

2. No later than five days prior to the day of voting in national elections, members of district and precinct election commissions shall submit to the State Voter Register maintenance body having jurisdiction over the location of the respective election precinct or over the location of their own electoral address applications requesting a temporary change of their place of voting without changing their electoral address. Members of district election commissions shall be included in the voter list for the election precinct closest to the location of the district election commission of which they are members. Members of precinct election commissions shall be included in the voter list for the election precinct of which they are members.

3. The State Voter Register maintenance body, which received from a precinct election commission of a special election precinct, which has independently compiled a list of voters, the information about voters included therein, shall enter in the database of the State Voter Register respective notes as regards voters who will not vote at their electoral addresses due to their inclusion in the voter lists for other election precincts.

4. One paper copy of the updated voter list shall be produced by the State Voter Register maintenance body, in a form established by the Central Election Commission, pursuant to the procedure specified by Article 39 of this Code, and shall contain a column for a voter’s signature to certify that he or she has received a ballot paper.

5. Updated voter lists shall be delivered to the respective election commissions no later than two days prior to the day of voting, in accordance with the procedure established by this Code for the transfer of preliminary voter lists at regular election precincts.

**Article 44.** Amending Updated Voter Lists for a Regular Election Precinct

1. Amendments to an updated voter list shall be made by the chair or the deputy chair and the secretary of the precinct election commission on the basis of a court decision or a notification from the State Voter Register maintenance body with regard to multiple inclusion of a voter in the voter list for a particular election precinct. Such changes shall be made before 18:00 hours of the last Saturday prior to the day of voting.

2. Should a voter be included in the voter list for an election precinct under the procedure for making amendments to the updated voter list, the information on a voter, which is required by the form of the voter list, shall be entered at the end of the voter list. In this case, the date and number of the court decision shall be entered in the column “Notes”.

3. The removal of a person who was wrongly included in the voter list shall be made by striking out, and the removal shall be certified in the column “Notes” by the word “Excluded” and the signatures of the chair and the secretary of the precinct election commission. In that case, the date and number of the court decision or notification from the State Voter Register maintenance body shall be entered in the same column next to the voter’s last name.

4. When making changes to an updated voter lists based on a court decision, a precinct election commission shall notify the respective State Voter Register maintenance body without delay on the fact of inclusion of a voter in the voter list or exclusion of a voter from the voter list.

5. If it is found that a voter is included in the updated voter lists more than once, in connection with the receipt of a notification from a precinct election commission on the inclusion of the voter in the voter list for another election precinct, then the State Voter Register maintenance body receiving such notification shall notify without delay the respective precinct election commission, which must exclude the voter from the voter list for that precinct.

6. On the day prior to the day of voting, after changes have been made to the updated voter list based on court decisions or notifications of the State Voter Register maintenance bodies, the voter lists shall be closed by crossing out the blank columns of the voter lists for entering voter names so as to prevent entering additional voters to the voter list, and signed by the chair or deputy chair and the secretary of the precinct election commission and affixed with the precinct election commission's seal.

7. On the day of voting no changes to the updated voter lists shall be made.

8. On the day of voting, the chair, deputy chair, or secretary of the precinct election commission shall correct all inaccuracies and technical errors in the updated voter list, namely, misspelled last names, first names (all first names), patronymic names (if any), errors in the date of birth, and number of the building and apartment of residence, provided that despite such technical errors it is obvious that the person on the voter list is the same person who has come to the election precinct for voting. Such correction shall be certified in the column "Notes" by the signature of the chair or deputy chair or secretary of the precinct election commission.

9. The information on voters included in or excluded from the updated voter lists, which is required by the form of the updated voter list, as well as the information on voters, concerning whom changes were made or inaccuracies and technical errors were corrected, shall be transferred by the precinct election commission to the respective State Voter Register maintenance body.

**Article 45.** Procedure for Compiling and Updating Voter Lists for Special Election Precincts

1. For special election precincts established at penitentiary institutions or pretrial detention centers, the State Voter Register maintenance bodies shall compile preliminary and updated voter lists, which shall be delivered in accordance with the procedure and within the time frame specified by this Code for delivery of voter lists in regular election precincts.

2. At special election precincts established in inpatient care establishments, on ships sailing under the National Flag of Ukraine on the day of voting, at Ukraine's polar stations, in pretrial detention centers and in other places of temporary stay of voters with limited mobility, voter lists shall be compiled no later than seven days prior to the day of voting by the respective precinct election commissions in the form established by the Central Election Commission, on the basis of information provided by the heads of the respective establishments, institutions, Ukraine's polar station, captains of ships where such election precincts are formed.

3. The information specified in Parts one and two of this Article shall be submitted in one copy, signed by the head of the respective establishment, institution, Ukraine's polar station, or ship's captain, and affixed with the respective seal. The head of the respective establishment, institution, Ukraine's polar station, or the ship's captain shall ensure the submission and authenticity of the aforementioned information to the precinct election commission no later than nine days prior to the day of voting.

4. The submission shall be filed in accordance with the form established by the Central Election Commission, and must contain, in relation to each voter, information on:

- 1) last name, first name (all first names), patronymic name (if any);
- 2) date of birth (date, month, year);
- 3) the electoral address (without indication of the postal code of the country of residence or stay);
- 4) a mark in the "Notes" column indicating that the voter is permanently incapable of moving independently (if applicable).

Voters who must leave the inpatient health care establishment prior to the day of voting, shall not be included in such information and in the voter list for the respective special election precinct.

5. Voter lists compiled at a special election precinct for conduct of voting in the local elections shall include voters who have the right to vote in the respective local election.

A precinct election commission of a special election precinct shall add a voter to the voter list, indicating in the column “Notes” of his or her right to receive a ballot paper in each respective local election.

6. After compiling the voter list for a special election precinct, the precinct election commission shall without delay deliver the information on voters included in the voter list to the State Voter Register maintenance body having jurisdiction over its location.

The content of the voter list for an election precinct established on a ship sailing under the National Flag of Ukraine or at Ukraine’s polar station shall be sent via technical means of communication to the respective district election commission, which shall immediately send them to the State Voter Register maintenance body having jurisdiction over its location.

7. Should a voter arrive at an inpatient care establishment less than ten days prior to the day of voting, but more than two days prior to the day of voting, the respective precinct election commission shall correct the voter list by putting the voter on the voter list based on the information that shall be immediately submitted by the head of the respective establishment, whose signature shall be certified by the seal of the respective establishment.

8. A voter who arrives at an the inpatient care establishment located in the population center where he or she lives may apply to the election commission of a regular election precinct in which he or she is included in the voter list, requesting to vote at the place of his or her stay pursuant to the procedure and within the time frame provided for by this Code. In this case, he or she shall not be included in the voter list for the special election precinct.

9. If a special election precinct is established in the exceptional case, the voter list shall be compiled by the precinct election commission no later than seven days prior to the day of voting, based on the information submitted by the head of the respective establishment, institution, a ship’s captain, a commander of a military unit (command). The aforementioned information shall be submitted no later than eight days prior to the day of voting in one copy signed by the head of the establishment, institution, a ship’s captain or a commander of a military unit (command) and certified by the respective seal. After compiling the voter list for such election precinct, the precinct election commission shall without delay deliver the information on the voters in the voter list to the State Voter Register maintenance body having jurisdiction over its location.

10. A voter shall be entitled to apply to the precinct election commission of the special election precinct or directly to a court as regards a correction of the voter lists.

11. An application specified in Part 10 of this Article may be submitted to the respective precinct election commission no later than two days prior to the day of voting. Such application shall be immediately considered by the election commission. Based on the results of consideration of the application, the election commission shall adopt a decision to make amendments to the voter list or a motivated decision to dismiss the application. A copy of the decision shall be issued to the voter on the day of its adoption. An application submitted to the election commission after the expiry of the aforementioned term shall not be reviewed.

12. An administrative lawsuit requesting a correction of the voter list shall be filed with a court under the procedure and within the terms prescribed by the Code of Administrative Adjudication of Ukraine.

13. When changes are made to the voter list for a special election precinct, the precinct election commission of the special election precinct shall without delay send the information on voters included in or excluded from the voter list to the respective State Voter Register maintenance body.

14. If such information is received less than five days prior to the day of voting and it is found that a voter is included more than once in the voter list at some other election precinct, the State Voter Register maintenance body shall without delay report this to the respective precinct election commission.

15. Members of a precinct election commission of a special election precinct that have the right to vote in the respective election shall be included in the voter list for that election precinct on the basis of a decision of the respective election commission on the establishment of the precinct election commission of that special election precinct.

16. On the day prior to the day of voting, after changes have been made to the updated voter lists in accordance with this Article, the voter lists shall be closed by crossing out the blank columns of the voter lists for entering voter names so as to prevent entering additional voters to the voter list, and signed by the chair or deputy chair and the secretary of the precinct election commission and affixed with the precinct election commission's seal.

17. On the day of voting no changes to the updated voter lists shall be made.

18. On the day of voting, the chair, the deputy chair, or the secretary of the precinct election commission shall correct all inaccuracies and technical errors in the updated voter list, namely, misspelled last names, first names (all first names), patronymic names (if any), errors in the date of birth, and number of the building and apartment of residence, provided that despite such technical errors it is obvious that the person on the voter list is the same person who has come to the election precinct for voting. Such correction shall be certified in the column "Notes" by the signature of the chair or deputy chair or secretary of the precinct election commission.

**Article 46. Procedure for Compiling and Verification of Voter Lists for Out-of-Country Election Precincts**

1. The State Voter Register maintenance body at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine shall compile the preliminary voter lists for each out-of-country election precinct in accordance with the requirements of the Law of Ukraine "On the State Voter Register". The form of the preliminary voter list shall be approved by the Central Election Commission.

2. The preliminary voter lists for an out-of-country election precinct shall include the citizens of Ukraine who have reached or, as of the day of voting will have reached, eighteen years of age, have the right to vote in an election, and whose electoral addresses are located outside Ukraine.

The information about voters in the voter lists for an out-of-country election precinct shall be indicated in the format convenient for the conduct of voting.

3. A preliminary voter list for an out-of-country election precinct shall be transferred to the respective precinct election commission in electronic form no later than eleven days prior to the day of voting.

4. On the day following the day of the receipt of the preliminary voter list, the precinct election commission of an out-of-country election precinct shall make it available for public review in paper form at the premises of the precinct election commission.

5. No later than five days prior to the day of voting (according to Kyiv time), a voter shall have the right to submit to the respective precinct election commission an application regarding inaccuracies in the preliminary voter list for an out-of-country election precinct, to which the required documents (copies of documents) shall be attached. Such application shall be considered by the election commission within one day of the receipt thereof. An application submitted after the expiry of the aforementioned term shall not be reviewed.

6. A voter's application under Part five of this Article shall immediately be sent through the respective foreign diplomatic institution of Ukraine to the State Voter Register maintenance body at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine.

The foreign diplomatic institution of Ukraine shall also deliver a copy of such application to the State Voter Register maintenance body at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine via technical means of communication.

7. The State Voter Register maintenance body at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine shall produce the updated voter lists, based on information submitted in accordance with the Law of Ukraine “On the State Voter Register” and the results of consideration of the voters’ applications.

No later than two days prior to the date of voting, the updated voter lists shall be transferred to the respective precinct election commission of the out-of-country election precinct in both paper and electronic form.

8. On the day prior to the day of voting, after changes have been made to the updated voter lists in accordance with this Article, the voter lists for an out-of-country election precinct shall be closed by crossing out the blank columns of the voter lists for entering voter names so as to prevent entering additional voters to the voter list, and signed by the chair or deputy chair and the secretary of a precinct election commission and affixed with the precinct election commission’s seal.

9. On the day of voting no changes to the updated voter lists for an out-of-country election precinct shall be made.

10. On the day of voting, the chair, deputy chair or secretary of the precinct election commission of an out-of-country election precinct shall correct all inaccuracies and technical errors in the updated voter list, namely, misspelled last names, first names (all first names), patronymic names (if any), errors in the date of birth, and number of the building and apartment of residence, provided that despite such technical errors it is obvious that the person on the voter list is the same person who has come to the election precinct for voting. Such correction shall be certified in the column “Notes” by the signature of the chair or deputy chair or secretary of the precinct election commission.

## **Chapter VII. INFORMATION SUPPORT FOR ELECTIONS**

### **Article 47. Main Principles of Information Support to Elections**

1. Voters, including those with visual or auditory disabilities, shall be provided with an opportunity to access diverse, objective and unbiased information necessary for making an informed free choice.

In order to ensure access to information for persons with visual or auditory disabilities, such information may be provided using accessible formats in the manner and in the scope specified by the Central Election Commission.

2. The information contained in the documents submitted to the respective election commission for the registration of candidates shall be open. District and territorial election commissions shall submit the information indicated in Part three of this Article for its publication on the official website of the Central Election Commission, pursuant to the procedure specified by this Code. Such information may be made public and provided in accordance with the procedure specified by the Law of Ukraine “On Access to Public Information”.

3. In accordance with the procedure provided for in this Code, territorial election commissions shall publish information on registered candidates on their websites (if available), or on the websites of the respective councils or in any other manner determined by these commissions, as well as, pursuant to this Code, they shall provide information on candidates, to the extent and in the manner established by the Central Election Commission, for the purposes of publication on the official website of the Central Election Commission. Information on registered candidates may be published on the official websites of the respective regional or territorial representations of the Central Election Commission in case of their formation. When conducting elections, the Central Election Commission shall post on its official website the information in a form of the data set organized in the format that makes it possible to process the data automatically by electronic means

(a machine readable format) so that the data may be re-used, in particular, the information on each candidate's last name, first name (all first names), and patronymic name (if any), date, month, year and place of birth, citizenship, time of residence in the territory of Ukraine (except for candidates registered to participate in local elections), information on position (occupation), place of employment, party membership, place of residence, existence or absence of criminal record, the nominating subject, the election programs of candidates or subjects of their nominations, and when holding the national election, the autobiography of the candidate submitted to the Central Election Commission.

4. The election commissions, mass media and information agencies, state executive bodies, state bodies of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, bodies of local self-government, their officials, public associations, as well as other persons shall, when disseminating information on the elections that shall not be considered election campaigning, pursuant to Article 51 of this Code, abide by the principles of unbiased, unprejudiced, balanced, reliable, complete and accurate information, and to avoid discrimination and sexism.

#### **Article 48. General Information Support of Elections**

1. General information support for an election shall comprise informing the voters on:
  - 1) the electoral rights of the citizens and the ways of exercising and protecting them;
  - 2) the possibility for voters to check whether they or other voters have been included in the State Voter Register and in voter lists for election precincts and the procedures for doing so;
  - 3) the possibility for voters to change their place of voting (election precinct) without changing their electoral address and the procedures for doing so;
  - 4) the addresses of the location of the district and precinct election commissions of the election precinct to which the electoral address of a voter is assigned;
  - 5) the address of the premises for voting, the date and time of voting;
  - 6) the grounds and procedures for being provided with the possibility to vote at a place of temporary stay;
  - 7) voting procedures and method for filling out a ballot paper;
  - 8) the voters' right to appeal against violations of their electoral rights and the procedures for doing so;
  - 9) the liability for violating the electoral legislation;
  - 10) other issues related to the exercise of electoral rights by citizens.

2. The Central Election Commission shall, no later than on the second day of the election process, make public on its official website the information pertaining to the general information support for the respective election and ensure its relevance.

3. To make sure the voters are duly informed, the Central Election Commission, and the respective territorial election commission shall provide for the production of posters that explain the procedure of voting and liability for violating the electoral legislation. The form, size, text and printing design of the information posters as well as the procedure for their production and delivery to precinct election commissions shall be established by the Central Election Commission.

4. The Central Election Commission may, at the expense of the state budget, produce and distribute, including by means of electronic (audiovisual) and print mass media, information materials related to the general information support for the respective election.

5. Legislation on social advertising shall be applicable to the distribution of information materials related to the general information support for the election.

**Article 49. Principles of Participation of Mass Media and Information Agencies in Information Support for Elections**

1. In the course of the election process, the mass media shall distribute information materials in response to requests from election commissions or regional or territorial representations of the Central Election Commission, on the basis of respective agreements.

2. Information agencies and mass media shall disseminate information on the course of the election process and on related events on the basis of principles of providing credible, complete, accurate, and objective information in an unbiased way.

Information agencies, mass media, when disseminating information about the election process, election-related events, shall not allow silencing respective information of public significance related to the said events, if it was known to them at the time of dissemination of such information. Information agencies and mass media shall be obliged to disseminate information about the elections in accordance with the facts, not allowing distortion of information. Mass media and information agencies shall attempt to obtain information about election-related events from two or more sources, and shall give preference to original sources of information.

Television and radio broadcasting organizations shall independently determine the amount of airtime to be allocated to the coverage of facts and events related to the election process. When placing such materials, television and radio broadcasting organizations shall be prohibited from providing a different attitude, or granting privileges, to certain electoral subjects.

Mass media shall provide a balanced coverage of comments made by candidates and parties (party organizations) that are electoral subjects at election-related events.

3. Television and radio broadcasting organizations shall be entitled to create and distribute live broadcasts with the participation of candidates or representatives of parties (party organizations) that are electoral subjects, their agents or authorized persons in the form of election debates, or discussions. Such broadcasts shall be organized as a cycle of broadcasts having the same format so as to ensure the compliance with a principle of equal conditions and equal access.

A television and radio broadcasting organization which intends to broadcast the said programs shall make public its proposal stating the format of the program, the time period within which consent must be given to participate in the program, and the cost of participation in such a program.

The format of the program (a cycle of programs) shall include the following: a procedure for determining the participants of a program with participation of two or more candidates or parties, with the consent of the participants, by drawing lots, etc.; the duration of the broadcast and the amount of airtime provided to each of the participants for their speech; the presence of other persons in the studio during the broadcast (experts, journalists, studio audience, etc.), their role and the procedure for how they are chosen or determined; regulations and code of conduct for the program participants; the topic of discussion and a procedure for how it is determined; conditions for dissemination of other information during the broadcast (results of opinion polls; results of interactive voting; statistical information; educational and background information; concert performances, etc.); other conditions for creating the program.

The cost of participation in the program shall be the same for all electoral subjects and shall be determined in accordance with the amount of air time provided to each of the program participants.

The amount of airtime provided to the program participants for their participating in a discussion or answering questions shall be determined in accordance with the same rules.

4. The National Television and Radio Broadcasting Council of Ukraine (in relation to electronic (audiovisual media) and the central executive body that implements the state policy in the information and publishing spheres (in relation to print media and news agencies) shall supervise the compliance with the requirements of this Code in terms of the participation of mass media and information agencies in the information support of elections, as well as in the conduct of election campaigning.

When exercising such supervision, it shall be allowed to use monitoring materials provided by nongovernmental organizations registered in accordance with the procedure established by the Law, the statutory activities of which include issues of the election process and its observation.

Should violations be identified as a result of such supervision, the National Television and Radio Broadcasting Council of Ukraine and the central executive body that implements the state policy in the information and publishing spheres shall take measures in accordance with the Law.

**Article 50. Peculiarities of Disseminating Information on the Results of Election-Related Opinion Polls**

1. Enterprises, establishments, institutions and organizations conducting opinion polls shall have the right to make public the results of election-related polls, provided that they indicate the time when the poll was conducted, the territory covered by the poll, the size and mode of selection of the poll sample, the polling method used, the exact phrasing of the questions, the margin of error, and the persons who commissioned the poll.

2. When reporting the results of an election-related opinion poll, information agencies and mass media shall indicate the full name of the organization that conducted the poll, the persons who commissioned the poll, as well as other data specified in Part one of this Article. The provisions of this Part shall apply to cases of dissemination of an election-related opinion poll on the Internet.

3. During the last two days prior to the day of voting, the publication or dissemination in any other manner of the results of election-related opinion polls, including those pertaining to the candidates and parties (party organizations) that are electoral subjects, shall be prohibited.

4. On the day of voting, making public the results of opinions polls pertaining to the expression of voters' will shall be prohibited until the close of the voting.

5. Methods for conducting voter surveys relating to expression of the voters' will during voting shall ensure the protection of the secrecy of voting of the voters being polled.

6. If a broadcasting company makes public the results of an interactive poll of its audience conducted during an election-related program or a program with the participation of candidates, representatives of the parties (party organizations) that are electoral subjects, the participants of the program shall be prohibited from commenting on the results of such poll or referring to it otherwise. During the whole period of making public the results of an interactive poll of the audience, the text message "This poll reflects the opinion of this audience only" shall be displayed on the screen (for television programs) in a form perceptible to the viewer, or be voiced (for radio programs) in a well-articulated manner by the announcer or studio host immediately prior to and after making public the aforementioned results.

## **Chapter VIII. ELECTION CAMPAIGNING**

**Article 51. Forms and Means of Election Campaigning**

1. Election campaigning shall mean carrying out any activity aimed at encouraging voters to vote or not to vote for a particular candidate or party (party organizations) that are electoral subjects. Election campaigning may be performed by any means that do not contradict the Constitution of Ukraine and the Laws of Ukraine.

Election campaigning may be conducted in the following forms:

- 1) holding meetings with citizens, other meetings with voters;
- 2) holding rallies, marches, demonstrations;
- 3) holding public debates, discussions, round tables, press conferences pertaining to the positions of election programs and political activities of candidates and parties (party organizations) that are electoral subjects;



- 4) making public political advertisements, speeches, interviews, essays, video films, audio and video clips, other publications and notices in print and audiovisual (electronic) mass media;
- 5) distributing election leaflets, posters and other printed campaigning materials or printed publications containing election campaigning materials;
- 6) placing printed campaigning materials or political advertisements on outdoor advertising media;
- 7) holding concerts, performances, sport competitions, showing films and television programs, or [staging] other public events with the support of a candidate or party (party organization) that are electoral subjects, as well as making public the information on such support;
- 8) public appeals to vote or not to vote for a candidate or party (party organization) that are electoral subjects, as well as public assessments of activities of such a candidate or party (party organization);
- 9) installation of campaign tents;
- 10) other forms that do not contradict the Constitution of Ukraine and the Laws of Ukraine.

2. Citizens of Ukraine shall have the right to freely and comprehensively discuss the election programs of candidates and parties (party organizations) that are electoral subjects, as well as political, business and personal qualities of candidates, to campaign for or against candidates or parties (party organizations).

3. Official reports during the election campaign (without comments that may be of a campaigning nature, as well as video, audio recording, filming, photo illustrations) on actions taken by candidates in connection with performance of their official (service) duties provided for by the Constitution of Ukraine or the Laws of Ukraine, shall not be considered election campaigning.

4. Candidates and parties (party organizations) that are electoral subjects shall finance their election campaigns, unless otherwise stated by this Code.

Support by candidates (candidate) or parties (party organizations) who are electoral subjects, on their own behalf or on behalf of a candidate (candidates) which it has nominated, for concerts, performances, sport competitions, demonstration of films and television programs, or other public events, and also the staging of the aforementioned public events in support of a candidate (candidates) or the subject that has nominated such candidates, shall be allowed only if such events are paid for out of the electoral fund of the respective electoral subject.

5. Hidden campaigning, as well as the placement or dissemination of campaign materials not marked in accordance with the requirements of this Code shall be prohibited. Advertisements of printed publications (newspapers, magazines, books), other goods or services, using the names or images (portraits) of candidates, names or symbols of political parties that are electoral subjects shall be deemed the election campaigning. The election campaigning shall also include the use of symbols (anthem, flag, sign, slogan) or logos of a party that is the electoral subject of the respective election process, the use of campaign slogans, mottos of candidates and parties (party organizations) that are electoral subjects in the respective election process, as well as announcements about holding spectacular or other public events in support of the party or candidate or about the support of the aforementioned events by candidates or parties (party organizations) that are electoral subjects, as well as attracting attention to the fact about the participation in such events of certain persons as candidates.

6. Official reports during the election campaign on actions taken by candidates holding positions in state executive bodies, state bodies of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, or local self-government bodies, in connection with performance of their official (service) duties provided for by the Constitution of Ukraine or the Laws of Ukraine, and produced in accordance with the procedure prescribed by the Law of Ukraine “On the Procedure for Media Coverage of activities of State Executive Bodies and Bodies of Local Self-Government in Ukraine”, shall not be deemed to be election campaigning. Such

official reports must not contain any comments of a campaigning nature, video or audio recording, or photographic illustrations of activities of the aforementioned persons as candidates.

No mention shall be made in such reports of respective persons or their intended activities in the case of their election.

7. A candidate or party (party organization) that are electoral subjects shall have the right to rent buildings and premises of all forms of ownership for the holding of meetings, rallies, debates, discussions, or other public events of election campaigning, on a contract basis, at the expense of their respective electoral funds.

8. If a building (premises) of any form of its ownership is provided to a candidate or party (party organization) for holding a pre-election public event or election campaign event, the owner (proprietor, user) of this building (premises) shall not refuse to allow any other candidate or party (party organization) to use the same building (premises) on the same terms. The aforementioned requirement shall not apply to premises owned or permanently used by candidates and parties (party organizations) that are electoral subjects.

Legal persons or individuals acting as distributors of outdoor advertising, who provide advertising media (outdoor advertising media) for the placement of campaign materials (political advertising), shall provide an equal access and equal conditions for candidates and parties (party organizations) that are electoral subjects.

9. Information agencies shall provide premises to candidates or subjects of their nomination for holding press conferences on conditions of equal access and equal pay. An electoral subject shall pay for the use of premises for holding press conferences provided by an information agency at the expense of its electoral fund. Premises for holding press conferences shall not be provided without concluding an agreement and advance payment from the respective electoral fund.

10. Candidates, parties (party organizations) who are electoral subjects shall facilitate voters' access to campaign materials without discrimination, in particular by producing printed and audiovisual materials in accessible formats, bringing official websites in compliance with accessibility standards, as well as in another manner not prohibited by the Law.

#### **Article 52.** Time Periods for Election Campaigning

1. A candidate or party (party organization) may commence their election campaigning on the day following the day when the election commission adopts a decision of the registration of a candidate (candidates) and shall cease their election campaigning at 24:00 on the last Friday before the day of voting.

2. The election campaigning before the day of repeat voting shall commence on the day following the day when a decision to appoint the repeat voting was adopted, and shall cease at 24:00 on the last Friday before the day of repeat voting.

3. The election campaigning in the time period of the election process outside the time frames established in this Article shall be prohibited.

Election campaigning on the eve of the day of voting and on the day of voting shall be prohibited. At this time it shall be also prohibited to hold mass events (meetings, rallies, marches, demonstrations) on behalf of a candidate or party (party organization); distribute campaign materials; show films, TV shows; hold concerts, performances, sports competitions, etc. with the participation of candidates or parties (party organizations), as well as to make public announcements of support by a candidate or party (party organization) for concerts, performances, sports competitions, demonstrations of films or TV shows, or other public events.

#### **Article 53.** Election Campaign Materials

1. A candidate or party (party organization) that are electoral subjects can, at their own discretion, produce election campaign materials at the expense and within the limits of the resources of their electoral funds. A candidate or party (party organization) that are electoral

subjects may also produce printed materials for their election campaigning using equipment that they own. Information included in these materials must comply with the requirements of the Law.

2. Printed election campaign materials shall contain information on the printing entity, or an indication that the printing was done using equipment owned by the respective candidate or a party (party organization) that nominated a candidate (candidates), the number of copies, and information on the persons responsible for the publication, and the customer of such materials.

3. Local executive bodies, authorities of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, bodies of local self-government, shall, no later than on the first day of the election process of the respective election, allocate places and equip stands, bulletin boards in public places for placing election campaign materials.

#### **Article 54. General Procedure for Using Mass Media**

1. Election campaigning through mass media shall be conducted with due observance of the principle of equal opportunities and under the procedure prescribed by this Code.

2. Election campaigning through mass media paid for out of the electoral funds of candidates or parties (party organizations) that are electoral subjects shall be conducted on conditions of equal pay for a unit of printed space or air time and shall be restricted only by the limit of expenses allowed to be incurred at the expense of the electoral fund.

3. Each mass media organization shall set the price per unit of printed space or air time to be used for election campaigning at the expense of electoral funds no later than on the first day of the election process of the respective election. Moreover, mass media shall be entitled to calculate separate rates per unit of printed space or air time for business days and days off and holidays as well as for periods of air time or printed space types differing in the size of the potential audience.

Prices per unit of printed space and air time for conducting election campaigning shall not be changed during the election process. A mass media outlet shall not be allowed to grant discounts to an individual candidate or party (party organizations) that are electoral subjects.

4. A mass media outlet that has provided air time or printed space for election campaigning for one candidate or party (party organization) that are electoral subjects, shall not refuse to provide air time or printed space on the same terms to another candidate or party (party organization). This requirement shall not apply to mass media, the founders (owners) of which are parties (party organizations) that are electoral subjects.

#### **Article 55. Procedure for Using Electronic (Audiovisual) Mass Media**

1. No later than on the third day following the commencement of the election process of the respective election, television and radio broadcasting organizations who intend to provide placement of campaign materials shall publish in the print mass media their rates per one minute (second) of air time. Television and radio broadcasting organizations broadcasting on the nationwide channels shall publish such rates in the newspapers *Holos Ukrainy* and *Uriadovyy Courier*, while regional and local television and radio broadcasting organizations shall publish their rates in the respective regional and local print mass media.

In case of failure to publish the prices of the cost of airtime within the specified period, the placement of campaign materials on the air of the respective television and radio organization is prohibited.

2. Within 20 minutes before and after a television/radio broadcast of a candidate / party's (or party organization's) election campaign television/radio program, it shall be prohibited to comment on or evaluate in any form, on the same broadcasting channel, the content of the election campaign program or the actions of the respective candidate or party (party organization).

3. Air time for election campaigning shall be provided at the expense of the electoral fund of a candidate or party (party organization) based on a contract which shall be concluded between an administrator of a candidate/ party's (party organization's) electoral fund bank account and a

television and radio broadcasting organization. It shall be prohibited for a television and radio broadcasting organization to provide air time without having concluded such a contract and without receipt of funds in the bank account of a television and radio broadcasting organization.

4. Television and radio broadcasting entities shall make audio and video recordings of all programs containing election campaigning, and shall store such recordings for thirty days following the day of official announcement (official promulgation) of the election results.

5. Upon receipt of inquiries in writing from the Central Election Commission, territorial election commission or the National Television and Radio Broadcasting Council of Ukraine, television and radio broadcasting organizations shall submit all information on the allocation of air time for election campaigning and, if required, provide copies of the respective contracts, payment documents and audio or video records of programs recorded on respective information carriers.

6. During the election process, only candidates or parties (party organizations) shall be entitled to be customers of political advertising which will be aired by television and radio broadcasting organizations. During the broadcast of a political advertisement, aired at the expense of resources of the electoral fund of a party (party organization), the broadcaster shall indicate the last name, first name and patronymic name, or the full name of the customer, in the form of a text message covering no less than fifteen percent of the screen area that shall be made in a color contrasting the background and shall be easily perceptible to the viewer.

7. Election campaign materials placed in electronic (audiovisual) media should be subtitled and/or translated into Ukrainian sign language in order to ensure their accessibility for people with visual disabilities and auditory disabilities, taking into account the requirements established by the National Television and Radio Broadcasting Council.

#### **Article 56.** Procedure for Using Print mass media

1. A candidate or party (party organization) that are electoral subjects shall have the right to publish, at the expense of resources of their own electoral funds, election campaign materials in print mass media.

2. Election campaign materials indicated in Part one of this Article shall be published based on a contract which shall be concluded between an administrator of a candidate/ party (party's organization) electoral fund bank account and the editorial staffs of the print mass media outlet. It shall be prohibited for a print mass media outlet to publish such materials without having concluded such a contract and without receipt of funds in the bank account of a print mass media outlet.

3. Upon receipt of inquiries in writing from the Central Election Commission, or a territorial election commission, the editorial staffs of print mass media outlets shall submit all information on the use of printed space for placing election campaign materials of candidates or parties (party organizations) and, if required, provide copies of the respective contracts, payment documents and respective publications.

4. Print mass media who intend to provide placement of campaign materials shall publish, not later than on the third day following the commencement of the election process of the respective election, their prices per unit of printed space. Nationwide print mass media shall publish that information in the newspapers *Holos Ukrainy* and *Uriadovyy Courier*; regional and local ones, in the respective print mass media.

In case of failure to publish the prices of the cost of printed space within the specified period, the placement of campaign materials in the respective print mass media is prohibited.

#### **Article 57.** Restrictions on Conducting Election Campaigning

1. Participation in election campaigning shall be prohibited to:

1) foreigners and persons without citizenship, in particular through journalistic activities or in

the form of participation in concerts, performances, sport competitions, and other public events conducted in support of a candidate (candidates) or a subject of their nomination;

- 2) executive bodies, state bodies of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, and bodies of local self-government, law enforcement agencies and courts; civil servants and officials, during their working hours (unless the public servant or official is a candidate in the respective election);
- 3) members of election commissions during their term of powers in the respective election commissions.

It shall be prohibited to conduct campaign events, to disseminate the election campaign materials, to demonstrate campaigning films or video clips, to disseminate election campaign leaflets, posters, other campaign materials or printed publications, which contain election campaign materials, appeals to vote or not to vote for parties that are electoral subjects, or candidates in the respective election, or public assessment of activities of such parties or candidates during the conduct of events organized by state executive bodies, state bodies of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, and bodies of local self-government, state-owned and municipal enterprises, institutions and organizations.

2. Election campaigning in military units (commands), penitentiary institutions, and pretrial detention centers shall be restricted. Visiting the military units (commands), penitentiary institutions, and pretrial detention centers by individual candidates or their agents, representatives or authorized persons of parties (party organizations) shall be prohibited. Meetings of these persons with voters shall be organized by the respective district election commissions jointly with the military unit (command) commanders or with the heads of the penitentiary institution or pretrial detention center, with mandatory notification of all agents of the candidates, authorized persons of parties (party organizations) in the respective territorial election district, no later than three days prior to the meeting.

3. It shall be prohibited to disseminate in any form any materials containing appeals to terminate the independence of Ukraine, change its constitutional order by violence, infringe upon the sovereignty or territorial integrity of the state, undermine its security, illegally seize state power; advocating war and violence; inciting inter-ethnic, racial, national, or religious hostility; or encroaching on human rights and freedoms or on the health of the population.

4. During the election process, media organizations, functionaries and officials and creative employees thereof shall be prohibited from appealing, in their materials and programs other than those based on agreements concluded in compliance with the requirements of Part three of Article 55 or Part two of Article 56 of this Code, to vote or not to vote for candidates or parties (party organizations); evaluating their election programs or giving preference to them in any other form.

5. It shall be prohibited to spread deliberately false information about the candidate or party (party organization) that are electoral subjects. The mass media outlet that made public the information, which the candidate or party (party organization) considers to be false, shall, no later than three days after publishing such materials, but no later than two days prior to the day of voting, provide the candidate or party (party organization) affected by the disseminated false information with an opportunity, upon receiving their demand for response, to make public a response in one of the following ways: by providing the same amount of air time, respectively, on television or radio, or by publishing in the print mass media the material provided by the candidate or party (party organization), which must be printed in the same font and be placed in the column "Response" in the same place of the periodical and be at least as large as the report being refuted. The response shall contain reference to the publication in the print mass media or to the program on television or radio and to the information being refuted. The response shall be made public without any appendices, commentaries, or abridgments, at the expense of mass media.

6. It shall be prohibited to conduct election campaigning alongside with handing out to voters, institutions, establishments, organizations, regardless of their subordination and form of ownership, of money, gift certificates, food and alcoholic beverages, goods (except for election campaign materials containing visualization of party symbols and branding of the election campaign, mentioning the name or image of a candidate running in the election, such as such as posters, leaflets, calendars, notebooks, pens, lighters, matches, badges, badges, USB sticks, pennants, flags, books, packages, T-shirts, caps,

scarves, umbrellas and other campaign materials, the value of which does not exceed 6 percent of the tax-free minimum income, and which are made at the expense of election campaign fund), benefits, advantages, services, works, securities, loans, lottery tickets, other tangible and intangible assets, including on behalf of charitable organizations, the founders or members of which are the candidate (candidates), party (local party organization), and other charitable organizations, which are accompanied by calls or proposals to vote or not to vote for a particular candidate (candidates), party (local party organization) or mentioning the name of the candidate, the name of the party (local party organization), party symbols.

Election campaigning alongside with handing out to voters, institutions, establishments, organizations, regardless of their subordination and form of ownership, of money, gift certificates, food and alcoholic beverages, goods (except for election campaign materials containing visualization of party symbols and branding of the election campaign, mentioning the name or image of a candidate running in the election, such as such as posters, leaflets, calendars, notebooks, pens, lighters, matches, badges, badges, USB sticks, pennants, flags, books, packages, T-shirts, caps, scarves, umbrellas and other campaign materials, the value of which does not exceed 6 percent of the tax-free minimum income, and which are made at the expense of election campaign fund), benefits, advantages, services, works, securities, loans, lottery tickets, other tangible and intangible assets, which are accompanied by calls or proposals to vote or not to vote for a particular candidate (candidates), or mentioning the name of the candidate (candidates), party symbols shall be considered voter bribery.

7. The Central Election Commission shall, no later than on the tenth day following the commencement of the election process in nationwide elections or ordinary local election, place on its official website clarifications regarding the ban on handing out money or distributing for free or on a preferential basis commodities, services, works, securities, loans or lottery tickets, other tangible assets (indirect bribery).

8. It shall be prohibited to include election campaigning materials of candidates or parties (party organizations) or political advertisements in informational television and radio programs. Political advertisements shall be separated from other broadcasts and identified as such.

9. It shall be prohibited to interrupt programs covering election programs of candidates, parties (party organizations) with commercials advertising commodities, works, services, or with other reports. It shall be prohibited to place political advertisements in the same bloc with commercials advertising commodities, or public service announcement, or to use commercial advertising or public service announcements for election campaigning in any form.

10. It shall be prohibited to conduct election campaigning in foreign mass media operating in the territory of Ukraine.

11. It shall be prohibited to place printed election campaigning materials, political advertisements, including reports on the course of the election process, on architectural heritage objects as well as in places in which such materials may interfere with the road traffic safety.

12. Candidates in the respective election, which occupy positions, including part time, in the state executive bodies, state bodies of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, and bodies of local self-government, state-owned and municipal enterprises, establishments, institutions, organizations and military units (commands) shall not engage their subordinates in his or her election campaign activity or use them for any kind of activity associated with election campaigning, or use corporate vehicles, means of communication, equipment, premises, other objects or resources at the place of his or her work, or to use staff or production meetings, or corporate meetings for election campaigning.

13. It shall be prohibited to publish and distribute printed election campaigning materials containing no information on the enterprise that published them, their circulation, the information on the individuals in charge of the issue, and the person requesting the publication of such materials.

14. From the time of the termination of the election campaign, no one shall publish election campaign materials in mass media, distribute election leaflets, posters, make public appeals to vote or not to vote for candidates, parties (party organizations), distribute political advertising. Circulation of

election campaigning materials shall be stopped as of 24:00 on the last Friday prior to the day of voting or the day of repeat voting by the respective units of the local executive bodies, bodies of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and local self-government bodies.

15. The use of premises of state executive bodies, state bodies of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, and bodies of local self-government for conducting election campaigning shall be prohibited.

16. Placing election campaigning materials and political advertisements on the buildings and in the premises of state executive bodies, state bodies of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, and bodies of local self-government, state-owned and municipal enterprises, institutions and organizations shall be prohibited.

17. It shall be prohibited to place election campaigning materials inside public transportation vehicles and on their external surface, including taxis; to place political advertisements in the premises and on the buildings of subway stations, bus and railway stations, ports and airports; and also to distribute election campaigning materials through television and radio broadcasting networks or other passenger information networks or information panels in the premises of subway stations and inside subway wagons, bus and railway stations, ports and airports, at public transport stops, as well as on one-time, monthly or other travel tickets.

18. If the Central Election Commission, district or territorial election commission receives an application or other report concerning violations that suggest that a crime or an administrative offense may have been committed, the respective election commission shall immediately forward the said application or report to the respective law enforcement bodies.

## **Chapter IX. OFFICIAL OBSERVERS**

### **Article 58. Official Observers**

1. Official observers from candidates and parties (party organizations) that are electoral subjects, and from nongovernmental organizations, which have been granted a permission to have official observers in the respective election, in accordance with the procedure established by this Code, may take part in the election process.

Official observers from foreign states and international organizations may observe the pace of the election process. Official observer from foreign states and international organizations shall not be deemed an electoral subject.

2. The right of an electoral subject to have official observers is determined by this Code for each type of election.

3. A person having the right to vote may be an official observer (except official observers from foreign states, international organizations). None of the following persons may be an official observer:

- 1) a person who is a citizen (national) of a state recognized by the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine as an aggressor state, or an occupying state;
- 2) a person in respect of whom proposals have been initiated or submitted by a state recognized by the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine as an aggressor state, or an occupying state;
- 3) an election commission member;
- 4) an official of the state executive bodies; prosecutor's offices or courts; law enforcement authorities; other state bodies, bodies of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea or local self-government bodies;
- 5) a serviceman, police officer, employee of the Security Service of Ukraine, a person of the rank and file or senior staff of the State Penitentiary Service of Ukraine;
- 6) a person who is undergoing alternative (non-military) service;

- 7) a person who has a criminal record for committing a grave or especially grave crime or a crime against citizens' electoral rights or a corruption crime, which has not been lifted or expunged pursuant to the procedure established by the Law.

4. The powers of official observers shall commence on the day of their registration by the respective election commission under the procedure established by this Code and shall expire upon the official announcement (official promulgation) by the Central Election Commission, territorial election commission of the results of the respective election, unless otherwise stated by this Code.

In case of repeat voting, official observers in the respective election shall continue to exercise their powers during preparation for and conduct of the repeat voting; their powers shall be deemed terminated following the official announcement (official promulgation) of the results of the respective election.

5. An official observer from the electoral subject, a nongovernmental organization shall observe the election within the respective territorial district, in which he or she has been registered as an observer. An official observer from a nongovernmental organization, who has been registered by the Central Election Commission, shall observe the election in the entire territory of the nationwide district.

6. The election commission that registered an official observer may terminate his or her powers early if it has been found that he or she has committed gross and systematic violations of the Constitution of Ukraine and the Laws of Ukraine. The official observer's powers shall be terminated early by a motivated decision.

7. The powers of official observers from a party (party organization) or a candidate nominated by a party (party organization) shall be deemed terminated from the moment when the respective party (party organization) loses the status of an electoral subject.

#### **Article 59. Official Observers from Foreign States and International Organizations**

1. Official observers from foreign states or international organizations shall be accredited by the Central Election Commission. Proposals regarding accreditation of official observers shall be submitted by foreign states or international organizations to the Central Election Commission directly or through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs no later than seven days prior to the day of voting in the national election and no later than ten days prior to the day of voting in the local election. The procedure for accreditation of official observers from foreign states and international organizations is determined by the Central Election Commission.

2. Citizens of Ukraine may not be accredited as official observers from foreign states or international organizations. Citizens of Ukraine, or foreigners, or persons without citizenship who speak Ukrainian may accompany accredited official observers from foreign states and international organizations in the territory of election precincts and during meetings of election commissions, provided that he or she acts only as an interpreter (no more than one person with each official observer).

3. A decision on accreditation of official observers from foreign states or international organizations shall be made by the Central Election Commission no later than five days prior to the day of voting.

4. The Central Election Commission shall issue identification documents, of a form established by it, to official observers from foreign states or international organizations.

5. Official observers from foreign states or international organizations shall exercise their powers in the territory of Ukraine.

6. An official observer from a foreign state or an international organization shall be entitled to:

- 1) be present at the meetings of candidates, their agents, representatives or authorized persons of parties (party organizations) that are electoral subjects with voters, at election campaign meetings, rallies, and meetings of election commissions;
- 2) familiarize himself or herself with the election campaigning materials;
- 3) be present, in compliance with the requirements of this Code, at the meetings and in the premises of precinct, district and territorial election commissions and observe the actions of



election commission members from any distance, in particular during the issuance of ballot papers to voters and vote counting and establishing the results of an election, without physically obstructing the election commission members;

- 4) make photographic, film, audio and video recordings, without violating the secrecy of voting;
- 5) publicly express proposals, after the end of the elections, relating to preparation for the respective election and improving the legislation of Ukraine, taking into consideration the international experience; hold press-conferences in accordance with the requirements of the Laws of Ukraine;
- 6) together with other observers from foreign states or international organizations, create temporary groups of official observers for coordination of their activities within the scope of their powers specified by this Code;
- 7) receive copies of the protocols or other documents in the cases specified by this Code.

7. Official observers from foreign states or international organizations shall perform observations autonomously and independently, with due consideration of restrictions established by Part ten of this Article.

8. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine, other state executive bodies, state bodies of the Autonomous Republic of Ukraine, local self-government bodies, and election commissions shall facilitate official observers from foreign states or international organizations in exercising their powers.

9. Financial and material support for activities of official observers from foreign states or international organizations shall be provided at the expense of funds of the states or organizations which have sent such observers to Ukraine, or at the observers' own expense.

10. Official observers from foreign states and international organizations may not: interfere with the work of the election commission, perform actions that impede the lawful course of the election process, or unlawfully prevent the election commission members from exercising their powers; fill out a ballot paper for a voter (in particular upon his or her request) or violate the secrecy of voting in any other way and use their status in an activity not pertaining to the election process observation. These restrictions shall also apply to persons who, in compliance with Part two of this Article, accompany official observers, at the time when they directly work with the official observer from a foreign state or an international organization.

#### **Article 60. Official Observers from Nongovernmental Organizations**

1. A legally registered nongovernmental organization whose involvement in the election process and its monitoring is stipulated in its charter may, no later than fifty days prior to the day of voting in the national election and not later than forty days prior to the day of voting in the local election, file a petition with the Central Election Commission for permission to have official observers during the respective election.

The petition, to be signed by the head of the nongovernmental organization and affixed with its seal, shall be appended with a copy of the charter of the nongovernmental organization notarized pursuant to the procedure established by the Law of Ukraine "On Notaries".

The procedure for granting permission to nongovernmental organizations to have official observers during elections shall be established by the Central Election Commission.

2. No later than on the fifth day following the receipt of such petition, the Central Election Commission shall take a decision granting permission to a nongovernmental organization to have official observers or refusing to grant such permission.

Only violation by the nongovernmental organization of the requirements established in Part one of this Article can be a ground for refusal. A copy of the decision granting permission to a nongovernmental organization to have official observers or refusing to grant such permission shall be issued to a representative of the nongovernmental organization no later than on the day after the

adoption of such decision. A nongovernmental organization shall have the right to appeal in court a decision refusing to grant it permission to have official observers.

3. Immediately the respective applications of nongovernmental organizations have been considered, the Central Election Commission shall publish, on its official website, the list of nongovernmental organizations that have been granted permission to have official observers.

4. Official observers from a nongovernmental organization, in cases specified by this Code, shall be registered by the respective district or territorial election commission. Registration shall be performed on the basis of an application of the head of a nongovernmental organization.

An application for registration of official observers shall contain their last names, first names (all first names), patronymic name (if available), date of birth, citizenship, place of employment (occupation), position, place and address of residence, contact telephone numbers, information about the lack of criminal records for committing a grave or especially grave crime or a crime against citizens' electoral rights or a corruption crime, which have not been lifted or expunged pursuant to the procedure established by the Law, as well as the number and date of the decision of the Central Election Commission on the permission of a nongovernmental organization to have official observers in the respective elections..

The application shall be appended with statements of consent of these persons to be official observers for the respective nongovernmental organization and with a photocopy of his or her passport of a citizen of Ukraine (photocopies of the first and second pages of a passport of a citizen of Ukraine in the form of a passport book or photocopies of the front and reverse sides of a passport of a citizen of Ukraine in the form of a card) or a photocopy of the first and second pages of his or her temporary certificate of citizen of Ukraine (for persons who have recently been granted Ukrainian citizenship).

5. An application for registration of an official observer from a nongovernmental organization (in both paper and electronic form) signed by the head of the organization (an authorized representative of a nongovernmental organization acting on the basis of a power of attorney), affixed with the seal of a nongovernmental organization, shall be submitted to the Central Election Commission, respective district or territorial election commission no later than five days prior to the day of voting.

6. The respective district or territorial election commission shall register official observers in the respective territorial election district and shall produce and issue to them their identification documents in a form established by the Central Election Commission no later than on the third day after the submission of the application.

7. The ground upon which an application for registration of an official observer may be refused is violation of the provisions of Parts four and five of this Article and Part three of Article 58 of this Code.

8. The registration of official observers from nongovernmental organizations in the out-of-country election district shall be performed by the Central Election Commission in accordance with the procedure specified by this Article.

In national elections, the Central Election Commission may register, in the manner determined by it, no more than two official observers from nongovernmental organizations in the nationwide election district, which observe elections within such election district. An official observer from a nongovernmental organization in the nationwide election district, in addition to the rights provided for in part nine of this Article, has the right, in compliance with the requirements of this Code, to be present at a meeting of the Central Election Commission.

9. An official observer from a nongovernmental organization shall be entitled to:

- 1) be present, with observance of the requirements of this Code, at the meetings of the district, territorial (or more than one territorial), precinct election commissions of the respective territorial election district;
- 2) be present at meetings of candidates, their agents, representatives and authorized persons of parties (party organizations) that are electoral subjects with voters, at pre-election meetings or rallies;

- 3) be present at election precincts during the voting, observe actions of the election commission members from any distance, in particular during the issuance of ballot papers to voters and vote counting at the election precinct without physically getting in the way of the election commission members;
  - 4) make photographic, video or audio recordings, without violating the secrecy of voting;
  - 5) be present during the voting at voter's place of stay;
  - 6) address, in accordance with the procedure established by this Code, the election commissions within the boundaries of the respective territorial district with an application or a complaint seeking elimination of violations of this Code if any have been discovered;
  - 7) draw a statement of discovery of violation of the requirements of this Code that shall be signed by him or her and by no less than two voters certifying the fact of such violation, with indication of their last names, first names, patronymic name, place and address of residence, and file it with the respective election commission or a court;
  - 8) take necessary measures within the limits of legislation to stop illegal actions during the voting and vote counting at the election precinct;
  - 9) receive copies of the protocols, as well as other documents specified by this Code;
  - 10) exercise other rights provided for by this Code for official observers.
10. An official observer from a nongovernmental organization may not:
- 1) interfere with the work of the election commission, perform actions violating the course of the election process, or prevent the election commission members from exercising their powers;
  - 2) fill out a ballot paper for a voter (in particular upon his or her request);
  - 3) be present during the filling out of a ballot paper by a voter in a voting booth (room) for secret voting or violate the secrecy of voting in any other way.

11. If an official observer from a nongovernmental organization violates the requirements of Part ten of this Article, the election commission shall give him or her a warning. In the event of a repeat violation, or of a gross violation of the requirements of Part ten of this Article, the election commission may deprive him or her of the right to be present at its meeting pursuant to the procedure established by this Code.

12. A nongovernmental organization shall have the right to withdraw its official observer by addressing the respective election commission that registered him or her, with a written application for termination of such observer's powers, and to submit documents for registration of another person pursuant to the procedure established by this Code.

13. An official observer from a nongovernmental organization shall be entitled at any time to file with the election commission that registered him or her a statement of resignation. Based on such application, the election commission shall adopt a decision cancelling the registration of the official observer and issue or send a copy thereof to the head of the respective nongovernmental organization.

## **Chapter X. PREPARATION FOR AND CONDUCT OF VOTING**

### **Article 61. Material and Technical Support for preparation and Conduct of Elections**

1. Executive bodies and bodies of local self-government, or other bodies (officials) that according to the law exercise their powers, as well as their officials, shall facilitate the exercise of the election commissions' powers:
  - 1) provide them with the necessary premises for organization of their work and conduct of voting in accordance with the requirements of this Code and the regulations for the equipping such premises established by the Central Election Commission. In exceptional cases, in order to ensure proper organization of activities of district election commissions,

at the request of the heads of oblast state administrations, premises for such election commissions may be provided outside the respective territorial district;

- 2) ensuring the security of the premises of election commissions as well as the security of ballot papers and other electoral documentation;
- 3) providing them, in accordance with the standards approved by the Central Election Commission, with transport vehicles, means of communication, equipment, implements and office appliances, which shall be returned after termination of activities of the election commissions. The procedure for payment or reimbursement of the cost of the aforementioned services shall be approved by the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine.

The bodies of the National Police of Ukraine shall be obliged, no later than eight days prior to the day of voting, provide round-the-clock security of the premises of election commissions and, if necessary, at the request of the Central Election Commission, the State Voter Register maintenance bodies.

**Article 62. Premises of Precinct Election Commissions and Premises for Voting**

1. Voting shall be held in the specially allocated and equipped premises with voting booths for secret voting and places designated for handover of the ballot papers and for placement of the ballot boxes. The precinct election commission shall be responsible for the outfitting of the premises for voting.

In order to ensure appropriate conditions of personal voting for a voter with health problems (due to disability, temporary health disorder, age), at the premises for voting such a voter shall be provided with reasonable accommodation (aids) in the manner and cases specified by the Central Election Commission.

2. Local executive bodies, bodies of local self-government or other bodies (officials) exercising their powers in accordance with the Law shall provide regular election precincts with the necessary premises for voting in accordance with the requirements of this Code and the standards approved by the Central Election Commission, as well as technical assistance in equipping them.

The heads of the institutions, establishments, Ukraine's polar station, and the captains of ships at which special election precincts were established shall provide the special election precincts with the necessary premises for precinct election commission and premises for organizing their work and conduct of voting, in accordance with the requirements of this Code and standards for equipping such premises approved by the Central Election Commission.

The heads of Ukraine's foreign diplomatic institutions and military units (commands) deployed outside Ukraine at which out-of-country election precincts have been established shall provide the out-of-country election precincts with the necessary premises for organizing their work and conduct of voting in accordance with the requirements of this Code and standards for equipping such premises approved by the Central Election Commission.

3. The premises for voting in a small election precinct shall have an area of no less than 50 square meters; the premises for voting in a medium-sized election precinct shall have an area of no less than 75 square meters, and the premises for voting in a large election precinct shall have an area of no less than 90 square meters.

In the absence of premises with the required area within a regular, special, or out-of-country election precinct, the premises for voting at the respective election precinct may have an area smaller than the one required by the standards established by the Central Election Commission.

4. Premises of a precinct election commission and premises for voting shall correspond to the requirement of this Code, as well as the established sanitary and technical standards, state construction standards, including the requirement of an unimpeded access for persons with health problems (due to disability, temporary health disorder, age) and other low mobility groups of population.

Standards for equipping premises of precinct election commissions and premises for voting shall be established by the Central Election Commission.

If the premises of the precinct election commission and the voting premises cannot be fully adapted to the needs of persons with health problems (due to disability, temporary health disorder, age) and other low-mobility groups, the respective local executive bodies and bodies of local self-government, heads of institutions, establishments, a polar station of Ukraine, captains of ships where special election precincts are formed, heads of foreign diplomatic missions of Ukraine, military units (formations) stationed outside Ukraine, where out-of-country election precincts are formed shall organize unimpeded access of such persons to such premises.

5. Premises for voting shall be equipped with a sufficient number of booths for secret voting. For small election precincts, the number of such booths shall be no less than two, for medium-sized election precincts the number of such booths shall be no less than four, and for large election precincts the number of such booths shall be no less than six.

The equipment in the premises for voting shall be arranged in such a way that the places for issuance of ballot papers, entrance to and exit from the booths for secret voting, and ballot boxes are placed within plain view of the precinct election commission members and other persons who are entitled under this Code to be present in the premises for voting, as well as to ensure the free movement of voters, including those in wheelchairs and other low-mobility groups.

One of the booths for secret voting must be adapted for voting by voters with health problems (due to disability, including persons on wheelchairs, temporary health disorder, age) and other low-mobility groups in accordance with the requirements established by the Central Election Commission.

6. Each election precinct shall be equipped with a sufficient number of ballot boxes – both stationary (large) and mobile (small). Ballot boxes for voting shall be made of transparent material and shall be of sizes approved by the Central Election Commission. A small election precinct shall have no less than two stationary ballot boxes; a medium election precinct shall have no less than four stationary ballot boxes; and a large election precinct shall have no less than six stationary ballot boxes. Each election precinct shall have no less than two mobile ballot boxes.

Stationary ballot boxes shall be placed in the premises for voting in a way that will ensure that voters approaching them have the possibility to walk through the voting booths for secret voting.

The procedure for producing, accounting, using, and storing the ballot boxes shall be subject to approval by the Central Election Commission.

## **Chapter XI. FILING COMPLAINTS AGAINST DECISIONS, ACTIONS OR INACTION RELATING TO THE ELECTION PROCESS**

**Article 63.** Basic Principles of Filing Complaints against Decisions, Actions, or Inaction Relating to the Election Process

1. Decisions, actions, or inaction relating to the election process may be contested by filing a complaint to a court or to an election commission.

2. Filing a complaint against a decision, action, or inaction relating to the election process with a court, as well as consideration and resolution of cases by the court shall be carried out in accordance with the procedure established by the Code of Administrative Adjudication of Ukraine.

3. Filing a complaint against a decision, action, or inaction relating to the election process with the respective election commission, as well as consideration of cases and adoption of a decision by the election commission shall be carried out in accordance with the procedure established by this Code.

4. A court with which a lawsuit has been filed shall immediately notify the respective election commission and a higher-level election commission (with regard to the voter list, a court shall also notify the State Voter Register maintenance body) of the receipt of the lawsuit, instituting

proceedings or refusal to open proceedings in the case, as well as of the decision adopted by the court.

5. If a court initiates proceedings upon an administrative lawsuit related to the same matter and on the same grounds and initiated by the same subject as a complaint filed with an election commission, the election commission shall, upon being notified of the administrative lawsuit by the court, cease the consideration of the said complaint.

6. Courts, election commissions, the State Voter Register maintenance bodies, law enforcement bodies shall organize their work during the election process, including on weekends and on the day of voting, so as to ensure the receipt and consideration of complaints (lawsuits) and addresses of election commissions within the time frame and in the manner prescribed by this Code.

7. Issues related to consideration of complaints by election commissions which are not regulated by this Code shall be resolved by the Central Election Commission.

**Article 64. Filing a Complaint to Court**

1. The electoral subject may file a complaint against a decision, action, or inaction related to the election process to a court in accordance with the procedure established by the Code of Administrative Adjudication of Ukraine.

2. The following shall be contested exclusively by filing a lawsuit to a court:

- 1) a decision, action, or inaction of the Central Election Commission, action or inaction of a Commissioner of the Central Election Commission;
  - a) decisions or actions of the district election commission, decisions or actions of the territorial election commission, except for the cases established by this Code;
  - b) action or inaction of a member of the district election commission, territorial election commission;
- 2) action or inaction of a candidate;
- 3) a decision or action of a party (party organization), public association, their officials or authorized representatives that concerns the election process, except those decisions or actions that belong to their internal activities or exclusive competences, in accordance with the Law or their charter (regulations);
- 4) an action or inaction of an authorized person of a candidate, an authorized person of a party (party organization);
- 5) an action or inaction of an official observer from a candidate or party (party organization) that are electoral subjects in the respective election process, or a nongovernmental organization;
- 6) a decision, action or inaction of executive bodies, bodies of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, bodies of local self-government, enterprises, institutions, establishments or organizations and their officials;
- 7) a decision, action or inaction of mass media, information agencies, their owners, officials and creative staff members.

3. Decisions, action or omissions of election commissions, their members, as defined in Article 65 of this Code, may also be contested by filing a lawsuit to a court.

4. A court, with which a lawsuit has been filed, shall immediately notify the respective election commission, a higher-level election commission, the Central Election Commission, and, in the cases as regards the voter list, the State Voter Register maintenance body, of receipt of the lawsuit, instituting proceedings or refusal to open proceedings in the case, as well as of the decision adopted by the court.

5. If a court institutes proceedings upon an administrative lawsuit related to the same matter and on the same grounds as a complaint filed with an election commission, the election commission shall, no later than the next day after the day when it was notified of the administrative lawsuit by the court, return such complaint to the complainant without reviewing it with the signature of a person indicated in Part two of Article 68 of this Code, with indication of the grounds for its return.

6. If a court annuls a decision of an election commission, including on an issue of declaring voting at an election precinct to be invalid, establishing voting results and the results of election, then the election commission whose decision was annulled, or a higher-level election commission shall adopt a decision in accordance with the court's decision. In such a case, unless the decision was canceled for formal reasons, the election commission may not adopt a decision essentially repeating the one cancelled by the court.

**Article 65.** Object and Subject of a Complaint Filed with an Election Commission. Subject of the Consideration of a Complaint

1. A complainant, addressing an election commission with a complaint related to the election process may be:

- 1) a candidate registered to participate in the respective election. A candidate's agent, a candidate's representative to the Central Election Commission or a territorial election commission may be also a complainant filing a complaint on behalf of a candidate;
- 2) a party (party organization) that is an electoral subject in the respective election process represented by its chair, or an authorized representative, or an authorized person of a party (party organization), or other person authorized by a decision of a party's central governing body (party organization's central governing body);
- 3) an official observer from a candidate or party (party organization) that are electoral subjects in the respective election process, or from a nongovernmental organization;
- 4) a voter whose electoral rights or legally protected interests in relation to participation in the election process were violated through a decision, action, or inaction of a respondent.

2. A voter can file a complaint with the respective election commission as regards a decision, action, or inaction of the respondents if such decisions, actions or inaction have violated his or her personal electoral rights guaranteed by the Law or interests regarding participation in the election process, including participation in the work of an election commission or acting as an observer, or presence at election commission meetings in the cases specified by this Code, during the conduct of the voting in accordance with this Code, or failure to provide conditions for access of voters with health problems (due to disability, temporary health disorder, age) to the election process as provided for by this Code.

A candidate registered to participate in the respective election, or an authorized person on his or her behalf can file a complaint with the respective election commission as regards a decision, action, or inaction of the respondents, if such decisions, action, or inaction concern the respective region, district, where the respective candidate is registered to participate in the election.

3. The following complaints may be filed with the Central Election Commission:

- 1) concerning the inaction of a district election commission;
- 2) inaction of the territorial election commission, which establishes the results of the respective local election.

4. The following complaints may be filed with the territorial election commission which establishes the results of the respective local election:

- 1) decisions, actions or inaction of the territorial election commission, which establishes the results of voting in the respective local election;
- 2) decisions, actions or inaction of the precinct election commission, which ensures the

organization and conduct of the respective local election (if the results of voting in the respective local election are not established);

A complaint may be filed with the territorial election commission, which establishes the results of voting in the respective local elections, against the decisions, actions or inaction of the precinct election commission, which ensures the organization and conduct of the respective local elections.

A complaint may be filed with the territorial election commission that formed the precinct election commission against the action or inaction of a member of the respective precinct election commission.

5. A complaint may be filed with the district election commission against decision, action, or inaction of precinct election commission, which belongs to the respective territorial election district, or against action or inaction of a member of such a precinct election commission.

#### **Article 66.** Timeline for Lodging Complaints

1. A complainant must file a complaint with an election commission within two days of the adoption of the decision, action, or failure to act in question, except in the cases specified in Parts two and three of this Article.

2. A complaint against a violation that occurred prior to the day of voting must be filed within the terms prescribed by Part one of this Article, but no later than at 22:00 of the day preceding the day of voting.

3. A complaint against a decision, action, or inaction of an election commission, or members of a commission, that occurred on the day of voting or during the counting of votes at the election precinct, establishing election results and/or during the transportation of election documents, may be filed with the respective election commission no later than on the next day after the adoption of the decision, the performance of the action, or inaction, but no later than the time of acceptance by the respective election commission of election documents of such election commission in accordance with this Code

4. The calculation of time for purposes of a complaint shall commence on the day following the day of the adoption of the decision, the performance of the action, or the failure to act, which constitute an object of a complaint.

5. A failure to act shall be deemed to have taken place on the last day when an action legally required to be taken could have been taken.

6. The time limit for filing a complaint shall not be extended or renewed, except that a complaint may be re-filed after it has been corrected or updated no later than on the day following day of its return without consideration by the subject of a complaint consideration in accordance with Part two of Article 68 of this Code.

7. A complaint shall be deemed to have been filed on the day of its actual receipt by the election commission.

8. A change or clarification of the complainant's claims, after the submission of the complaint to the election commission, due to the discovery of new circumstances previously unknown to the complainant, shall not be deemed a new complaint.

The complainant must prove that the circumstances which led to the change or clarification of his or her claims were not known to the complainant at the time the complaint had been lodged.

The complainant has the right to change his or her claims (change the subject of the complaint without changing the grounds, increase or decrease the amount claimed) by way of a written application within the time period prescribed for submitting a complaint to the election commission.

The clarification of complainant's claims (amendments, additions made in order to provide greater accuracy to the claims without changing their merits) shall be made by submitting a written application no later than two hours before the meeting of the election commission, where the respective claim is considered.



Applications for change or clarification of the complainant's claims, submitted after the expiry of the prescribed time period, as well as in respect of which the complainant did not prove that the circumstances which lead to the change or clarification of his or her claims were not known to the complainant at the time the complaint had been lodged, shall be rejected by the election commission, which shall be reflected in their decision.

**Article 67.** Form and Content of a Complaint

1. A complaint shall be filed with an election commission in writing. The complaint shall contain:
  - 1) the name of the election commission with which it is filed;
  - 2) the last name, first name, patronymic name (name) of the complainant, his or her place of residence or an official contact address (legal or postal address), and, if available, the number of the means of communication and email address;
  - 3) the last name, first name, patronymic name (name) of the respondent, his or her place of residence or an official contact address (legal or postal address), and, if available, the number of the means of communication and email address;
  - 4) the nature of the issue being raised;
  - 5) an account of the facts and an indication of the evidence that substantiates the complainant's claims;
  - 6) clearly formulated claims, with indication of the nature of the decision sought from the subject of complaint consideration;
  - 7) a list of attached documents and materials;
  - 8) the signature of the complainant or of the person representing him or her, with indication of the date of the signing there of.
2. A complaint may contain indication of any stakeholders whose participation in the consideration of the complaint is sought by the complainant.
3. A complaint shall contain the information on a status of a complainant in the election process.
4. If a complaint is to be filed on behalf of a candidate by a candidate's representative to the Central Election Commission, territorial election commission, or a candidate's agent, a complaint shall also contain the information on the last name, first name and patronymic name, place of residence or an official contact address (legal or postal address) and, if available, the number of the means of communication and email address of a candidate, in whose interests a complaint is to be submitted. Moreover, in case of filing a complaint by a candidate's representative to the Central Election Commission or a territorial election commission, or a candidate's agent in person, the respective person shall present an identity document issued by an election commission pursuant to the procedure established by this Code. In other cases, a complaint shall be appended with a copy of the respective person's identity document certified pursuant to the procedure established by the Law.
5. A complaint filed on behalf of a party (party organization) that is an electoral subject shall be certified by the signature of the party's chair and affixed with the party's seal (party organization or the respective higher-level party organization), or by the signature of another person authorized to sign the respective document. Moreover, in this case, if the complaint is filed by an authorized representative, or an authorized person of a party (party organization), or other person authorized by a decision of a party's central administrative body (party organization's central administrative body) in person, the respective person shall present a certificate issued by the election commission pursuant to the procedure established by this Code, or another document which confirms powers of such a person. In other cases, a complaint shall be appended with a copy of the respective person's identity document or a document certified pursuant to the procedure established by the Law.

The chair of the party (local party organization) acts as a representative of the respective party (local party organization) without additional authorization.

6. If a complaint is filed by an official observer in person, he or she shall present an identity document issued by an election commission pursuant to the procedure established by this Code. In other cases, a complaint shall be appended with a copy of the respective person's identity document certified pursuant to the procedure established by the Law.

7. A complaint shall be appended with its copies, evidentiary materials specified therein, and copies of all the documents attached thereto, the number of copies being equal to the number of the respondents and stakeholders specified in the complaint. Written evidences shall be submitted in original or as a copy certified pursuant to the procedure established by the Law.

8. A complainant may make claims to:

- 1) recognize a decision of a respondent as such that does not meet the requirements of the Laws (is illegal), or violates the citizens' electoral rights, and rights and legitimate interests of an electoral subject, and to cancel it;
- 2) recognize an action of a respondent as such that does not meet the requirements of the Laws (is illegal), or violates the citizens' electoral rights, and rights and legitimate interests of an electoral subject, and oblige a respondent to refrain from committing such an action;
- 3) recognize a respondent's failure to act as such that does not meet the requirements of the Laws (is illegal), or violates the citizens' electoral rights, and rights and legitimate interests of an electoral subject, and oblige a respondent to committing a certain action;
- 4) restore violated electoral rights of the citizens, or rights and legitimate interests of an electoral subject in another manner, which does not contradict this Code.

9. In case of receipt of a complaint (scanned copy of the complaint) by e-mail (in electronic form), except for a complaint certified by a qualified electronic signature, it shall be processed by the election commission in the manner prescribed by this Code after receipt of this complaint in writing and on paper. The day of receipt of the respective complaint by the election commission in writing and on paper shall be deemed the day of its submission.

10. The Central Election Commission may implement electronic services for submitting complaints to election commissions.

#### **Article 68.** Returning a Complaint Without Reviewing It

1. A complaint that does not comply with the requirements of Article 67 of this Code, shall be returned to the complainant without reviewing it no later than on the day following the day of its receipt, whereas a complaint filed on the eve of the day of voting, on the day of voting or on the next day shall be returned to the complainant without delay.

- 1) The following persons shall be entitled to return a complaint without consideration:
- 2) as regards complaints submitted to the Central Election Commission: the Chair, Deputy Chair of the Central Election Commission or any other member of the Central Election Commission on the instructions of the Chair of the Central Election Commission;

2. as regards complaints submitted to other election commission: the chair or the deputy chair of this election commission.

3. The complaint shall be returned to a complainant with an appended letter signed by the person specified in Part 2 of this Article, with an exhaustive list of the defects that prevent it from being considered, along with notice of the right to refile the complaint in accordance with the requirements of Article 67 of this Code, within the time limit prescribed by this Code.

4. If a complaint is re-filed, but does not address the defects identified or suffers from new defects, the election commission shall adopt a decision refusing to consider the complaint.

#### **Article 69. Timeline for Consideration of a Complaint**

1. A complaint prepared in compliance with the requirements of Article 67 of this Code shall be considered by the respective election commission at its meeting no later than on the third day after the receipt thereof, except the cases specified by Parts two – four of this Article.

2. A complaint relating to alleged violations that occurred before the day of voting shall be considered by the election commission within the time limit prescribed by Part one of this Article, but no later than at 24:00 of the day preceding the day of voting.

3. A complaint relating to alleged violation that occurred on the day of voting or during the counting of votes at the precinct and/or during transportation of election documents shall be considered by the respective election commission within two days of the day on which it was filed.

4. A complaint concerning the respective elections, but which is received by the election commission outside the election process of such elections, shall be considered by the election commission within thirty days from the date of receipt of the complaint.

#### **Article 70. Procedure and Timeline for Consideration of a Complaint**

1. A complaint prepared in compliance with the requirements of this Code shall be considered by the respective election commission at its meeting.

2. A meeting of an election commission which shall consider a complaint shall be convened with mandatory invitation of the complainant, the respondent, and other parties concerned mentioned in the complaint.

3. An election commission shall notify the persons indicated in Part two of this Article of the place, date and time of holding the meeting which shall consider a complaint, by way of sending registered telegram, facsimile, e-mail, telephone message (telephonogram, SMS). Evidence of the notification of the aforementioned persons shall be appended to the minutes of the election commission's meeting, at which the complaint was considered.

4. A failure to attend the election commission's meeting by persons who were duly notified about it shall not preclude consideration of the complaint.

5. A copy of the complaint and the documents appended thereto shall be provided to the respondent and the parties concerned in advance, or, if not possible, no later than the commencement of consideration of the complaint. The respondent shall be entitled to provide written explanation on the merits of the complaint which shall be taken into account by the respective election commission.

#### **Article 71. Evidence**

1. An election commission may use any of the following kinds of evidence to establish the presence or absence of circumstances substantiating the demands or objections of the complainant, the respondent, the party concerned, or of any other circumstances essential for the proper disposition of the complaint:

- 1) written documents and materials (including electronic ones) containing information on circumstances essential for proper disposition of the complaint;
- 2) written explanations from electoral subjects, officials and employees of state executive bodies, state bodies of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, bodies of local self-government, enterprises, establishments, institutions, organizations, and respective law enforcement bodies, demanded and obtained by the election commission considering the complaint, including members thereof, in the exercise of the powers of the election commission;
- 3) physical evidence;
- 4) expert opinions provided in writing upon request of the election commission considering the complaint, the complainant or the respondent;

5) audio and video materials.

2. Evidence may be provided to the election commission by the complainant, the respondent or the parties concerned. The election commission considering the complaint can demand the production of additional evidence on its own initiative or at the request of the complainant, the respondent, or of a party concerned.

3. If the complainant, the respondent, or an interested person fails to provide evidence in support of the facts being asserted, the election commission shall resolve the case based on available evidence.

4. The election commission shall only accept evidence that relates to the complaint. The decision of the election commission considering the complaint shall make mention of the dismissal of any evidence irrelevant to the complaint or having no evidentiary value.

5. If the law requires certain methods of proof to establish certain circumstances or facts, those circumstances or facts may not be established using other methods.

6. Written evidence shall be presented in original form or in the form of a duly certified copy. If written evidence is presented in the form of a copy, the election commission shall be entitled to request that the original document be produced or to demand on its own behalf the production of the original. After considering the complaint, the election commission shall return the original document to the owner thereof, upon his or her request, with a duly certified copy of the document remaining in the complaint case file.

7. An election commission shall evaluate the appropriateness and reliability of each piece of evidence, as well as the sufficiency and consistency of the bulk of the evidence, in compliance with the law. No evidence shall have a predetermined effect, except circumstances or facts established by a court decision that has taken legal effect.

#### **Article 72. Decisions Based on the Consideration of a Complaint**

1. The decision of an election commission based on the review of a complaint must be lawful, and substantiated.

2. Prior to considering a complaint on the merits of the issue, the election commission shall examine the complaint in order to establish:

- 1) whether the complaint was filed by an appropriate subject of filing a complaint, as established by this Code;
- 2) whether the complaint consideration falls within the competence of an election commission (appropriate subject of a complaint consideration);
- 3) whether a complainant has complied with the timeline for lodging complaints, as established by this Code.

3. Upon finding that the complaint was filed by an improper complainant, against an improper respondent, or in violation of the time limit for lodging a complaint prescribed by this Code, the election commission shall dismiss the complaint.

4. When deciding to dismiss the complaint without reviewing it on the merits of the issue, the Central Election Commission may, on its own initiative, take into consideration the facts laid out in the complaint.

5. If the complaint was filed by an improper complainant, against an improper respondent, or in violation of the time limit for lodging a complaint prescribed by this Code, the election commission shall proceed with considering the complaint on the merits of the issue.

6. When considering a complaint against a decision adopted by the respondent, the election commission shall decide:

- 1) whether the decision being appealed was indeed adopted by the respondent;
- 2) whether the decision being appealed was adopted by the respondent on legal grounds;

- 3) whether the decision being appealed was adopted within the powers and in accordance with the procedure prescribed by the Law;
- 4) whether the demands laid out in the complaint are substantiated by the evidence provided;
- 5) which legal norms should be applied to these legal relations;
- 6) whether each of the complainant's claims should be granted or dismissed;
- 7) whether the violated rights or legitimate interests of the complainant should be restored by other means;
- 8) what decisions the respondent should be obligated to adopt or what actions the respondent should be required to take as a result of the cancellation of the decision.

7. When reviewing a complaint against a respondent's action (inaction), the election commission shall decide:

- 1) whether the respondent's action (inaction) being appealed indeed took place;
- 2) whether the action (inaction) being appealed was taken by the respondent on legal grounds;
- 3) whether the demands laid out in the complaint are substantiated by the evidence provided;
- 4) which legal norms should be applied to these legal relations;
- 5) whether each of the complainant's claims should be granted or dismissed;
- 6) whether the violated rights or legitimate interests of the complainant should be restored by other means;
- 7) what decisions the respondent should be obligated to adopt or what actions the respondent should be required to take as a result of recognizing the action or inaction being appealed illegal.

8. When considering a complaint on the merits, the election commission can satisfy all or a part of the complainant's claim, or dismiss the complaint.

9. Upon finding that the respondent's decision, actions, or inaction fail to comply with the legislation on elections, the election commission shall uphold the complaint. When upholding the complaint, the election commission can satisfy all or a part of the complainant's claims.

10. If an election commission upholds a complaint, it can adopt a decision:

- 1) recognizing the respondent's decision, or individual provisions thereof, actions, or inaction as failing to comply with the requirements of the legislation (being illegal), violating citizens' electoral rights, or the rights and legitimate interests of an electoral subject;
- 2) cancelling the decision being appealed;
- 3) obligating the respondent to take actions specified by the legislation regulating preparation for and conduct of elections;
- 4) obligating the respondent to refrain from taking certain actions;
- 5) restoring by other means the citizens' violated electoral rights, or the rights and legitimate interests of an electoral subject;
- 6) obligating the respondent to take actions specified by the legislation regulating preparation for and conduct of elections that are necessitated by the cancellation of the decision concerned or by the recognition of certain actions or inaction as illegal.

11. A higher-level election commission may, upon consideration of the complaint, on the basis of a court decision or upon its own initiative, revoke the decision of a lower level election commission and make a decision on the merits of the issue.

12. If in the course of consideration of a complaint an election commission decides that the facts cited in the complaint should be investigated by law enforcement bodies, the respective law enforcement bodies shall, on the basis of the request from the election commission, investigate these facts and take appropriate action to stop the violation of the legislation within three days following the day of receipt of the request of the election commission, or immediately, if such a request is received less than three days prior to the day of voting (day of repeat voting), on the day of voting, or on the day following it. Law enforcement bodies shall report on the results of the investigation and on measures taken to the election commission that forwarded the matter to them.

13. An election commission shall dismiss a complaint if it finds that:

- 1) the contested decision, alleged action or inaction by the responded is made in accordance with the law, does not exceed the powers provided by law, does not violate voters' voting rights, right and legitimate interest of other subject of the election process;
- 2) the complainant did not provide proof of the violation of electoral legislation by the responded, and the evidence available in the materials of the complaint is not enough for an election commission to establish it as fact;
- 3) the voter did not prove that the decision, action or inaction by the responded violates his or her personal voting rights or legally protected interests relating to the participation in the election process;
- 4) at the time of consideration of the complaint by the election commission, a member of the election commission being the responded has taken the necessary actions, revoked the contested decision, or otherwise renewed the complainant's rights in accordance with this Code (the subject of appeal is absent);

14. A copy of the decision of the election commission shall be issued or sent to the complainant, the respondent, the parties concerned, the election commission concerned, and other subjects specified in the decision no later than on the day following the day when a decision was adopted, or without delay if the decision is adopted on the day prior to the day of voting, on the day of voting, or on the day following it.

## **Chapter XII. STORAGE OF ELECTION AND OTHER DOCUMENTS AND MATERIAL ASSETS**

### **Article 73. Storage of Election and Other Documents and Material Assets**

1. After the official announcement (official promulgation) of the results of elections, the Central Election Commission, district election commissions, territorial election commissions in local elections shall deliver to the respective central or local archival institutions the election documents and other documents.

2. The list of election documents and other documents to be stored in the state and local archival institutions, as well as the procedure for the delivery thereof to those institutions shall be determined by the Central Election Commission, subject to coordination with the central executive body implementing the state policy in the field of archival activities.

3. Electoral documentation that is not to be included in the National Archival Fund shall be submitted by election commissions to local archival institutions established by the bodies of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, local executive bodies or local self-government bodies in accordance with the Law of Ukraine "On the National Archival Fund and Archival Institutions".

4. Protocols of the election commissions on the vote counting in the election precincts, on the voting results in the territorial election districts, ballot papers, voter list counterfoils, voter lists, acts, applications, complaints against violations of the requirements of this Code during the conduct of the voting or the counting of votes, as well as the protocols and decisions of the election commissions, shall be stored at the local archival institutions for five years from the day of the official promulgation of the results of the respective election, whereupon they shall be destroyed in accordance with the established procedure.

5. The state and local archival institutions shall provide access to the election documents in accordance with the procedure specified by the legislation.

6. Local executive bodies, bodies of Autonomous Republic of Crimea, and local self-government bodies, after the termination of the powers of the election commissions formed on a temporary basis, are obliged to ensure the preservation of ballot boxes, voting booths, seals, stamps of these commissions, methodological literature provided to them for the period of the election process, other tangibles necessary for the election process.

7. In case regional and/or territorial representations of the Central Election Commission are formed, tangibles specified in Part six of this Article may be transferred to them for storage in accordance with the procedure established by the Central Election Commission. Local executive bodies, bodies of Autonomous Republic of Crimea, and local self-government bodies are obliged to provide the respective representations of the Central Election Commission with the necessary premises for storage of material values, as well as to allocate premises to local archival institutions for temporary storage of election documents.

## **BOOK TWO. ELECTION OF THE PRESIDENT OF UKRAINE**

### **Chapter XIII. GENERAL PROVISIONS ON ELECTION OF THE PRESIDENT OF UKRAINE**

#### **Article 74. Main Principles of the Election of the President of Ukraine**

1. The President of Ukraine shall be elected by citizens of Ukraine on the basis of universal, equal and direct suffrage by secret voting in accordance the majoritarian system of an absolute majority of votes.

2. The term of office of the President of Ukraine shall be determined by the Constitution of Ukraine.

#### **Article 75. Right to Be a Candidate for President of Ukraine**

1. A citizen of Ukraine who has reached the age of thirty five as of the day of voting, who has the right to vote, who has the command the state language and has been residing in Ukraine over the last ten years prior to the day of voting, may be elected President of Ukraine.

2. Residing in Ukraine in accordance with this Code shall mean:

- 1) residing in the territory within the state border of Ukraine;
- 2) staying on a ship sailing under the National Flag of Ukraine;
- 3) stay of Ukrainian citizens abroad in foreign missions in foreign diplomatic institutions of Ukraine, international organizations and their bodies pursuant to the procedure prescribed by the Law;
- 4) stay at Ukraine's polar station;
- 5) stay abroad as a member of the military command the Armed Forces of Ukraine deployed outside Ukraine;

3. Persons residing together with the persons specified in clause three of Part two of this Article as their family members shall be also deemed such persons that are residing in Ukraine.

4. A person shall be deemed to be such a person that resides in Ukraine, in accordance with Part one of this Article, if his or her one-time trip abroad in private matters did not exceed 90 days, whereas the total period of his or her stay outside Ukraine each year during the last ten years prior to the day of voting did not exceed 183 days. It shall not be deemed a violation of the requirement about the residence in Ukraine, if a person travels abroad on a business trip, for study, on vacation, or for a medical treatment upon the recommendation of the respective healthcare institution.

5. One and the same person may not be the President of Ukraine for more than two consecutive terms. A person who has been elected the President of Ukraine twice may not be nominated as a candidate for this post.

6. A person whose powers as the President of Ukraine have been terminated early in accordance with the Constitution of Ukraine may not be nominated as a candidate for President of Ukraine in an extraordinary election scheduled with regard to the said termination of powers.

**Article 76.** Types of Elections of the President of Ukraine

1. The election of the President of Ukraine may be ordinary, extraordinary and repeat.
2. A ordinary election of the President of Ukraine shall be conducted in connection with the expiry of the constitutional term of office of the President of Ukraine.
3. An extraordinary election of the President of Ukraine shall be called in connection with the adoption of the respective Resolution of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine.
4. A repeat election of the President of Ukraine shall be held in the following cases:
  - 1) if no more than two candidates for the President of Ukraine were included in the ballot paper and none of them was elected;
  - 2) if no candidate is registered after the expiry of the time period for registration of candidates for the President of Ukraine;
  - 3) if all candidates for the President of Ukraine that are included in the ballot paper have withdrawn their candidacies prior to the day of voting or prior to the day of repeat voting;
  - 4) in the case if the election of the President of Ukraine has been recognized as invalid;
  - 5) if a person who was elected is declared to have failed to take office under the procedure and within the time period specified by the Constitution of Ukraine and this Code.

**Article 77.** Procedure for Calling the Election of the President of Ukraine

1. The Election of the President of Ukraine shall be called by the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine by way of adopting the respective resolution.

**Article 78.** Time Frames for the Calling and Conduct of Elections

1. A ordinary election of the President of Ukraine shall be held on the last Sunday in March of the fifth year of the term of office of the President of Ukraine.
2. The Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine shall call ordinary elections of the President of Ukraine no later than one hundred days prior to the day of voting. The Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine shall provide for the publication of a decision about calling an ordinary election of the President of Ukraine in mass media.
3. In an ordinary election of the President of Ukraine, the election process shall start ninety days prior to the day of voting. The Central Election Commission shall announce the start of the election process by making the respective decision no later than ninety one days prior to the day of voting.
4. An extraordinary election of the President of Ukraine shall be held on the last Sunday of the ninety-day period following the day when they are called by the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine.
5. In an extraordinary election of the President of Ukraine, the election process shall start on the day following the day indicated in Part four of this Article.
6. A repeat election of the President of Ukraine shall be held on the last Sunday of the ninety-day period following the day of the adoption of the Resolution by the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine about calling a repeat election.
7. A resolution about calling a repeat election shall be adopted no later than on the fifteenth day following the day when the Central Election Commission files the respective submission with the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine.



8. In a repeat election of the President of Ukraine, the election process shall start on the day following the day of the official publication of the Resolution of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine about calling a repeat election.

**Article 79.** Election Process of the President of Ukraine

1. The election process shall include the following stages:

- 1) nomination and registration of candidates for the President of Ukraine;
- 2) establishment of district and precinct election commissions;
- 3) election campaigning;
- 4) establishment of special election precincts that shall exist on a temporary basis;
- 5) compiling voter lists, their verification and correction;
- 6) voting on the day of voting in the election of the President of Ukraine;
- 7) vote counting, establishing the results of the voting on the day of election of the President of Ukraine and their official promulgation;
- 8) Repealed.

2. If necessary, the election process may also include the following stages:

- 1) repeat voting;
- 2) vote counting, establishing the results of repeat voting of the President of Ukraine and their official promulgation.

3. Stages provided for by Part two of this Article shall take place only in the cases provided for by this Code.

4. The election process shall terminate in fifteen days following the day of official promulgation by the Central Election Commission of the results of election of the President of Ukraine, or on the day of the official publication of the submission of the Central Election Commission filed with the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine with regard to calling a repeat election of the President of Ukraine.

5. Powers of district and precinct election commissions may extend beyond the time period of the election process.

**Chapter XIV. TERRITORIAL ORGANIZATION  
OF THE ELECTION OF THE PRESIDENT OF UKRAINE**

**Article 80.** Election Districts in the Election of the President of Ukraine

1. The election of the President of Ukraine shall be held in the nationwide election district.

2. During preparation, organization and conduct of the election of the President of Ukraine territorial election districts established by the Central Election Commission on a permanent basis shall be used in accordance with this Code.

**Article 81.** Election Precincts in the Election of the President of Ukraine

1. During preparation, organization and conduct of the voting and vote counting in the election of the President of Ukraine regular, special and out-of-country election precincts shall be used, which shall exist on a permanent basis, as well as special election precincts which are established on a temporary basis in accordance with this Code (hereinafter, election precincts).

**Article 82.** Publication of Decisions about Election Districts and Election Precincts

1. No later than the fifth day of the election process, the Central Election Commission shall publish on its official website a list of the respective election precincts formed on a permanent basis, with indication of territorial election districts to which those election precincts belong, as well as election precinct numbers.

2. A district election commission shall publish its decision on the establishment of special election precincts established on a temporary basis, with indication of the election precinct numbers, their boundaries or institutions (establishments) in which they are created, as well as the addresses of the respective precinct election commissions and voting premises. Such a decision shall be made public in the manner prescribed by the commission no later than on the fifth day of its adoption.

3. The Central Election Commission shall ensure the publication of its decision to establish, in exceptional cases, a special election precinct on its official website no later than on the fifth day of its adoption.

4. Foreign diplomatic missions of Ukraine in the states where out-of-country election precincts are established, shall provide, no later than on the fifth day of the election process, the publication of the list of out-of-country election precincts, with indication of the numbers of those election precincts, description of their boundaries or location of military units (commands), in which they were established, the addresses of the respective precinct election commissions and voting premises on their official websites or by other means available for citizens of Ukraine residing or staying in the respective territories, and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine publishes such information relating to all out-of-country election precinct on its official website.

## **Chapter XV. ELECTION COMMISSION IN THE ELECTION OF THE PRESIDENT OF UKRAINE**

### **Article 83. System of Election Commissions**

1. The election of the President of Ukraine shall be organized and conducted by:

- 1) the Central Election Commission;
- 2) district election commissions;
- 3) precinct election commissions.

### **Article 84. Establishing a District Election Commission**

1. A district election commission shall be established by the Central Election Commission no later than forty days prior to the day of voting and shall consist of the chair, the deputy chair, the secretary and other commission members - no less than twelve persons.

2. Nomination for candidacies to district election commissions (one person to one election commission from one candidate) shall be submitted by candidates for the post of President of Ukraine who are registered with the Central Election Commission. Nominations for candidacies to district election commissions shall be submitted to the Central Election Commission no later than forty-five days before election day, on paper and electronically in the form approved by the Central Election Commission, signed by the candidate for President of Ukraine or his authorized representative in the Central Election Commission. Nominations for candidacies to district election commissions may be submitted to the Central Election Commission by electronic services in accordance with the procedure established by the Central Election Commission.

Submissions shall include the following information:

- 1) last name, first name and patronymic name;
- 2) date of birth;
- 3) citizenship;
- 4) place and address of residence, as well as contact phone numbers;
- 5) command the state language;
- 6) education;
- 7) place of employment and occupied position;

- 8) election commission experience;
- 9) information on whether the nominee has no criminal record for committing a grave or especially grave crime or a crime against citizens' electoral rights or a corruption crime, which has not been lifted or expunged pursuant to the procedure established by law.

The submission shall be accompanied by a photocopy of each of the nominees' passport of a citizen of Ukraine (photocopies of the first and second pages of the passport of a citizen of Ukraine in the form of a passport book or photocopies of the front and reverse side of a passport of a citizen of Ukraine in the form of a card); or photocopies of the first and second pages of a temporary certificate of a citizen of Ukraine (for persons who were recently granted a citizenship of Ukraine).

Statements of consent by persons nominated to the district election commission to participate in the work of respective election commission on the behalf the respective nominating subject, consent to perform the duties of the chair, deputy chair or secretary of the election commission, and expressing non-consent to participate in the work of the election commission to other nominating subjects in the respective election are submitted to the respective candidates for the post of President of Ukraine, registered by Central Election Commission, before the moment of the submission to the Central Election Commission of nominees for candidates to the district election commissions.

If the Central Election Commission finds a simultaneous nomination of one candidate to the district election commission from different nominating subjects, the Commission shall address the respective nominating subjects, and the candidate nominated to the district election commission, requesting to clarify information and submit a statement of consent to participate in the work of the district election commission on behalf of the respective nominating subject. In case a person's consent to participate in the work of the district election commission from the respective nominating subject is not confirmed, the Central Election Commission shall reject the candidacy of such person.

3. Technical errors or inaccuracies contained in a submission shall not constitute a reason for the rejection of nominees.

When technical errors or inaccuracies are found with respect to last name, first name and patronymic name of the person, date of his or her birth - the resolution establishing the district election commission shall contain information on the basis of copies of passport documents.

4. Nominations to a district election commission may be rejected only on the grounds of violation of the requirements of Part two of this Article, and Article 34 of this Code by way of decision of the Central Election Commission.

5. If the submission of nominees to a district election commission fails to be filed within the time period prescribed by Part two of this Article, or if the number of persons nominated to the district election commission is less than twelve, the Central Election Commission shall appoint the twelve members of the district election commission, upon proposal submitted by the Chair of the Central Election Commission, on the basis of proposals from the members of the Central Election Commission, necessarily having regard to the nominees proposed by the candidates for the President of Ukraine specified in Part two of this Article.

6. Each subject that nominates candidates to district election commissions shall have the right to a proportional share of each category of managerial positions in district election commissions, with observance of provisions of Part one of this Article. The share of managerial positions for each subject nominating candidates to district election commissions within the nationwide district shall be determined on the basis of the proportion of a number of nominees included from this nominating subject in district election commissions, in relation to the total number of members included in the district election commissions. A person appointed to a district election commission upon proposal of the Chair of the Central Election Commission cannot be appointed to a managerial position in that election commission, unless no submissions, or less than the required number of submissions, for appointment of respective nominees to the positions of the chair, deputy chair, and secretary of the commission have been submitted by candidates for the President of Ukraine. Managerial positions shall be distributed between the nominating subjects based on the shares determined in accordance with

this Part of this Article according to the procedure established by the Central Election Commission. Such procedure shall provide for approximate evenness of the territorial distribution of the positions received by each nominating subject.

The provisions of this Part concerning the right to a proportional share of each category of managerial positions shall apply only with regard to the initial formation of district election commissions. In case a district election commission is formed as a result of early termination of the powers of its previous composition, the provisions of this Part shall not apply.

In case of early termination of powers of the chair, deputy chair, secretary of the district election commission and failure by the nominating subject from which the person was included in the district election commission to submit other candidates for replacement no later than on the next day after the day of receipt of the notice on the grounds for termination of their powers, but not later than on the last day before the day of voting, another member of this commission shall be appointed to the respective position of the chair, deputy chair, and secretary of the district election commission without respecting the right of the nominating subject to a proportional share of each category of managerial positions.

7. The Central Election Commission shall make public its decision on the establishment and composition of the district election commissions, made in accordance with this Code, on the official website of the Central Election Commission no later than on the day following the day on which the decision was adopted. A decision on changes in the composition of a district election commission shall be published pursuant to the procedure and within the terms provided for by this Part, but in any case no later than on the last day prior to the day of voting.

#### **Article 85.** Establishing a Precinct Election Commission

1. A precinct election commission shall be established by the respective district election commission no later than eighteen days prior to the day of voting and shall consist of the chair, deputy chair, secretary, and other members of the commission, consisting of no less than nine persons.

At election precincts in which the number of voters does not exceed fifty persons, a precinct election commission may consist of the chair, the secretary and two to four other members.

2. The right to nominate precinct election commission members (no more than one nominee from each candidate for each election commission) shall be granted to candidates for the President of Ukraine. A submission of a list of persons that a candidate for President of Ukraine wishes to nominate to the respective precinct election commission shall be filed with a district election commission in both paper and electronically according to the form approved by the Central Election Commission no later than twenty-three days prior to the day of voting and shall be signed by an authorized person of a candidate for President of Ukraine in the nationwide or in the respective territorial district.

Submissions of candidates to the precinct election commissions may be filed by means of electronic services in accordance with the procedure established by the Central Election Commission.

3. A precinct election commission of a special election precinct established on a ship which on the day of voting will be sailing under the National Flag of Ukraine, or at Ukraine's polar station, shall be established by the district election commission according to the place of registration of such a ship or Ukraine's polar station upon a submission, respectively, of the ship's captain or the polar station's head, which can be sent via technical means of communication within the time period prescribed by Part two of this Article

4. The precinct election commission of an out-of-country election precinct shall be established by the Central Election Commission on the basis of the submission filed by the entities specified in Part two of Article 84 of this Code, if available, and a submission filed by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine. The submission of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine shall be filed no later than twenty-one days before the voting day. Each nominating subject as specified by Part two of Article 84 of this Code, shall have the right to nominate one candidate to each precinct election commission of an out-of-country election precinct. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine shall submit a list of persons that it wishes to nominate to each precinct election commission of an out-

of-country election precinct, consisting of such a number of persons which shall be sufficient to establish each election commission, pursuant to the requirement as regards the election commission composition specified by Part one of this Article.

5. In the event of establishing a special election precinct in an exceptional case pursuant to Part five of Article 30 of this Code, a precinct election commission shall be established by the Central Election Commission at the same time with establishing an election precinct on the basis of a submission filed by the respective district election commission, or the Ministry of Defense of Ukraine.

6. Submissions shall include the following information:

- 1) last name, first name and patronymic name;
- 2) date of birth;
- 3) citizenship;
- 4) place and address of residence, as well as contact phone numbers;
- 5) command the state language;
- 6) educational background;
- 7) place of employment and occupied position;
- 8) election commission experience;
- 9) information on whether the nominee has no criminal record for committing a grave or especially grave crime or a crime against citizens' electoral rights or a corruption crime, which has not been lifted or expunged pursuant to the procedure established by law.

The submission shall be accompanied by a photocopy of each of the nominees' passport of a citizen of Ukraine (photocopies of the first and second pages of the passport of a citizen of Ukraine in the form of a passport book or photocopies of the front and reverse side of a passport of a citizen of Ukraine in the form of a card); or photocopies of the first and second pages of a temporary certificate of a citizen of Ukraine (for persons who were recently granted a citizenship of Ukraine).

Statements of consent by persons nominated to the precinct election commission to participate in the work of respective election commission on the behalf the respective nominating subject, consent to perform the duties of the chair, deputy chair or secretary of the election commission, and not giving consent to participate in the work of the election commission to other nominating subjects in the respective election are submitted to the authorized person of the respective candidate for the post of President of Ukraine the national or territorial district before the moment of submission to the Central Election Commission of nominees for candidates to the precinct election commissions.

If the district election commission finds a simultaneous nomination of one candidate to the precinct election commission from different nominating subjects, the district election commission shall address the respective nominating subjects, and the candidate nominated to the precinct election commission, requesting to clarify information and submit a statement of consent to participate in the work of the precinct election commission on behalf of the respective nominating subject. In case a person's consent to participate in the work of the precinct election commission from the respective nominating subject is not confirmed, the district election commission shall reject the candidacy of such person.

7. Technical errors or inaccuracies contained in a submission shall not constitute a reason for the rejection of nominees.

When such errors or inaccuracies are found with respect to last name, first name and patronymic name of the person, date of his or her birth - the resolution on the formation of the district election commission shall contain information on the basis of copies of passport documents.

8. Nominees to a precinct election commission may be rejected only on the grounds of their noncompliance with the requirements specified in Part six of this Article, and Article 34 of this Code by way of decision by the district election commission.

9. If the submission of nominees to a precinct election commission fails to be filed within the time period prescribed by Part two of this Article, or if the number of persons nominated to the election commission is less than nine, the district election commission shall appoint the nine members of the precinct election commission, upon proposal submitted by the chair of this district election commission, on the basis of proposals from the members of this district election commission, necessarily having regard to all the nominees proposed by the candidates for the President of Ukraine. In such a case nominees to a precinct election commission may be proposed to the chair of the district election commission by other members of this district election commission.

To ensure the proper preparation for and conduct of the election by precinct election commissions, including on the day of voting, a district election commission may, if necessary, increase the number of members of a precinct election commission to eighteen persons on the basis of a submission of the chair of the respective district election commission according to proposals of members of this election commission.

10. Each subject whose nominees have been appointed to a precinct election commission (except the Ministry of Foreign Affairs) shall have the right to a proportional share of each category of managerial positions in precinct election commissions. The share of managerial positions for each nominating subject, whose nominees have been appointed to a precinct election commissions within a territorial election district, shall be determined on the basis of the proportion of a number of nominees included from this nominating subject in precinct election commissions, in relation to the total number of members included in the precinct election commissions. A person appointed to a precinct election commission upon submission of the chair of the district election commission (or upon the submission of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine for an out-of-country election precinct) can be appointed to a managerial position in the election commission only if no candidates for such a position have been nominated by candidates for the President of Ukraine. Managerial positions shall be distributed between the nominating subjects according to the shares determined under this Part of this Article according to the procedure approved by the district election commission (or by the Central Election Commission for an out-of-country election precinct), necessarily having regard to the approximate uniformity of territorial distribution of positions received by representatives of each nominating subject.

The provisions of this Part concerning the right to a proportional share of each category of managerial positions shall apply only with regard to the initial formation of precinct election commissions. In case of formation of a precinct election commission as a result of early termination of the powers of its previous composition, the provisions of this Part shall not apply.

In case of early termination of powers of the chair, deputy chair, secretary of the precinct election commission and failure by the nominating subject from which the person was included in the precinct election commission to submit other candidates for replacement no later than on the next day after the day of receipt of the notice on the grounds for termination of their powers, but not later than on the last day before the day of voting, another member of this commission shall be appointed to the respective position of the chair, deputy chair, and secretary of the precinct election commission without respecting the right of the nominating subject to a proportional share of each category of managerial positions.

11. A decision on the establishment and composition of precinct election commissions, as well as a decision on changes in the composition of a precinct election commission adopted in accordance with the requirements of this Code, shall be made public no later than on the third day of the day on which that decision was adopted in the manner prescribed by the respective election commission of the Central Election Commission.

**Article 86.** Powers of the Central Election Commission with Regard to preparation for and Conduct of the Election of the President of Ukraine

1. The powers of the Central Election Commission related to preparation and conduct of the election of the President of Ukraine shall be determined by this Code, the Law of Ukraine “On the Central Election Commission” and other Laws of Ukraine.

2. In addition to the powers provided for by the Law of Ukraine “On the Central Election Commission”, the Central Election Commission shall:

- 1) convene, if necessary, on its own initiative, a meeting of a lower level election commission;
- 2) control the use of state budget funds by election commissions, regional and territorial representations of the Central Election Commission with the involvement of representatives of the respective state bodies in conducting audits;
- 3) establish the standards and the list of equipment and implements, as well as requirements to such equipment and the procedure for its storing, and the requirements to the voting premises, as well as the types of services that can be provided to election commissions;
- 4) suspend the flow of funds in the accounts of the election commissions, regional and territorial representations of the Central Election Commission opened at territorial bodies of the central executive power body for the implementation of state policy in the area of treasury management of the budget funds, accounting, execution of budgets within the time limits established by the Law;
- 5) register candidates for the President of Ukraine, candidates' authorized representatives to the Central Election Commission, agents of candidates for the post of President of Ukraine;
- 6) provide for the production and placement on the national television and radio broadcasting channels of information programs for voters with the explanation of principles and the procedure for the conduct of election, their role in the society and in the state, voting procedures, rights and responsibilities of voters, mechanisms for monitoring the compliance with the legislation on the election of the President of Ukraine;
- 7) make a decision in accordance with this Code and the laws of Ukraine on the issue of using the mass media for campaigning;
- 8) approve the text and form of information posters as well as posters clarifying the voting procedures and the liability for violating the legislation on the election of the President of Ukraine; provide for manufacturing of respective posters and the delivery thereof to the district election commissions;
- 9) directly and through their regional and territorial representations, exercise the control over the receipt and use of funds of candidates' electoral funds;
- 10) approve the form, color, and text of the ballot papers for voting; ensure centralized printing of the ballot papers according to the approved form, as well as forms of blank protocols of precinct election commissions on vote counting at an election precinct, and other election documents; provide for the stocktaking and distribution thereof to the district election commissions;
- 11) establish the forms of election documents, approve samples of seals and signboards of election commissions, provides for the production of seals of district and precinct election commissions, "Withdrawn" stamps and the delivery thereof to the district election commissions, specify the procedure for the storage and submission of election documents to the respective state archival institutions;
- 12) accredit official observers from foreign states and international organizations;
- 13) make decisions granting a nongovernmental organization the right to have official observers during the election of the President of Ukraine;
- 14) register official observers of candidates for the post of President of Ukraine, parties that are electoral subjects, nongovernmental organizations in the out-of-country election district, as well as official observers from nongovernmental organizations in the nationwide election district;
- 15) deliver to a representative of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine ballot papers, forms of other documents, seals and stamps for the delivery thereof to the precinct election

- commissions of out-of-country election precincts;
- 16) consider applications and complaints in the manner prescribed by this Code and the Law of Ukraine "On the Central Election Commission";
  - 17) establish the results of the voting and draw up a protocol on results of the voting within the out-of-country election district;
  - 18) exercise the powers of the respective district election commission, if it does not receive, within the time frame specified by this Code, the protocol from the district election commission on the voting results in the territorial election district within the time frames specified by this Code, as well as in the case of inaction of the district election commission;
  - 19) send a report on the use of the state budget funds allocated for preparation and conduct of elections of the President of Ukraine to the Accounting Chamber within three months from the date of official promulgation of the results of the election;
  - 20) exercise other powers provided for by this Code or by other Laws of Ukraine.

**Article 87.** Powers of a District Election Commission with Regard to Preparation and Conduct of the Election of the President of Ukraine

1. A district election commission shall:
  - 1) exercise control of compliance with the legislation on the election of the President of Ukraine;
  - 2) establish special election precincts in the cases specified by this Code;
  - 3) establish the precinct election commissions;
  - 4) direct activities of the precinct election commissions;
  - 5) convene, if necessary, on its own initiative, a meeting of a precinct election commission;
  - 6) provide legal, organizational, methodological, and technical support to the precinct election commissions, organize training for their members on the matters related to the election process organization;
  - 7) provide financial and logistical support to precinct election commissions of election precincts in the respective territorial district;
  - 8) control the provision of voter lists for public review;
  - 9) together with the respective executive bodies, the bodies of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and local self-government bodies, assist with organizing meetings of candidates for the President of Ukraine with voters;
  - 10) distribute to the precinct election commissions upon their formation ballot papers produced in accordance with the established form; information posters; posters clarifying the voting procedures and the liability for violations of the legislation on the election of the President of Ukraine that have been provided by the Central Election Commission, as well as the production and delivery of forms of other documentation in accordance with this Code;
  - 11) tabulate voting results in the territorial election district, compile the tabulation protocols, submit the protocols to the Central Election Commission;
  - 12) invalidate the results of voting at an election precinct in cases provided for by this Code;
  - 13) provide for the conduct of the repeat voting in accordance with the decision of the Central Election Commission on the appointment of the repeat voting in the elections of the President of Ukraine, as well as the conduct of the repeat elections in accordance with this Code;
  - 14) register official observers of candidates for the President of Ukraine, parties that are electoral subjects, nongovernmental organizations in the respective territorial district;



- 15) provide for the delivery to the precinct election commissions upon their establishment of the seals of these commissions and “Withdrawn” stamps that have been given by the Central Election Commission;
- 16) consider, within the scope of their powers, addresses, applications and complaints with regard to preparation for and conduct of the election within the territorial election district, as well as addresses, applications and complaints concerning the decisions, actions or inaction of the precinct election commissions, and take decisions on these matters;
- 17) take into account information from precinct election commissions, local executive bodies, bodies of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the bodies of local self-government pertaining to preparation and conduct of the election of the President of Ukraine;
- 18) ensure delivery of election and other documents for storage to the respective archival institution in accordance with the procedure approved by the Central Election Commission, with approval of the central executive body which implements state policy in archival matters;
  - a) summarize the information on applications and complaints submitted to district and precinct election commissions concerning the election process of the President of Ukraine, as well as the results of their consideration, post this information on the stand of the commission’s official materials for public review, and submit it to the Central Election Commission in the manner prescribed by it for publication on its official website.
- 19) exercise other powers provided for by this Code and other Laws of Ukraine.

The powers of the district election commission specified in clauses 6, 7, 10, 15, 18 of this Part may be exercised by the territorial representations of the Central Election Commission in case of their formation.

2. A district election commission shall begin to exercise its powers as soon as no less than two-thirds of its members, the number of which is determined during the establishing of this district election commission, are sworn-in at its first meeting, which shall be held no later than on the second day following the day on which the decision establishing the district election commission was adopted.

3. The powers of a district election commission shall be terminated within fifteen days following the day of official promulgation by the Central Election Commission of the results of the election of the President of Ukraine in accordance with the procedure provided for by this Code.

4. A district election commission shall cease to have legal personality in accordance with the procedure and within the terms prescribed by Article 35 of this Code.

**Article 88.** Powers of a Precinct Election Commission with Regard to preparation and Conduct of the Election of the President of Ukraine

1. A precinct election commission shall:
  - 1) exercise control of compliance with and the uniform application of the legislation on the election of the President of Ukraine;
  - 2) obtain the voter lists from the State Voter Register maintenance body, or the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine; compile the voter lists in the cases provided for by this Code; provide it for public review and make changes to it in the cases provided for by this Code;
  - 3) create conditions so that a voter can familiarize himself or herself with the information on all candidates for the President of Ukraine, their election programs, as well as decisions of the Central Election Commission, the respective district election commission, and its own decisions and notifications;
  - 4) hand over or send in advance to voters personal invitations that have been received from

- the State Voter Register maintenance bodies, with indication of the date of the election, the address of the voting premises, the time of the beginning and the end of the voting;
- 5) provide for preparation of the voting premises and ballot boxes for voting;
  - 6) make changes, pursuant to the decision of the Central Election Commission in the cases provided for by this Code, to the ballot paper;
  - 7) organize the voting at an election precinct;
  - 8) conduct the vote counting of votes cast at an election precinct; compile the protocol on the counting of votes at the election precinct and send it to the respective district election commission;
  - 9) invalidate the results of voting at an election precinct in cases provided for by this Code;
  - 10) consider addresses, applications and complaints on issues of making changes to the voter lists, organization and conduct of the voting and vote counting at an election precinct and, within the scope of their powers, make decisions on them;
  - 11) summarize the information on addresses submitted to the precinct election commission concerning the election process of the President of Ukraine, as well as the results of their consideration, post this information on the stand of the commission's official materials for public review, and submit it to the district election commission which summarizes it and transmits to the Central Election Commission for publication on its official website.
  - 12) exercise other powers provided for by this Code and other Laws of Ukraine.

2. A precinct election commission shall begin to exercise its powers as soon as the majority of its composition determined during the establishing of this precinct election commission are sworn-in at its first meeting which shall be held no later than on the second day following the day on which the decision establishing the district election commission was adopted and shall be convened by its chair.

3. The powers of a precinct election commission shall be terminated in five days following the day of official promulgation by the Central Election Commission of the results of the election of the President of Ukraine.

4. A precinct election commission shall terminate its activities at the same time with the expiry of its powers.

**Article 89.** Termination of Powers of an Election Commission or a Member of an Election Commission

1. The powers of all members of a district or precinct election commission may be terminated before the expiry of their ordinary term by a decision of an election commission that established it, by a decision of the commission itself, or by a decision of a court in cases of systematic violation or one-time gross violation by the commission of the Constitution of Ukraine, this Code, or other Laws of Ukraine, failure to comply with the decision of the higher-level election commission. Early termination of powers of all members of an election commission shall not be considered to be termination of the commission.

2. The powers of an individual member of a district or precinct election commission shall be terminated at the same time with the termination of powers of the respective election commission.

3. The powers of an individual member of a district or precinct election commission may be terminated before the expiry of its ordinary term by a decision of the election commission that established it, on the grounds of:

- 1) a statement of resignation of the member of the commission. Such a statement shall be submitted to the subject nominating the member to the election commission to be handed over to the respective election commission, or for filing of a submission seeking replacement of a member of the election commission;
- 2) the filing of a submission seeking replacement of a member of the election commission by

- the subject nominating the member to the election commission;
- 3) termination of his or her Ukrainian citizenship;
  - 4) cancellation of the decision on the registration of a candidate for President of Ukraine, based on a submission of which a member of an election commission was nominated to the election commission;
  - 5) his or her departure for the period up to the day of voting inclusive abroad or from the country in the territory of which an out-of-country election precinct was established, which results in impossibility to perform the duties of a member of a commission;
  - 6) his or her registration as a candidate for President of Ukraine, as well as a deputy candidate to the Verkhovna Rada of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, a deputy candidate to a local council or a candidate for village, settlement or city mayor, or a candidate for village or settlement starosta, if the aforementioned election is conducted simultaneously with the election of the President of Ukraine;
  - 7) his or her registration as a representative of a candidate for President of Ukraine to the Central Election Commission, or a agent of a candidate for President of Ukraine, as well as a agent of a deputy candidate to a local council or candidate for village, settlement or city mayor, or a candidate for village or settlement starosta, or a representative or an authorized person of a local party organization, or an authorized person of a subject of the referendum process, or a representative of an initiative group to the Central Election Commission, or an official observer, if the process of the aforementioned elections or a referendum is conducted simultaneously with the election of the President of Ukraine;
  - 8) systematic violation or one-time gross violation by him or her of the Laws of Ukraine on elections ascertained by a court decision or by a decision of the higher-level election commission; his or her failure to attend two or more meetings of an election commission with no good reason or failure to arrive at the meeting of an election commission on the day of voting; failure to perform his or her duties with no good reason;
  - 9) if a decision of a court comes into legal force, whereby he or she was found guilty of committing a grave or especially grave crime or a crime against citizens' electoral rights, or a corruption crime;
  - 10) his or her appointment to another election commission responsible for preparation and conduct of the election of the President of Ukraine or the election of deputies of the Verkhovna Rada of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, deputies of local councils, or village, settlement or city mayors, or village or settlement starostas, if the aforementioned elections are conducted simultaneously with the election of the President of Ukraine;
  - 11) his or her being declared incapacitated or a missing person;
  - 12) his or her death, or his or her being declared dead;
  - 13) his or her refusal to take the oath of a commission member;
  - 14) violation of the oath of a commission member in the form of a systematic failure to perform his or her duties ascertained by at least two decisions thereon adopted by the election commission of which he or she is a member;
  - 15) discovery of the fact that shall deprive a person of the right to be a member of an election commission.

4. The powers of a member of an election commission shall be terminated on the grounds provided for by clauses 1 - 12, 14, 15 of Part three of this Article, from the moment of adoption of the decision on termination of powers of a member of an election commission by the election commission that established it. Should any of the grounds provided for by clause 13 of Part three of this Article appear, the powers of the member of an election commission shall be terminated from the moment he or she refuses to put his or her signature under the text of an oath at the election commission's meeting, or

based on his or failure to arrive for the first and second election commission meetings upon nomination of him or her to this election commission, of which he or she has been notified.

The Central Election Commission or the respective district election commission shall be notified without delay about the early termination of powers of a commission member due to the refusal to take the oath of powers, in order to decide on changes in the composition of the respective election commission.

The person who submitted the application for resignation shall continue to perform the duties of the chair, deputy chair, secretary, member of the election commission until the respective decision is made by the commission that established it.

A submission seeking to replace a member of an election commission shall be filed to the respective election commission, signed by persons specified in Part two of Article 84, Part two of Article 85 of this Code, on paper and electronically in the form approved by the Central Election Commission. The documents provided for in Part two of Article 84 and Part six of Article 85 of this Code, respectively, shall be attached to the submission.

The aforementioned submission shall be considered within five days, but not later than the last day before the voting day.

A submission seeking to replace a member of the election commission may be filed by means of electronic services in accordance with the procedure established by the Central Election Commission.

5. An election commission that adopts a decision on early termination of the powers of all the members of an election commission shall no later than on the following day notify the subject that nominated the person(s) to the election commission of the termination. Such nominating subjects shall be entitled to file, no later than on the following day upon receipt of such notification, a submission with new nominations with the respective election commission.

If within the time period specified by this Part of this Article, no submission has been filed to nominate members to an election commission, and/or if the number of nominees to the election commission does not allow establishing the commission in compliance with the minimum limits specified in Part one of Article 84 or Part one of Article 85 of this Code, the respective election commission shall form the composition of the commission based on a submission of the chair of this commission, in accordance with the proposals of this commission members to bring the composition of such election commission in compliance with the minimum requirements for a commission's composition (no less than the minimum limit), necessarily having regard to submitted nominations to this election commission, except those that shall be rejected on the grounds established by this Code.

In the case of early termination of powers of the election commission members on the grounds provided for in clauses 8, 13 of Part three of this Article, or in connection with early termination of powers of all members of the election commission, they may not be re-nominated to the election commission and shall be rejected.

The decision on early termination of powers in connection with the replacement of the member of the election commission shall be made simultaneously with the decision nominating the replacement member of the respective election commission nominated by the same subject and simultaneously appointing this replacement member to the respective position in the election commission that was occupied by the member of the election commission whose powers was terminated early.

In the case of early termination of powers of the member of the election commission due to the election commission member's refusal to take an oath of powers, in connection with cancellation of the decision on the registration of a candidate for President of Ukraine, based on a submission of which such member of the election commission was nominated to the respective election commission, that results in a decrease in the number of members of the election commission below the minimum limits specified in Part one of Article 84 or Part one of Article 85 of this Code, the respective election commission shall, simultaneously with the adoption of the decision on early termination of powers of the member of the election commission, make a decision on nomination of a replacement member to the respective election commission based on a submission, respectively, of the Chair of the Central

Election Commission, or the chair of the district election commission, in accordance with the proposals submitted, respectively, by members of the Central Election Commission or the members of the district election commission.

6. In the case of early termination of powers of all members of the election commission, the respective election commission shall, no later than the third day from the date of termination of powers of all members of the election commission, but no later than the last day preceding the day of voting, approve a new composition of the election commission in accordance with the procedure established by this Code.

In case of early termination of the powers of a member of the election commission, which led to a reduction in the number of members of the election commission below the minimum number established by Part one of Article 84 or Part one of Article 85 of this Code, the respective election commission decides to appoint a new member to the election commission based on the submission of the chair of the Central Election Commission or the district election commission, on the basis of proposals of members of the Central Election Commission or the district election commission, respectively, in order for the number of such election commission to correspond to its minimum number (was not less). Such a decision is made simultaneously with the decision on early termination of the powers of a member of the commission.

In the case of early termination of powers of the precinct election commission member of an out-of-country election precinct a replacement member may be appointed to the election commission based on the submission of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine.

The chair, deputy chair or secretary of the election commission may personally submit a handwritten application for resignation (without termination of membership in the commission) to the election commission that formed the respective election commission.

7. If the chair, deputy chair, or the secretary of an election commission repeatedly fails to perform his or her duties, the respective election commission shall be entitled to make a submission to the election commission that established it with a motivated request that he or she be replaced, provided that such submission is supported by at least two-thirds of all the members of the commission. Such a submission shall be signed by the chair, deputy chair of the election commission or a person presiding at the respective meeting of the election commission and shall be affixed with the election commission's seal. The submission shall be appended with no less than two decisions of the election commission that ascertain a failure of the chair, deputy chair or the secretary of this commission to perform his or her duties, as well as an abstract from the minutes of the respective meeting of the election commission that considered an issue about filing such a submission.

The chair, deputy chair, or the secretary of an election commission may personally submit a handwritten statement on resignation to the election commission that established the election commission of which they are members.

The aforementioned submission or statement shall be a subject to mandatory consideration within three days, but no later than the last day preceding the day of voting. A decision replacing the chair, deputy chair, or the secretary of an election commission shall not necessarily result in termination of his or her powers as a member of the election commission.

8. In case of receipt of a submission to replace a member of the election commission who is an acting chair, deputy chair, secretary of the election commission, a decision on appointment to the respective election commission of a replacement member from the same nominating subject shall be made, simultaneously appointing this member to the respective position in the election commission held by the commission member, whose powers were terminated early.

In case of early termination of powers of the chair, deputy chair, secretary of the election commission on other grounds provided for in Part three of this Article, the election commission shall appoint another commission member to the respective position.

9. Should any of the grounds for early termination of powers of all members of the election commission, or an individual member of the election commission, appear, that have signs of

committing a criminal or an administrative offence by the members (an individual member) of this election commission, the respective election commission shall simultaneously with making such a decision notify the law enforcement authorities for verification and response in accordance with the Law.

## **Chapter XVI. FINANCIAL, MATERIAL AND TECHNICAL SUPPORT FOR PREPARATION AND CONDUCT OF THE ELECTION OF THE PRESIDENT OF UKRAINE**

### **Article 90.** Financing Election of the President of Ukraine

1. Expenditures relating to preparation and conduct of the election of the President of Ukraine shall be covered solely at the expense of the funds of the State Budget of Ukraine allocated for preparation and conduct on the election of the election of thee President of Ukraine, as well as at the expense of resources of electoral funds of candidates for the President of Ukraine.

2. To finance his or her election campaign, including election campaigning, a candidate for President of Ukraine registered by the Central Election Commission shall establish an electoral fund, which shall be formed in accordance with procedures provided for by this Code.

3. The financing of election campaigning of a candidate for President of Ukraine from sources other than the electoral fund of a candidate for President of Ukraine, with or without the approval of parties that are electoral subjects, or candidates for the President of Ukraine, shall be prohibited.

### **Article 91.** Financial Support for preparation and Conduct of Election of the President of Ukraine at the Expense of State Budget

1. Expenditures relating to preparation and conduct of the election of the President of Ukraine at the expense of the funds of the State Budget of Ukraine shall be provided by the Central Election Commission which shall be the principal administrator of such funds.

2. The amount of funds for preparation and conduct of the election of the President of Ukraine based upon submission of the Central Election Commission Ukraine shall be set as a separate item line in the Law “On the State Budget of Ukraine” for the respective year.

3. Expenditures relating to preparation and conduct of the election of the President of Ukraine shall be covered by the Central Election Commission and district election commissions (regional or territorial representations of the Central Election Commission) in accordance with the separate budgets of expenditures approved by the Central Election Commission, within the budget allocation provided for in the Law “On State Budget of Ukraine”.

The financing of election commissions of out-of-country election precincts shall be provided by the Central Election Commission through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine.

The financing of the production of election documents by the State Voter Register maintenance bodies shall be provided at the expense of the funds of the State Budget allocated for preparation and conduct of elections of the President of Ukraine, in accordance with the procedure specified by the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine based upon submission of the Central Election Commission.

4. Budget funds for the preparation and conduct of elections of the President of Ukraine, budget allocation for which is established by the Law “On State Budget of Ukraine” shall be transferred by the central executive body for implementation of state policy in the area of treasury management of the budget funds to the Central Election Commission in accordance with the monthly schedule of allocations of the general fund of the State Budget of Ukraine, formed based on the proposals by the Central Election Commission, according to the budget program providing for the financial support for preparation and conduct of the election of the President of Ukraine.

5. The Central Election Commission shall approve the average expenditure amounts of a district election commission (regional or territorial representation of the Central Election Commission), as well as the average expenditure amounts to address the needs of the precinct election commissions which shall cover, in particular, expenditures relating to remuneration for the work of the election commission

members and other persons engaged in activities of the election commission; expenditures relating to the needs connected with the exercise of powers of election commissions (payment for transport services, communication services, reimbursement of payment for utilities services, etc.).

6. Within ten days from the day of its establishment, each district election commission (regional or territorial representation of the Central Election Commission) shall, based on the average expenditure amounts, prepare a unified budget of expenditures for preparation and conduct of the election which shall include its own expenditures, as well as the expenditures to cover the needs of the precinct election commissions within a territorial district. The unified budget of expenses shall be approved by the Central Election Commission.

7. The election commissions shall be financed in accordance with the procedure approved by the Central Election Commission jointly with a specially authorized central executive body responsible for development of the financial policy of the state.

8. No later than five days after the day of the official promulgation of the results of the election of the President of Ukraine, the district election commission (regional or territorial representation of the Central Election Commission) shall submit to the Central Election Commission extracted statement from the registration account and terminate the movement of any funds on this account. Within seven days of the day of the official promulgation of the results of the election of the President of Ukraine, Central Election Commission shall withdraw the unused funds allocated from the State Budget of Ukraine for preparation and conduct of the election of the President of Ukraine by way of by submitting an adjustment to the distribution of available allocations to the central executive body for the implementation of state policy in the area of treasury management of the budget funds.

9. Within fifteen days of the day of the official promulgation of the election results, each district election commission (regional or territorial representation of the Central Election Commission) shall draw up and submit to the Central Election Commission, in accordance with procedures established by the Central Election Commission, a financial report, of a form approved by the Central Election Commission jointly with the specially authorized central executive body for the implementation of state policy in the area of treasury management of the budget funds, on the receipt and use of the funds of the State Budget of Ukraine for preparation and conduct of the election of the President of Ukraine.

10. The control over appropriate and purposeful use of the funds allocated from the State Budget of Ukraine for preparation and conduct of the election of the President of Ukraine shall be exercised by the Central Election Commission, regional representations of the Central Election Commission, bodies of the public financial control and the Treasury of Ukraine in accordance with the procedure specified by Central Election Commission and approved with the central executive body for the implementation of state policy in the area of public financial control, and the Treasury of Ukraine.

**Article 92.** Remuneration of Members of Election Commissions and Persons Engaged in Activities of Election Commissions

1. By decision of the election commission approved by the higher-level election commission, the chair, deputy chair, secretary or other members of the district election commission (in total no more than four persons), the precinct election commission (in total no more than three persons) during the entire term of powers of the election commission or a part of this period may exercise their powers in the election commission on a paid basis via civil agreement between these persons and the election commission (territorial representation of the Central Election Commission). During the said period of time, the aforementioned persons shall be released from the performance of work or official duties at their principal place of employment, while retaining the respective length of service.

The work of the member of the election commission who performs his or her duties in the election commission on a paid basis, shall be paid within the limits established by the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine and in accordance with the procedure specified by the Central Election Commission, at the expense of the funds of the State Budget allocated for preparation and conduct of elections.

2. The remuneration to a member of the election commission who has been released from performance of the working or official duties at his or her principal place of employment shall not be lower than his or her average salary at the principal place of employment. The remuneration to a member of an election commission who is a pensioner or temporarily unemployed shall not be lower than the minimum salary as of the day of calculation of the remuneration.

3. Within the scope of the general savings of the remuneration fund allocated by the budget of expenditures of the respective district election commission for preparation and conduct of the election of the President of Ukraine, members of the election commissions can be paid a one-time remuneration in accordance with procedures approved by the Central Election Commission.

4. Remuneration for the work of the members of election commissions (including pensioners and temporarily unemployed persons) on the day of voting, on the day of repeat voting and on the days of tabulation of the voting results shall be paid within the limits and in accordance with procedures approved by the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine.

5. Remuneration for the work of the persons specified in Part ten of Article 33 of this Code shall be paid at the expense of the funds of the State Budget of Ukraine allocated for preparation and conduct of election, within the limits established by the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine.

6. Work related to preparation and conduct of the election of the President of Ukraine performed by persons registered as unemployed under the law which are engaged in activities of the district election commissions or precinct election commissions or are engaged as specialists, experts and technical workers specified in Part ten of Article 33 of this Code shall not constitute a reason for cancellation of registration of such persons at the State Employment Service as those seeking employment, or for termination of the payment of social unemployment benefits or other types of social benefits. Remuneration for the work of the members of election commissions or persons specified in Part ten of Article 33 of this Code, which are pensioners, shall not constitute a reason for reducing the amount of pension they receive.

7. Remuneration for the work of the members of election commissions or persons that are engaged in activities of the election commission, including on the day of voting, on the days of tabulation of the voting results and establishing the results of the election, shall not constitute a reason for cancellation, restriction or reduction of any types of social benefits, pensions, subsidies for reimbursement of expenditures on the payment for utilities services, etc., payable to them or their family members residing together with them.

## **Chapter XVII. ELECTORAL FUNDS OF CANDIDATES FOR POST OF THE PRESIDENT OF UKRAINE**

### **Article 93. Main Principles of Establishing and Functioning of an Electoral Fund**

1. The electoral fund of a candidate for President of Ukraine shall have one accumulation account to which the funds for financing the election campaign of a candidate for President of Ukraine shall be transferred, as well as current accounts from which the expenditures relating to election campaigning shall be covered. Resources shall be transferred to the current accounts of a candidate's electoral fund exclusively from the accumulation account of his or her electoral fund.

A candidate for President of Ukraine shall open an electoral fund account no later than on the tenth day following the day of his or her registration by the Central Election Commission.

2. A candidate for President of Ukraine shall open one accumulation account for his or her electoral fund in the Ukrainian bank in the city of Kyiv and no more than one current account within the territorial election district. One current bank account of an electoral fund of a candidate for President of Ukraine may service several territorial election districts.

3. Accounts of an electoral fund of a candidate for President of Ukraine shall be opened in the banks in the national currency.

4. An accumulation account of the electoral fund of a candidate shall be opened on the basis of a copy of the decision of the Central Election Commission on registration of a candidate for



President of Ukraine. A current account of the electoral fund of a candidate shall be opened on the basis of a certificate from the bank certifying the opening of the accumulation account of the electoral fund.

5. The procedure for opening and closing the accounts of electoral funds of candidates for the President of Ukraine shall be approved no later than eighty-three days prior to the day of voting by the National Bank of Ukraine in coordination with the Central Election Commission.

6. The funds in the current accounts of the electoral fund shall be spent only in a cashless form.

7. The banking institutions' services relating to the opening and closing of the accounts of the electoral fund, as well as to the functioning thereof, shall be delivered free of charge. A banking institution shall neither accrue nor pay any interests on the funds maintained in the accounts of the electoral fund.

8. No later than on the next business day following the day of opening of the account of the electoral fund of a candidate for President of Ukraine, the banking institution shall notify the Central Election Commission and the National Agency for Corruption Prevention in writing of the opening of the respective account and its details.

9. The information on the opening of the accumulation account of the respective electoral fund and its respective details shall be published on the official website of the Central Election Commission. Further information on an electoral fund's accumulation bank account details shall be published in mass media at the expense of the resources of the respective electoral fund.

10. The spending of the resources from current accounts of the electoral fund shall be terminated at 18:00 on the last Friday prior to the day of voting.

11. Should a repeat voting be called, the spending of the funds from the electoral fund of the candidate included on the ballot for the repeat voting shall be renewed from the day of the adoption of the decision on the candidate inclusion on the ballot for the repeat voting.

12. The accounts of the electoral fund shall be closed by the banking institutions on the fifteenth day of the day of the official promulgation of the results of the election, or on the day of publication of the decision on calling the repeat voting with regard to candidates that have not been included on the ballot for repeat voting.

13. Seizure of the funds in the accounts of an electoral fund prior to the day of voting or the day of repeat voting shall not be allowed.

14. Closing of the accounts or termination of transactions in the accounts of the electoral fund before the deadline specified in Part ten of this Article shall not be allowed.

#### **Article 94. Control over Electoral Funds**

1. Control over the electoral funds of candidates for the President of Ukraine shall be exercised by the Central Election Commission, the National Agency for Corruption Prevention and the banking institution, in which an account of an electoral fund has been opened, in accordance with the procedure which shall be established by the Central Election Commission jointly with the National Bank of Ukraine in coordination with the National Agency for Corruption Prevention no later than eighty-three days prior to the day of voting.

2. A banking institution, at which the account of an electoral fund has been opened, shall, on a weekly (daily) basis or upon request, provide the information to the Central Election Commission and the National Agency for Corruption Prevention, on the amounts and sources of contributions received in the accounts of the electoral fund, as well as with information on the flow of resources, and on the remaining resources. The said information shall be provided in accordance with the procedure to be established pursuant to Part one of this Article.

3. Repealed.

**Article 95. Managers of Accounts of an Electoral Fund**

1. A candidate for President of Ukraine shall, from among his or her agents in the single nationwide election district specified in Article 111 of this Code appoint no more than two managers of the accumulation account of the candidate's electoral fund who shall have the exclusive right to use the funds, as stipulated by the Law, credited to the accumulation account. The managers of the accumulation account of the electoral fund shall be obliged to keep the records of the receipt and distribution of the resources that are credited to the accumulation account of the electoral fund, between the current accounts.

2. A candidate for President of Ukraine shall, from among his or her agents specified in Article 111 of this Code appoint no more than one manager of the current account of the electoral fund in the respective territorial district, who shall have the exclusive right to use the funds in the current account of the electoral fund. The managers of the current accounts of an electoral fund shall ensure observance of financial discipline, as well as purposeful use of the resources of the electoral fund; they shall keep the records of the use of the funds of the respective account of the electoral fund.

3. A banking institution at which the accumulation or current account of an electoral fund has been opened shall, on a weekly (daily) basis or upon request of the manager of the resources of the respective electoral fund, provide the latter with information on the amounts and sources of donations transferred to the accounts of the electoral fund, as well as with information on the flow of resources and on the remaining resources in accordance with the procedure provided for in Part one of Article 94 of this Code.

**Article 96. Procedure for Formation of an Electoral Fund and Use of Its Resources**

1. The electoral fund of a candidate for President of Ukraine shall be formed from his or her own resources, resources of a party that nominated him or her, as well as voluntary donations from natural persons, which, according to the Law of Ukraine "On Political Parties in Ukraine" shall be entitled to make donations in support of parties.

Voluntary contributions shall be made exclusively in monetary form.

The size of the electoral fund of a candidate for the post of President of Ukraine may not exceed ninety thousand minimum salaries, as established on January 1 of the respective year.

2. A voluntary donation to the electoral fund of a candidate for President of Ukraine nominated by a political party or self-nominated shall not exceed the amount of maximum donation in support of a party during one year, established by the Law of Ukraine "On Political Parties in Ukraine".

If a natural or a legal person exercises or may exercise a decisive influence on activities of one or more legal entities (in particular, if such a person is an ultimate beneficial owner (controller) of a legal entity), the donations of such natural or legal person or legal entities under their control shall be considered to be a donation from the same person and shall be limited by the amount of maximum donation in support of a party during one year, established by the Law of Ukraine "On Political Parties in Ukraine".

Restrictions, other than those established by this Article, including restrictions deriving from the financial and banking legislation, shall not be applied to the formation of an electoral fund of a candidate for President of Ukraine.

3. It shall be prohibited for persons, which, in accordance with the Law of Ukraine "On Political Parties" shall not be entitled to make donations in support of parties, to make voluntary donations to an electoral fund of a candidate for President of Ukraine.

4. A banking institution or a post office shall not accept a voluntary donation to the electoral fund a candidate for President of Ukraine, exceeding the amount established by Part two of this Article.

The document formed as a result of such a banking transaction must contain the following information: last name, first name, (if any) patronymic name, place of residence, registration number of a taxpayer's account card or identification number in the State Register of Individual Taxpayers (for persons who on the ground of their religious beliefs refused to accept a registration number of a taxpayer's account card and notified the respective supervisory authority thereof, having obtained a respective record in his or her passport shall provide series (if any) and number of the passport of citizen of Ukraine, with a record on refusal to accept an identification number or a passport number with record on refusal to accept a registration number of a taxpayer's account card in electronic contactless carrier), date of birth, an amount (sum) of the donation, a purpose of the transaction.

If the voluntary donation is made by a natural person, the chosen method of banking transaction must provide the possibility of identification of this natural person (including if such banking operations are performed by a natural person using the Internet).

5. A voluntary donation shall be transferred by a banking institution or a post office to the accumulation account of the electoral fund no later than on the next business day following the day of the receipt of the respective payment document. The overall term for cashless transfer of the contribution to the account of the electoral fund of a candidate for President of Ukraine shall not exceed two banking days.

6. The manager of the respective account of the electoral fund may refuse to accept a voluntary donation to an electoral fund, submitting an application to that effect appended with the payment document to the banking institution in which the accumulation account of the electoral fund has been opened. Such voluntary donation shall be returned to the individual at the expense of his or her voluntary donation or, if such return is impossible, shall be transferred to the State Budget of Ukraine.

7. In case of receipt of a donation exceeding the amount established by Part two of this Article, the amount exceeding the established amount shall be returned by a banking institution, in which the account of the electoral fund has been opened, based on the respective application and a payment document, submitted by the manager of the accumulation account of the electoral fund, to a person who made the donation, at the expense of his or her voluntary donation or, if such return is impossible, shall be transferred to the State Budget of Ukraine.

8. The manager of the respective electoral fund account shall reject a donation from a natural person who under this Code has no right to make a voluntary donation, within three working days following the day when the manager becomes aware thereof. Based on the manager's application rejecting the donation for such a reason, the banking institution in which the respective account of the electoral fund has been opened shall transfer such voluntary donation to the State Budget of Ukraine.

9. The resources of the electoral fund shall be used by a candidate for President of Ukraine to finance his or her election campaign, including election campaigning.

10. The unused resources of the electoral fund of a candidate for President of Ukraine, nominated by a party, shall be returned to the current account of the respective party, based on his or her written application, which shall be submitted no later than the tenth day following the official promulgation of the results of the election, bearing his or her signature, the authenticity of which shall be certified in the manner prescribed by the Law, to a current account of the respective party, no later than within five days from the date of receipt of such application. Should a candidate for President of Ukraine fail to submit such an application within the specified time period, the unused resources of the electoral fund shall be indisputably transferred by a banking institution to the State Budget on the fifteenth day following the official promulgation of the results of the election by the Central Election Commission (or on the fifteenth day following the publication of a decision on calling the repeat voting, for candidates not included on the ballot for repeat voting). The unused resources of the electoral fund of a candidate for President of Ukraine, nominated by self-nomination, shall, no later than the tenth day following the official promulgation of the results of the election, be transferred to the State Budget.

11. In the case of cancellation of the decision on the registration of a candidate for President of Ukraine the unused resources of his or her electoral fund shall, no later the tenth day following the adoption of the respective decision, shall be indisputably transferred to the State Budget.

12. A donation received in the electoral fund after the day of voting (or after the day of repeat voting, if a candidate for President of Ukraine has been included on the ballot for repeat voting) shall be returned by a banking institution to the respective person at the expense of his or her voluntary donation or, if such return is impossible, shall be transferred to the State Budget of Ukraine.

**Article 97.** Financial Reports on Receipt and Use of Resources of Electoral Funds and Analysis Thereof

1. Managers of the respective accounts of the electoral fund shall provide for reporting on the receipt and use of resources of the electoral fund a candidate for President of Ukraine.

2. Managers of the current accounts of the electoral fund a candidate for President of Ukraine shall submit, in accordance with the procedure established by this Code, respective financial reports to a manager of the accumulation account of the electoral fund.

A manager of the accumulation account of the electoral fund a candidate for President of Ukraine shall submit respective financial reports to a party (unless a candidate for President of Ukraine is nominated by self-nomination), the Central Election Commission and the National Agency for Corruption Prevention.

Managers of respective accounts of the electoral fund shall submit, in accordance with the procedure and the timeline established by this Code, two types of the financial reports: interim and final.

3. A manager of the current account of the electoral fund shall be obliged to submit, no later than eight days prior to the day of voting, to a manager of the accumulation account of the electoral fund an interim financial report on the use of resources of the respective current account of the electoral fund for the time period from the day of opening of the current bank account of the electoral fund until the twelfth day prior to the day of voting. Should the Central Election Commission call the repeat voting, a manager of the current account of the electoral fund of a candidate for President of Ukraine, included on the ballot for repeat voting, shall, in six days prior to the day of repeat voting, submit to a manager of the accumulation account of the electoral fund an interim financial report on the use of funds of the respective current account of the electoral fund for the time period from the day of the adoption of a decision on inclusion of a candidate for President of Ukraine to the ballot for repeat voting until the seventh day prior to the day of repeat voting.

A manager of the current account of the electoral fund shall be obliged to submit, no later than on the seventh day following the day of voting (or no later than on the seventh day following the day of repeat voting with regard to a candidate for President of Ukraine included on the ballot for repeat voting), to a manager of the accumulation account of the electoral fund a final financial report on the use of funds in the respective current account of the electoral fund.

4. A manager of the accumulation account of the electoral fund shall be obliged to submit, no later than five days prior to the day of voting, to a party (unless a candidate for President of Ukraine is nominated by self-nomination), the Central Election Commission and the National Agency for Corruption Prevention an interim financial report on the receipt and use of resources of the electoral fund for the time period from the day of opening of the accumulation account of the electoral fund until the twelfth day prior to the day of voting (in both paper and electronic form), which shall be published on the official websites of a party (if available), the Central Election Commission and the National Agency for Corruption Prevention no later than the day following the day of the receipt thereof. Should the Central Election Commission call the repeat voting, a manager of the accumulation account of the electoral fund a candidate for President of Ukraine, included on the ballot for repeat voting, shall be obliged to submit, in four days prior to the day of repeat voting, to a party (unless a candidate for President of Ukraine is nominated by self-nomination), the Central Election Commission and the National Agency for Corruption Prevention

an interim financial report on the receipt and use of resources of the electoral fund for the time period from the day of the adoption of a decision on inclusion of a candidate for President of Ukraine on the ballot for repeat voting until the seventh day prior to the day of repeat voting (in paper and electronic form), which shall be published on the official websites of a party (if available), the Central Election Commission and the National Agency for Corruption Prevention no later than the day following the day of the receipt thereof.

A manager of the accumulation account of the electoral fund shall be obliged to submit, no later than on the fifteenth day following the day of voting (or no later than on the fifteenth day following the day of repeat voting with regard to a candidate included on the ballot for repeat voting), to a party (unless a candidate for President of Ukraine is nominated by self-nomination), the Central Election Commission and the National Agency for Corruption Prevention a final financial report on the receipt and use of resources of the electoral fund (in paper and electronic form), which shall be published on the official websites of a party (if available), the Central Election Commission and the National Agency for Corruption Prevention no later than the day following the day of the receipt thereof.

Financial reports provided for in this Part shall necessarily contain the last name, first name, patronymic name and place of residence of a natural person (region, district, settlement). Other information on a natural person classified as restricted information shall not be subject to disclosure.

5. The analysis of financial reports provided for in Part five of this Article shall be performed by the Central Election Commission and the National Agency for Corruption Prevention and shall determine the compliance of the data contained in the report with the requirements of this Code, timeliness of the reports submission and the compliance of the data contained in the report with the information obtained from banking institutions in which the accounts of electoral funds have been opened.

The Central Election Commission and the National Agency for the Corruption Prevention shall, no later than two days prior to the day of voting (or in two days prior to the day of repeat voting, in the case of repeat voting), publish on their official websites an analysis of the financial reports submitted in accordance with the requirements of paragraph one of Part five of this Article, and shall, no later than on the thirtieth day following the day of voting, publish an analysis of the financial reports submitted in accordance with the requirements of paragraph two of Part five of this Article.

Should, in the course of the analysis of financial reports, the signs of violation of the requirements of the law be revealed, the Central Election Commission and the National Agency for Corruption Prevention within five days from the date of detection of thereof shall notify about such violations in writing the respective bodies, authorized to ensure that persons who have violated the requirements of the law are brought to justice in accordance with the law, or shall ensure, within the limits of their powers, that the respective persons are held accountable. .

6. Financial reports provided for in Parts four and five of this Article, shall necessarily contain the information on all amounts of transfers to the accumulation account and current accounts of the electoral fund a candidate for President of Ukraine, the incurred expenses and remaining resources in the respective accounts, including the information on the date of receipt of each contribution to the electoral fund, its amount, a person who made a contribution to the respective account of the electoral fund, a party's name (in the case of making a donation by a party which nominated a candidate for President of Ukraine); the purpose of payment, date and amount of each payment from the respective account of the electoral fund, a beneficiary of each payment.

7. Forms of financial reports provided for in Parts four and five of this Article, as well as the procedure for their analysis, shall be established by the Central Election Commission in coordination with the National Agency for Corruption Prevention.

8. Pursuant to the decision of the Central Election Commission and in accordance with the procedure established by it, the financial statements on the receipt and use of resources of the electoral funds provided for in this Article may be submitted to the Central Election Commission by means of electronic services. In this case, the paper form of the specified report shall not be submitted.

## **Chapter XVIII. NOMINATION AND REGISTRATION OF CANDIDATES FOR THE PRESIDENT OF UKRAINE**

### **Article 98.** General Procedure for Nominating Candidates for the President of Ukraine

1. The nomination of candidates for the President of Ukraine by parties and through self-nomination shall begin on the first day of the election process and shall end fifty-five days prior to the day of voting.

### **Article 99.** Procedure for Nomination of Candidates by Parties

1. A party may nominate only one candidate for President of Ukraine. A person may be nominated as a candidate for President of Ukraine only by one party, subject to a person's consent.

2. A party may nominate a person, who is a member of this party, or a non-partisan person, who, in accordance with the Article 75 of this Code, shall have the right to be elected to the office of the President of Ukraine, as a candidate for President of Ukraine.

3. The nomination of a candidate for President of Ukraine shall be conducted by the party at its congress (meeting, conference) pursuant to the procedure prescribed by the party's charter.

A member of the Central Election Commission, on behalf of the chair of the Central Election Commission, has the right to be present a party congress (meeting, conference) regarding the nomination of a candidate for President of Ukraine.

4. An announcement about the time and place of holding a congress (meeting, conference) of the party with the purpose of nomination a candidate for President of Ukraine, as well as the procedure for accreditation of media representatives for such a congress (meeting, congress), determined by its organizers, shall be posted on the official website of the party no later than five days prior to the date of holding a congress (meeting, conference) and be submitted to the Central Election Commission. The Central Election Commission shall publish such announcement on its official website no later than the next day after its receipt.

### **Article 100.** Procedure for Self-Nomination of a Candidate for President of Ukraine

1. A citizen of Ukraine, who, in accordance with the Article 75 of this Code, may be elected to the office of the President of Ukraine, shall submit, in person, a statement of self-nomination of a candidate for President of Ukraine to the Central Election Commission.

2. A statement of self-nomination of a candidate for President of Ukraine, dated by the day of filing a submission for a candidate registration, shall contain the following information:

- 1) consent to the publication of his or her biographical information and processing his or her personal data;
- 2) acknowledgement of the obligation, in case of being elected as the President of Ukraine, to transfer, within one month from the day of the official promulgation of the election results, to another person, pursuant to the procedure prescribed by the Law, the management of enterprises and corporate rights owned by the candidate (or indicating absence thereof);
- 3) acknowledgement of the obligation in the event of election to the post of the President of Ukraine to terminate within one month from the date of official publication of the election results any activities or lay down any representative mandate which are incompatible with the mandate of the President of Ukraine under the Constitution and the Laws of Ukraine (or indicating absence thereof in the case of absence of such activities or the mandate).

3. A statement of self-nomination shall be accompanied by the documents provided for in Part one of Article 103 of this Code.

### **Article 101.** Financial Deposit

1. Each party nominating a candidate for President of Ukraine, or a candidate for President of Ukraine, nominated through self-nomination, shall, (after the commencement of the election process and before submitting documents to the Central Election Commission for the registration

of the candidate) transfer to the special account of the Central Election Commission by way of a single payment a financial deposit in a cashless form in the amount of six hundred fifty minimum salaries, determined in a monthly amount (established as of the day of the beginning of the election process).

The Central Election Commission shall, no later than the first day of the election process, post on its official website the deposit's amount and, the bank account details of the special account for depositing a financial deposit.

2. The financial deposit shall be returned to the subject that transferred it (a party or a candidate for President of Ukraine), if the respective candidate is elected the President of Ukraine, or included on the ballot for repeat voting, or in the case of the adoption of a decision by the Central Election Commission on refusal of registration of a candidate for President of Ukraine. In other cases the financial deposit shall not be returned and shall be transferred to the State Budget.

3. Should the Central Election Commission make a decision on refusal of registration of a candidate for President of Ukraine, a party or a candidate for the post of the President of Ukraine, who made a deposit, shall, within five days from the date of such a decision, submit an application to the Central Election Commission to return the deposit, while indicating in it the respective invoice (for party or candidate for the post of President of Ukraine). In case of failure to submit such an application within the period specified by this Part, the financial deposit shall not be returned and shall be transferred to the state budget.

4. In case of receipt on the special account of the Central Election Commission for depositing a financial deposit of funds in the amount less than specified in Part one of this Article and/or funds deposited in violation of the requirements of Part one of this Article, such funds shall not be refunded and shall be transferred to the state budget within five days after the deadline for registration of candidates for the post of President of Ukraine.

**Article 102.** Filing a Declaration of Property, Income, Expenditures and Financial Liabilities of a Candidate for President of Ukraine

1. A candidate for President of Ukraine, registered in accordance with the procedure established by this Code, no later than the fifth day after registration shall submit a declaration of a person authorized to perform the functions of the state or local self-government, pursuant to the Law of Ukraine "On Corruption Prevention".

**Article 103.** Registration of a Candidate for President of Ukraine

1. The Central Election Commission shall register a self-nominated candidate for President of Ukraine upon receipt, alongside the application provided for in Part one of Article 100 of this Code, of the following documents:

- 1) certificate of presence or absence of a criminal record issued by an authorized body after the start of the election process;
- 2) the autobiography of a candidate for President of Ukraine, in both paper and electronic form, which shall necessarily contain: last name, first name (all first names), and patronymic name (if any), all previous last names, first names, patronymic names and dates of change thereof (if a person has changed his or her last name and/or first name (one of the first names or all first names) and/or patronymic name over the last ten years prior to the day of voting), date, month, year, and place of birth, citizenship with indication of the time of residence in the territory of Ukraine, information on educational background, work activities, job position (occupation), place of employment, party membership, address of residence, information on existence or absence of a representative mandate, date of autobiography and signature of the candidate (in printed form) ;
- 3) a candidate's election program, prepared in the state language, the volume of which is up to twelve thousand printed characters (in both paper and electronic form);
- 4) a document on making a cash deposit in accordance with Article 101 of this Code;

- 5) photocopies of the first and second page of a candidate's passport of a citizen of Ukraine in the form of a passport book or photocopies of the front and reverse page of a passport of a citizen of Ukraine in the form of a card;
- 6) one photo of a candidate for President of Ukraine sized 4 x 6 centimeters and 9 x 13 centimeters in paper and electronic form.

2. In addition to the documents provided for by Part one of this Article, a candidate for President of Ukraine nominated by a party shall submit the following documents:

- 1) a decision of a party's congress (meeting, conference), adopted in accordance with its charter, to nominate a candidate for President of Ukraine, in which the following information shall be stated: last name, first name (all first names), patronymic name (if available) of a person nominated as a candidate for President of Ukraine, certified by the signature of the party's chair and affixed with the party seal;
- 2) an application of a person nominated as a candidate, stating his or her consent to stand as a candidate for President of Ukraine from this party; consent to the publication of his or her biographical information and processing his or her personal data, in connection with participation in the election; acknowledgement of the obligation, in case of being elected as the President of Ukraine, to transfer, within one month from the day of the official promulgation of the election results, to another person, pursuant to the procedure prescribed by the Law, the management of enterprises and corporate rights owned by the candidate (or indicating the absence thereof, in the case of absence of such enterprises or corporate rights); acknowledgement of the obligation to terminate any activities and/or lay down any representative mandate which are incompatible with the mandate of the President of Ukraine under the Constitution and the Laws of Ukraine (or indicating absence thereof, in the case of absence of such activities or the mandate).

3. The Central Election Commission shall issue to a candidate for President of Ukraine (nominated by a party, or self-nominated) or to a party's authorized representative, who has submitted documents provided for by Parts one and two of this Article, a certificate confirming the receipt of such documents. The certificate shall contain a list of documents received, the day, month, year and time of their receipt, and the position and last name of the person who received the documents.

Documents for registration of a candidate for the post of President of Ukraine may be submitted to the Central Election Commission by means of electronic services in accordance with the procedure established by the Central Election Commission. In this case, the requirements of Part one of Article 100 of this Code regarding the in-person submission of statement of self-nomination to the Central Election Commission shall not apply.

4. Documents for the registration of candidates for the post of President of Ukraine shall be submitted to the Central Election Commission no later than fifty-five days before the election day. In case of violation of the time period prescribed, as well as in case of submission of documents by mail (including e-mail, in a different manner than established by the Central Election Commission), as well as in another manner without taking into account the requirements of this Code, documents for candidate registration for the post of President of Ukraine shall not be considered by the Central Election Commission and shall be returned by way of a letter from the member of the Central Election Commission on behalf of the chair of the Central Election Commission.

5. A person nominated as a candidate for President of Ukraine shall be held responsible for authenticity and accuracy of the information contained in the documents submitted to the Central Election Commission for a candidate registration.

6. A person nominated as a candidate for President of Ukraine shall have the right, before his or her registration as a candidate, to withdraw his or her statement of self-nomination, or a statement about his or her consent to stand as a candidate for President of Ukraine on behalf of a party. An



application for withdrawal of a statement of self-nomination, or an application for withdrawal of a statement of a candidate's consent to stand as a candidate for President of Ukraine on behalf of a party shall be submitted in person by the respective person to the Central Election Commission. A repeat statement of self-nomination, or a statement of a person's consent to stand as a candidate in the election of the President of Ukraine from the same party shall not be accepted.

7. Within five days of the receipt of the documents provided for in this Article, the Central Election Commission shall make a decision on registration of a candidate for President of Ukraine, or on refusal to register a candidate for President of Ukraine based on the results of verification of the presence or absence of grounds for decision on registration, or a decision on refusal to register a candidate for President of Ukraine.

8. In the event of registration of a candidate for President of Ukraine, the party's authorize representative, or a candidate for President of Ukraine, or his or her authorized representative shall be presented, no later than on the next day following the day of the candidate registration, with a copy resolution on the candidate registration. A candidate for President of Ukraine shall be presented, within three days after the adoption of the decision on a candidate's registration, with an identity card of a candidate for President of Ukraine, in a form approved by the Central Election Commission. Within the same time period, a decision on the registration of a candidate for President of Ukraine shall be published on the official website of the Central Election Commission.

9. The Central Election Commission shall end the registration of candidates for the President of Ukraine no later than fifty-five days prior to the day of voting.

The decision of the Central Election Commission on the registration of a candidate for the post of President of Ukraine shall indicate the last name, first name (all first names), patronymic name (if any), year of birth, information on education, position (occupation), place of employment, party membership, place of residence, a nominating subject of candidate for President of Ukraine.

10. A list of candidates for the President of Ukraine, registered by the Central Election Commission, with indication of last name, first name (all first names), patronymic name (if available), year of birth, information on educational background, work activities, position (occupation), place of employment, party membership, place of residence, a nominating subject, shall be published, no later than within five days from the day of termination of the candidate registration, on the official website of the Central Election Commission.

#### **Article 104. Refusal to Register a Candidate for President of Ukraine**

1. The Central Election Commission shall refuse to register a candidate for President of Ukraine in the event of:

- 1) violation of the procedure for a candidate nomination (self-nomination) specified in Part one of Article 98, Parts one, two and three of Article 99, Article 100 of this Code;
- 2) discovery by the Central Election Commission of presence of the clauses in the candidate's election program aimed at liquidation of Ukraine's independence, forcibly changing the constitutional order, breach of sovereignty and territorial integrity of the state, undermining its security, illegal seizure of state power, propaganda of war, violence, incitement to inter-ethnic, racial, religious enmity, encroachment on human rights, liberties and public health;
- 3) absence of at least one of the documents specified in Article 103 of this Code;
- 4) receipt of the information from the competent authority that confirms the fact of termination of citizenship of Ukraine as regards a person nominated as a candidate for President of Ukraine;
- 5) receipt of the information from the competent authority that confirms the fact of departure of a person nominated as a candidate for President of Ukraine abroad for residence;

- 6) receipt from the court of a duly certified copy of a court decision declaring a candidate for President of Ukraine incapacitated;
- 7) discovery of circumstances depriving the nominee of the right to be elected the President of Ukraine;
- 8) nomination of a candidate for President of Ukraine by a party that promotes communist and / or National Socialist (Nazi) totalitarian regimes and their symbols, with regard to which the Cabinet of Ministers has made a decision declaring the party's activities, name and/or symbols as such that do not comply with the requirements of the Law of Ukraine "On Condemnation of Communist and National Socialist (Nazi) Totalitarian Regimes in Ukraine and Prohibition of Their Symbols".

2. Errors and inaccuracies detected in documents submitted by candidates for registration, unless they make understanding of the information provided therein difficult, shall be subject to correction and shall not be a reason for refusing to register a candidate for President of Ukraine.

3. A decision on refusal of registration of a candidate for President of Ukraine shall contain a complete list of the grounds for refusal. No later than on the day following the day of adoption of such a decision, a copy of such decision shall be presented to an authorized representative of the respective party (candidate), or to a candidate.

**Article 105. Cancellation of a Decision on Registration of a Candidate for President of Ukraine**

1. The Central Election Commission shall take a decision cancelling the registration of a candidate for President of Ukraine if:

- 1) at any time after a candidate's registration, but no later than twenty-three days prior to the election day and no later than thirteen days prior to the repeat, a candidate for President of Ukraine has submitted a written statement withdrawing from the election. Such a statement shall be submitted to the Central Election Commission, in person, by a candidate for the post of President of Ukraine;
- 2) the information has been received from the competent authority, which confirms that a candidate for President of Ukraine has ceased to be a citizen of Ukraine;
- 3) the information has been received from the competent authority, which confirms that a person nominated as a candidate has gone abroad to take up permanent residence;
- 4) a person registered as a candidate for President of Ukraine has been declared incapacitated, according to the duly certified copy of the court decision received by the election commission;
- 5) the election commission has discovered any circumstances depriving a person registered as a candidate for President of Ukraine of the right to be elected as the President of Ukraine.

In the event of receipt of an application indicated in clause 1 of this Part, the Central Election Commission shall adopt a decision cancelling the registration of a candidate for President of Ukraine no later than twenty-two days prior to the day of voting, or no later than twelve days prior to the day of repeat voting, in the case of repeat voting.

In the event of receipt of an application indicated in clause 1 of this Part less than twenty-three days prior to the day of voting, or less than thirteen days prior to the day of repeat voting, the Central Election Commission shall not consider such an application, and the decision pertaining thereto shall not be made.

2. A decision of the Central Election Commission cancelling the registration of a candidate for President of Ukraine shall be published on the official website of the Central Election Commission.

3. The Central Election Commission shall consider the issue of cancellation of the registration of a candidate for President of Ukraine in the presence of a candidate for President of Ukraine or an authorized representative of the party that nominated such a candidate. The aforementioned

persons shall be notified of the time, when the issue of cancelling the registration of a candidate for President of Ukraine shall be considered, no later than on the day prior to the day of the issue consideration. In the event of absence of the aforementioned persons with no good reason, or regardless of the reason, if the issue is considered less than three days prior to the day of voting or to the day of repeat voting, the Central Election Commission shall consider the issue of cancelling the registration of a candidate for President of Ukraine in absence of these persons.

4. The Central Election Commission shall notify a candidate for President of Ukraine and the party that nominated him or her of the decision on cancellation of the registration of a candidate no later than on the following day after its adoption and shall provide a copy of such decision to a candidate for President of Ukraine, his or her authorized representative in the Central Election Commission or a representative of the party that nominated him or her, within the same time period. Should the decision on cancellation of the registration of a candidate for President of Ukraine be made prior to the day of voting, or the day of repeat voting, a copy thereof shall be provided to persons specified in this Part immediately.

5. In the event of the death of a candidate for President of Ukraine, or recognizing him or her as a missing person, the Central Election Commission shall declare him or her withdrawn from the ballot. This decision shall be published on the official website of the Central Election Commission no later than the day following the day of its adoption, but no later than one day prior to the day of voting.

#### **Chapter XIX. PECULIARITIES OF INFORMATION SUPPORT OF THE ELECTION OF THE PRESIDENT OF UKRAINE AND ELECTION CAMPAIGN**

##### **Article 106. Special Information Support for the Election of the President of Ukraine**

1. Special information support for the election shall deem informing the voters of the following:

- 1) registered candidates for the President of Ukraine and their nominating subjects;
- 2) election programs of candidates for the President of Ukraine;
- 3) accounts of the electoral funds of candidates for the President of Ukraine, the maximum amount of a voluntary contribution and the manner in which a voluntary contribution shall be made;
- 4) cancellation of the registration (withdrawal from the election) of a candidate for President of Ukraine;
- 5) facts and events associated with the election process.

2. The information contained in the documents submitted to the Central Election Commission for registration of candidates for the President of Ukraine shall be open. The Central Election Commission shall publish on its official website the information on the last name, first name (all first names) and patronymic name (if available); date, month, year and place of birth; citizenship with indication of the time of residence in the territory of Ukraine; information on educational background; position (occupation); place of employment; party membership; place of residence; information on existence or absence of criminal records pertaining to him or her; a nominating subject of each candidate for President of Ukraine and his or her election program.

3. The information provided for in Parts one and two of this Article shall be also published as a set of data organized in a format that allows its automated processing by electronic means (a machine readable format) so that these data may be re-used (in the open data format).

4. Mass media organizations and information agencies shall be entitled to participate in the special information support for the election based on a request from the Central Election Commission; and as regards data specified in clause 5 of Part one of this Article, on their own initiative in accordance with the requirements of this Code.

**Article 107. Information Posters of Candidates for the President of Ukraine**

1. The Central Election Commission shall provide, at the expense of the funds of the State Budget of Ukraine allocated for preparation and conduct of the election, for the production of information posters of candidates for the President of Ukraine, registered by the Central Election Commission, on the basis of no less than two copies of each poster per each election precinct.

An information poster of a candidate for the post of President of Ukraine must be made in accessible formats that allow voters with health problems (due to disability, temporary health disorder, age) to view them with the use of reasonable accommodation.

The form, size, and printing design of the information posters shall be established by the Central Election Commission.

Information posters of candidates shall be produced with the use of smart adaptation for people with disabilities, taking into account requirements established by the Central Election Commission.

2. The Central Election Commission shall agree a text of the information poster with a candidate for President of Ukraine or his or her authorized representative.

3. Ready-made information posters of candidates for the President of Ukraine shall be delivered to the respective election commissions in election precincts in the manner and within the time frame established by the Central Election Commission.

Information posters shall be posted taking into account the need to ensure that voters with health problems (due to disability, temporary health disorder, age) are able to familiarize themselves with the content of the said information posters, in accordance with the requirements established by the Central Election Commission.

Precinct election commissions shall assist voters, who cannot familiarize themselves with the content of the information posters of candidates for the post of President of Ukraine, to make sure they can access the content in the manner which is the most convenient for such voters.

**Article 108. Procedure and Timeline for Conduct of TV Debates**

1. Should the Central Election Commission, in accordance with the procedure established by this Code, call the repeat voting for candidates for the President of Ukraine included on the ballot for repeat voting, the debates shall be held using electronic (audiovisual) mass media (hereinafter referred to as TV debates) at the expense of the funds of the State Budget allocated for preparation and conduct of the election.

2. TV debates at the expense of funds of the State Budget shall be organized and conducted by the National Television and Radio Broadcasting Company of Ukraine on the last Friday prior to the day of repeat voting on the socio-political national channel of the Public Television Channel live in the time period between 19:00 hours and 22:00 hours, lasting 60 minutes of nonstop air time.

3. Candidates for President of Ukraine shall take part in TV debates in person. It shall not be allowed for agents or other representatives of candidates for the President of Ukraine to participate in TV debates, as well as to broadcast during the TV debates of the video materials about a candidate for President of Ukraine prepared in advance, or to use campaigning and other materials about a candidate.

Should one of the candidates for the President of Ukraine refuse to participate in TV debates, or should it become impossible for him or her to participate in such TV debates, the airtime allocated for the televised debates shall be given to another candidate for his or her campaigning.

4. TV debates prepared at the expense of the state budget shall necessarily be broadcast at the socio-political national channel of the Public Radio of the National Television and Radio Broadcasting Company of Ukraine, as well as may be aired on a free of charge basis by other broadcasting channels.

To broadcast TV debates, the respective television and radio broadcasting organization shall apply in writing to the National Public Television and Radio Company of Ukraine. The National Public Television and Radio Company of Ukraine shall be obliged to provide the television and radio organization that applied for it with the possibility to air TV debates on a free of charge basis.

The costs of providing technical support for the broadcast of TV debates on other broadcasting channels shall be borne by the broadcaster that applied for it.

Television and radio companies broadcasting or rebroadcasting TV debates shall not be allowed to interrupt such debates with commercials and other messages, as well as with announcements of their own programs, broadcasts or in any other way.

5. Payment for the airtime provided for TV debates shall be made by the Central Election Commission at the expense of funds of the State Budget allocated for preparation and conduct of the election of the President of Ukraine, in accordance with the respective contract to be concluded between the Central Election Commission and the National Public Television and Radio Company of Ukraine.

6. A television organization may organize TV debates between candidates for President of Ukraine as a series of programs, in accordance with the requirements of this Code and this Article. A television and radio broadcasting organization may create only one cycle of such broadcasts during the election process. Such a series of broadcasts can be broadcast live only.

7. TV debates specified in Part six of this Article may be conducted at the expense of resources of the electoral funds of candidates for the President of Ukraine within the time periods provided for in this Code for campaigning, between 19:00 and 22:00.

8. TV debates referred to in Part six of this Article shall be organized as a series of programs of the same format so that all candidates for the President of Ukraine can be provided with the opportunity to participate in such debates at their request.

9. No more than two candidates for President of Ukraine may take part in one program of a series of TV debates specified in Part six of this Article at the same time. Candidates shall take part in such TV debates in person. The amount of airtime given to candidates to participate in a discussion or to answer questions shall be determined by the same rules.

10. The interactive voting may be conducted during the TV debates provided for in Part six of this Article, and its results may be made public, subject to consent of all participants of a cycle of TV broadcasts.

11. A schedule of broadcasts, a list of participants and the sequence of participation of candidates for the President of Ukraine in TV debates specified in Part six of this Article shall be published by the respective television organization in the newspapers *Holos Ukrainy* and *Uriadovyy Courier* within three days from the day of the schedule approval, but no later than one day prior to the day of commencement of a series of broadcasts.

12. A number of programs within one cycle of TV debates provided for in Part six of this Article shall be planned to be sufficient in order to provide each of the candidates for the President of Ukraine with an opportunity to participate in them no more than once.

13. The duration of each program in a cycle of TV debates provided for in Part six of this Article shall last no less than 60 minutes of an uninterrupted air time.

14. It shall be prohibited to interrupt the broadcasting of TV debates with commercial advertising.

## **Chapter XX. GUARANTEES OF ACTIVITIES OF CANDIDATES FOR PRESIDENT OF UKRAINE AND OFFICIAL OBSERVERS**

**Article 109.** Guarantee of Election Process Activities for Candidates for the President of Ukraine

1. Unless a candidate for President of Ukraine is the President of Ukraine or a Member of Parliament of Ukraine, he or she may not be denied the opportunity to take a leave of absence without pay from his or her place of employment and to not perform employment-related or official duties for the time period from his or her registration as a candidate until the end of the election process.

2. A candidate for President of Ukraine may not be dismissed from his or her position during the election process on the initiative of the owner of the enterprise, institution, organization, or a body authorized by the owner or the commander of the military unit (command). A candidate for President of Ukraine shall not be without his or her prior consent transferred to any other place of employment, sent on a business trip, or called up for military or alternative (non-military) service, training (test) or special assemblies of persons liable to call-up.

3. A candidate for President of Ukraine may have an authorized representative with an advisory vote in the Central Election Commission, agents in the national election district and territorial districts, and official observers, in order to ensure proper participation in the election process, representation and protection of his or her interests.

**Article 110.** Authorized Representative of a Candidate for President of Ukraine to the Central Election Commission

1. A candidate for President of Ukraine shall be entitled to appoint his or her authorized person to the Central Election Commission (one person) with the right of advisory vote, which shall represent his or her interests in the Central Election Commission during the election process.

2. An authorized representative of a candidate for President of Ukraine to the Central Election Commission may be appointed from among the voters. It shall not be allowed to appoint any of the following persons as an authorized representative of a candidate for President of Ukraine:

- 1) a member of any election commission;
- 2) an official of an executive power body or an officer of a prosecutor's office, a court, law enforcement bodies, other executive bodies, state bodies of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, or local self-government bodies;
- 3) a serviceman, police officer, employee of the Security Service of Ukraine, a person of the rank and file or senior staff of the State Penitentiary Service of Ukraine;
- 4) a person who is undergoing alternative (non-military) service;
- 5) a person who has a criminal record for committing a grave or especially grave crime or a crime against citizens' electoral rights or a corruption crime, which has not been lifted or expunged pursuant to the procedure established by law.

3. An application to register an authorized representative of a candidate for President of Ukraine in the Central Election Commission signed by a person nominated as a candidate for President of Ukraine, may be filed with the Central Election Commission along with the application to register a candidate for President of Ukraine. An application to register an authorized representative of a candidate for President of Ukraine in the Central Election Commission shall contain the following information: an authorized representative's last name, first name (all first names), patronymic name (if available), his or her citizenship, day, month and year of birth, place of employment, job position (occupation), mailing address, telephone number and e-mail address, information on absence of a criminal record for committing a grave or especially grave crime or a crime against citizens' electoral rights or a corruption crime, which has not been lifted or expunged pursuant to the procedure established by law. The application shall be appended with a photocopy of passport of a citizen of Ukraine (photocopies of the first and second pages of a passport of a citizen of Ukraine in the form of a passport book or photocopies of the front and reverse sides of a passport of a citizen of Ukraine in the form of a card), or a photocopy of the first and second pages of temporary certificate of citizen of Ukraine (for persons who have recently been granted Ukrainian citizenship).

In case technical errors and inaccuracies are found in the application to register the authorized representative of the candidate for President of Ukraine in the Central Election Commission - the resolution of the Central Election Commission on representative's registration shall contain information based on copies of passport documents.

4. No later than the third day following the receipt of the documents specified in Part three of this Article, the Central Election Commission shall register an authorized representative of a candidate for President of Ukraine to the Central Election Commission and shall issue an identification document to such representative in the form established by the Central Election Commission. In case of violation of the requirements established by Parts two to three of this Article, the Central Election Commission shall refuse to register the authorized representative of the candidate for President of Ukraine. In the event of refusal of registration (cancellation of registration, withdrawal from the election), powers of an authorized representative of a candidate for President of Ukraine to the Central Election Commission shall be considered terminated from the moment of adoption of the respective decision by the Central Election Commission.

An authorized representative of a candidate for President of Ukraine shall have the right, from the day of his or her registration by the Central Election Commission and until the termination of his or her powers, or the completion of the election process, to be released from his or her employment-related or official duties, with suspension of salary for that period, upon agreeing with the owner of the enterprise, establishment, organization or a body authorized by the owner.

5. An authorized representative of a candidate for President of Ukraine shall have the right to file a statement of resignation with the Central Election Commission at any time prior to the day of voting.

6. A candidate for President of Ukraine may at any time prior to the end of the election process or his or her loss of the status of a candidate for President of Ukraine recall his or her authorized representative and to endorse another person to replace the one that has been recalled.

7. On the basis of the application filed in accordance with Parts six or seven of this Article, the Central Election Commission shall adopt a decision to cancel the registration of an authorized representative of a candidate for President of Ukraine, no later than on the third day following its receipt, or immediately, on the day prior to the day of voting and on the day of voting. A copy of the decision shall immediately be issued to the candidate's authorized representative, whose powers have been terminated, and sent to the address of a candidate for President of Ukraine.

8. An authorized representative of a candidate for President of Ukraine in the Central Election Commission shall have the right to:

- 1) be present at the meetings of the Central Election Commission during the discussion of issues pertaining to the election of the President of Ukraine and take part in the discussion of such issues with the right of advisory vote; to receive prior to a meeting its agenda and related materials, to participate in the discussions, to present proposals concerning a decision of the Central Election Commission;
- 2) have access to the minutes of the meetings, the stenographic record thereof, as well as the decisions of the Central Election Commission, and receive copies thereof; have access to the documents that provided the basis for decisions taken at such meeting;
- 3) have access to protocols, telephone, fax, or other official messages received by the Central Election Commission from the district election commissions, in particular those concerning the results of voting in the nationwide and territorial election districts, and to obtain copies thereof;
- 4) exercise other rights specified by this Code for an authorized representative of a candidate for President of Ukraine in the Central Election Commission.

**Article 111. Agents of a Candidate for President of Ukraine**

1. A candidate for President of Ukraine may have no more than five agents in the single nationwide election district and one authorized representative in each territorial election district. An authorized person shall comply with the requirements specified in Part two of Article 110 of this Code.

Powers of agents of a candidate for President of Ukraine shall also extend to an out-of-country election district.

2. An authorized person of a candidate for President of Ukraine shall:

- 1) facilitate the participation of a candidate for President of Ukraine in the election process, in particular during the election campaigning;
- 2) represent the interests of the candidate in his or her relations with the election commissions (except the Central Election Commission), state executive bodies, other state bodies, state bodies of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, local self-government bodies, voters, other electoral subjects in the territory of the respective election district;
- 3) be allowed to participate in the meetings of election commissions (except the Central Election Commission) with the right of advisory vote in the territory of the respective election district;
- 4) have the right to be present at the election precinct during the voting and at the meeting of the precinct election commission during the vote counting, having regard to the restrictions specified by Part eight of Article 36 of this Code
- 5) have the rights of the party's official observer, as specified by Part six of Article 112 of this Code;
- 6) have other rights provided for by this Code for an authorized person of a candidate for President of Ukraine.

3. An authorized person of a candidate for President of Ukraine shall be subject of restrictions imposed by Part seven of Article 112 of this Code.

4. An application to register an authorized person of a candidate for President of Ukraine (in both electronic and paper form) signed by a person nominated as a candidate for President of Ukraine shall be filed with the Central Election Commission at any time after the candidate's registration by the authorized representative of a candidate to the Central Election Commission or the candidate in person. If such an application is submitted to the Central Election Commission in another manner, on paper, the signature of the candidate for President of Ukraine shall be duly notarized pursuant to the procedure established by the Law of Ukraine "On Notaries". If such an application is submitted by e-mail, it shall be certified by a qualified electronic signature of the candidate. An application to register an agents of a candidate for President of Ukraine shall contain the following information: last name, first name (all first names), patronymic name (if available) of each authorized person, the respective election district; citizenship of an authorized person; day, month and year of birth; place of employment, job position (occupation), mailing address, telephone number, information on absence of a criminal record for committing a grave or especially grave crime or a crime against citizens' electoral rights or a corruption crime, which has not been lifted or expunged pursuant to the procedure established by law. The application shall be appended with a photocopy of passport of a citizen of Ukraine (photocopies of the first and second pages of a passport of a citizen of Ukraine in the form of a passport book or photocopies of the front and reverse sides of a passport of a citizen of Ukraine in the form of a card), or a photocopy of the first and second pages of temporary certificate of citizen of Ukraine (for persons who have recently been granted Ukrainian citizenship).

5. No later than on the third day following the receipt of the documents specified in Part four of this Article, or, on the day prior to the day of voting and on the day of voting (on the day of repeat voting), immediately, the Central Election Commission shall register the agents of a candidate for President of Ukraine and shall issue their identification documents produced in the form established by the Central Election Commission to the authorized representative of a candidate for President of Ukraine in the Central Election Commission.



In case technical errors and inaccuracies in the application for registration of agents of a candidate for President of Ukraine are found - the resolution of the Central Election Commission on registration of agents shall contain information on the basis of copies of passport documents.

The Central Election Commission shall refuse to register agents of a candidate for the post of President of Ukraine in case of violation of the requirements established by Parts one and four of this Article.

6. An authorized person of a candidate for President of Ukraine shall have the right, from the day of his or her registration by the Central Election Commission and until the termination of his or her powers, or the completion of the election process, to be released, from his or her employment-related or official duties, with suspension of salary for that period, upon agreeing with the owner of the enterprise, establishment, organization or a body authorized by the owner.

7. In the event of cancellation of registration (withdrawal from the election) of a candidate for President of Ukraine, powers of agents of a candidate for President of Ukraine shall be considered terminated from the day of adoption of the respective decision by the Central Election Commission.

8. An authorized person of a candidate for President of Ukraine shall have the right to file a statement of resignation with the Central Election Commission at any time prior to the day of voting.

9. A candidate for President of Ukraine may at any time prior to the end of the election process or his or her loss of the status of a candidate for President of Ukraine recall his or her authorized person and to endorse another person to replace the one that has been recalled.

10. On the basis of the application filed in accordance with Parts eight or nine of this Article, the Central Election Commission shall adopt the respective decision, no later than on the third day following its receipt, or, on the day prior to the day of voting and on the day of voting, immediately. A copy of the respective decision shall immediately be issued to the authorized representative of a candidate for President of Ukraine in the Central Election Commission upon his or her request and be sent to his or her address.

#### **Article 112. Official Observers from Parties, Candidates for the President of Ukraine**

1. Official observers from a party that has nominated a candidate for President of Ukraine shall be registered by a district election commission based on a submission filed by a party's representative acting on the basis of a power of attorney, or an authorized person of a candidate for President of Ukraine in the respective district.

Official observers from the parties or candidates for the President of Ukraine in the out-of-country election district shall be registered by the Central Election Commission.

2. An application for registration of official observers shall contain their last names, first names (all first names), patronymic name (if available); citizenship, date of birth, place and address of residence, place of employment, position (occupation), contact telephone number, information on absence of a criminal record for committing a grave or especially grave crime or a crime against citizens' electoral rights or a corruption crime, which has not been lifted or expunged pursuant to the procedure established by the Law.

The application shall be appended with a photocopy of passport of a citizen of Ukraine (photocopies of the first and second pages of a passport of a citizen of Ukraine in the form of a passport book or photocopies of the front and reverse sides of a passport of a citizen of Ukraine in the form of a card), or a photocopy of the first and second pages of his or her temporary certificate of citizen of Ukraine (for persons who have recently been granted Ukrainian citizenship).

3. An application for registration of an official observer, signed by a party's authorized representative, or an authorized person of a candidate for President of Ukraine in the respective election district, shall be submitted to the respective district election commission no later than five days prior to the day of voting (in both paper and electronic form).

4. The district election commission shall register official observers in the respective territorial election district and issue to them their identification documents in a form established by the Central Election Commission no later than the third day after the submission of the application.

5. The only ground upon which an application for registration may be refused is violation of the provisions of Parts one, two and three of this Article and Part three of Article 58 of this Code.

6. An official observer from a party, a candidate for President of Ukraine shall be entitled to:

- 1) be present, with due observance of the requirements of this Code, at the meetings of district and precinct election commissions in the respective territorial election district;
- 2) be present at the meetings of candidates or candidates' agents with voters, at election campaign meetings, rallies;
- 3) be present at the election precincts during the voting, observe actions of the election commission members, in particular during the issuance of ballot papers to voters and vote counting at the election precinct, and the tabulation of the voting results, without physically getting in the way of the election commission members;
- 4) make photographic, video and audio recordings, without violating the secrecy of voting;
- 5) be present during the voting at the place of voters' stay;
- 6) address, in accordance with the procedure established by this Code, the election commissions within the respective territorial district with an application or a complaint seeking elimination of violations of this Code if any have been discovered;
- 7) draw a statement of discovery of violation of the requirements of this Code that shall be signed by him or her and by no less than two voters certifying the fact of such violation, with indication of their last names, first names, patronymic name, place and address of residence, and file it with the respective election commission or a court;
- 8) take necessary measures within the limits of legislation to stop illegal actions during the voting and vote counting at the election precinct;
- 9) receive copies of the protocols as well as other documents specified by this Code;
- 10) exercise other rights provided for by this Code for official observers.

7. An official observer from a party, a candidate for President of Ukraine may not:

- 1) interfere with the work of the election commission, perform actions violating the lawful course of the election process, or unlawfully prevent the election commission members from exercising their powers;
- 2) fill out a ballot paper for a voter (in particular upon his or her request);
- 3) be present during the filling out of a ballot paper by a voter in a polling booth (room) for secret voting or violate the secrecy of voting in any other way.

8. If an official observer from a party or a candidate for President of Ukraine violates the requirements of Part seven of this Article, the election commission shall give him or her a warning. In the event of a repeat violation, or of a single instance of gross violation of the requirements of Part seven of this Article, the election commission may deprive him or her of the right to be present at its meeting in accordance with procedures provided for by this Code. An official observer may appeal such decision in a court.

9. An authorized representative of a party or a candidate for President of Ukraine (his or her authorized person in the respective election district) may recall an official observer by filing a written statement of termination of his or her authority with the respective district election commission (or with the Central Election Commission, in the case of an official observer in the out-of-country election district), and present the documents required for registration of another person as an official observer in the manner prescribed by this Article.

10. An official observer from a party or a candidate for President of Ukraine shall be entitled to file with the district election commission (or with the Central Election Commission, in the case of an official observer in the out-of-country election district) a statement of resignation. Based on such application, the district election commission or the Central Election Commission shall adopt a decision cancelling the registration of the official observer and issue or send a copy thereof, accordingly, to the party or candidate (his or her authorized person).

11. In the event of cancellation of registration of a candidate for President of Ukraine, powers of official observers from such a candidate or a party that nominated a candidate for President of Ukraine, whose registration has been cancelled, shall be considered terminated from the day of adoption of the decision on cancelling the registration of a candidate for President of Ukraine.

## **Chapter XXI. VOTING AND ESTABLISHING THE RESULTS OF AN ELECTION OF THE PRESIDENT OF UKRAINE**

### **Article 113. Ballot Papers**

1. The form, color and text of the ballot paper for voting on the day of voting in the election of the President of Ukraine, as well as the form and color of the ballot paper for repeat voting shall be approved by the Central Election Commission no later than twenty-two days prior to the day of voting. The text of the ballot paper for repeat voting shall be approved by the Central Election Commission no later than ten days prior to the day of repeat voting. The security features of a ballot paper shall be established by the Central Election Commission.

After the Central Election Commission approves the text of the ballot paper, amendments to the information on candidates for the post of President of Ukraine shall be prohibited.

2. The ballot paper shall be a document of strict accountability.

3. A ballot paper must contain the name of the election and the date of voting in the election (or the date of repeat voting, with regard to a ballot paper for repeat voting), the number of a territorial election district or indication that this election district is an out-of-country election district, as well as the place designated for the precinct election commission's seal.

4. The ballot paper for voting on the election day shall contain the information on candidates for the post of President of Ukraine specified in the respective resolution of the Central Election Commission on the candidates' registration. An empty box shall be placed on the left, opposite the information about each candidate for the post of President of Ukraine.

The order of listing the candidates in the ballot paper is determined by drawing lots, which is conducted by the Central Election Commission pursuant to procedure established by it before the decision on approval of the text of the ballot paper is made.

5. A ballot paper shall contain an explanation of the procedure for filling out the ballot paper by a voter during the voting.

6. A ballot paper shall have a counterfoil, separated by a tear-off line. The counterfoil shall contain the name and the date of the election (the date of repeat voting), the number of the territorial election district or indication that this election district is an out-of-country election district, and the number of the election precinct, as well as places designated for the number under which a voter was entered in the voter list for the election precinct, the signature of the voter receiving the ballot paper, and the last name, initials, and signature for the precinct election commission member issuing the ballot paper.

7. The ballot papers shall be printed for each election precinct in an amount exceeding by 0.5 percent the number of voters included in the voter lists for the election precincts, with possible deviation from the aforementioned number resulting from the multiplicity of ballot papers being printed on a typing sheet. If it is established that the number of voters in a certain election precinct at the time of completion of the production of ballots is greater than the number of ballots produced, the Central Election Commission may, if possible, decide to order the production of additional ballots for such election precinct.

The ballot papers shall be printed for each election precinct of the out-of-country election district in an amount that shall be determined by the Central Election Commission based on the amount of voters included in the voter lists for the respective out-of-country election precinct, the amount of voters that received ballot papers at that particular election precinct in the last nationwide election and the average quantity of voters that received ballot papers in election precincts the out-of-country election district in the last nationwide election.

8. Control over the production of ballot papers by the printing enterprises and over the observance of the requirements regarding destruction of the printing forms, technical wastes, and defective printed matter, as well as the invalidation of the unused ballots in accordance with Part 11 of Article 115 of this Code shall be exercised by a supervisory commission created by the Central Election Commission based on submissions from candidates for the President of Ukraine, but no later than on the day of approval of the ballot paper form.

9. If the Central Election Commission decides to conduct an experiment or pilot project using innovative technologies in accordance with Part one of Article 18 of this Code, the Central Election Commission shall organize the manufacture of experimental ballot papers for such experiment or pilot project simultaneously with the actions provided for in Articles 114 and 115 of this Code. An experimental ballot paper developed in accordance with the first paragraph of this Part shall:

- 1) differ in form and color from the ballot paper, the form of which is approved by the Central Election Commission in accordance with Part one of this Article;
- 2) at the top contain in capital letters an inscription: "EXPERIMENT" or "PILOT PROJECT";
- 3) under the information specified in paragraph 2 of this Part, contain the following text: "Completion of this ballot paper by a voter does not certify his or her expression of will, does not create legal consequences, cannot be used to establish the results of the election, as well be used to appeal against decisions, actions or inactions of participants in the election process."

#### **Article 114.** Procedure for Printing Ballot Papers

1. The Central Election Commission shall provide for the centralized production of ballot papers for voting pursuant to an agreement that shall be concluded between the Central Election Commission and a state-run printing enterprise which produces and sells forms of strict reporting documents or other documents that require the use of special security features.

The agreement between the Central Election Commission and the respective enterprise shall be concluded using a negotiating procurement procedure, based on the production, technological and organizational capabilities of the enterprise to ensure timely printing and protection levels of the ballots.

2. The enterprises printing the ballot papers shall ensure strict correspondence between the number of ordered ballot papers and the number of printed ones, and the accounting and transfer thereof to the customer according to procedures established by the Central Election Commission.

Any technical waste material, defective printed ballot papers, as well as the typographic plates used, shall be destroyed according to the procedures and within the time limits defined by the agreement concluded for the production of ballot papers.

3. The ballot papers shall be received by the Central Election Commission (regional and/or territorial representations of the Central Election Commission) in the printing enterprise's packaging on the basis of a receipt and delivery act in a form and manner approved by the Central Election Commission. Based on the receipt and delivery acts, summary information on the number of ballot papers that were printed for each territorial (out-of-country) district shall be published on the official website of the Central Election Commission

4. Ballot papers for voting on the day of voting or on the day of repeat voting shall be printed on the same paper in a form and bearing the text approved by the Central Election Commission, and shall be identical in size, color and content.

5. The text of a ballot paper shall be printed in the official language and shall be placed on one sheet and on one side only.

6. Subject to consent of the Central Election Commission, ballot papers can be produced directly by the precinct election commission of a special election precinct created on a ship sailing, as of the day of voting, under the National Flag of Ukraine, or on Ukraine's polar station, their number exceeding by 0.5 percent the number of voters at the election precinct. Such consent shall be granted no later than three days prior to the day of voting on the basis of an application filed by the respective district election commission, which shall contain the number of the election precinct created on the respective ship or Ukraine's polar station, as well as the time when the respective ship left the last port in the territory of Ukraine.

Information on the number of produced ballot papers shall be entered in the precinct commission's protocol on vote counting and be taken into account by the respective district election commission when compiling protocols on the results of vote counting in the respective territorial district.

7. If the Central Election Commission cancels the registration of a candidate for President of Ukraine during or after the period of production of the ballot papers and the remaining time is insufficient to allow reprinting the ballot papers, the Central Election Commission shall adopt a decision on making amendments to the ballot papers. Such decision of the Central Election Commission shall be immediately communicated to the respective district election commissions, so that the precinct election commissions will make the appropriate amendments.

Such amendments to the ballot papers shall be made by the precinct election commission members using the "Withdrawn" stamp at a meeting of the precinct election commission.

It shall be prohibited to make amendments to the ballot paper without a decision of the Central Election Commission.

Each voter shall be informed of amendments made to a ballot paper at the time when the ballot paper is being issued to him or her.

The form of the "Withdrawn" stamp shall be approved by the Central Election Commission no later than twenty-six days prior to the day of voting. District election commissions (regional or territorial representations of the Central Election Commission) shall ensure the production of such stamps no later than seven days prior to the day of voting, or use stamps which have been made previously. During the election process stamps "Withdrawn" are stored in the district election commission (territorial representations of the Central Election Commission).

A district election commission shall deliver the "Withdrawn" stamp to all precinct election commissions together with the respective decision of the Central Election Commission. The "Withdrawn" stamp shall be delivered to the precinct election commissions of out-of-country election precincts together with the ballot papers.

8. If ballot papers are amended in the absence of a decision of the Central Election Commission, or if such amendments fail to comply with the decision of the Central Election Commission, the precinct election commission shall, at its meeting, write an act in two copies. The act shall state the number of ballot papers received, the number of spoiled ballot papers, and the last names of the persons responsible for the spoiling. One copy of the act shall be immediately transferred to the district election commission, whereas the second copy shall be stored at the precinct election commission. The data contained in the aforementioned act shall be taken into consideration by the precinct election commission when drawing the vote counting protocols of the election precinct. The spoiled ballot papers shall be invalidated and packed separately, in different packages, under the procedure specified by this Code. The packages shall be marked as "Spoiled ballot papers" The packed spoiled ballot papers shall be kept in custody of the precinct election commission until the day of voting and then forwarded to the district election commission together with other election documents. During the calculation of votes, the spoiled ballot papers shall be counted as unused.

9. Persons responsible for the unlawful spoiling of ballot papers shall reimburse the cost of the damage under the procedure established by the Law.

**Article 115.** Procedure for Delivery of Ballot Papers to Election Commissions

1. A district election commission shall, at its meeting, accept the ballot papers, packaged by the printing enterprise, from a representative of the Central Election Commission (regional or territorial representation of the Central Election Commission), authorized by a decision of the Central Election Commission to hand over the ballot papers, at its meeting. A district election commission shall draw up a protocol of acceptance of ballot papers in a form established by the Central Election Commission. A protocol of acceptance of ballot papers shall be drawn up in three copies and signed by all member of the district election commission and a representative of the Central Election Commission (regional or territorial representation of the Central Election Commission) handing over the ballot papers, as well as may be signed by candidates for the President of Ukraine, their agents, official observers that are present at the election commission's meeting. The first copy of the protocol shall be delivered to the Central Election Commission; the second copy shall be kept in custody of the district election commission; and the third copy shall be immediately posted in the premises of the district election commission for public review.

2. A district election commission shall ensure storage and safekeeping of ballot papers received from the Central Election Commission. Ballot papers shall be kept in the office of the district election commission in a safe (a metal case or a separate room). The safe (a metal case or a separate room) shall be continuously (until the transfer of the ballot papers to the precinct election commissions) guarded by a representative of the police.

3. A district election commission shall transfer the ballot papers in the packaging of the printing enterprise to the precinct election commissions at a meeting of the district election commission no sooner than three days prior to the day of voting, or the day of repeat voting. The ballot papers shall be received by no less than three members of each precinct election commission authorized to do so by a decision of the respective election commission.

4. A district election commission shall draw a protocol on the transfer of ballot papers to the precinct election commissions under the procedure and in the form established by the Central Election Commission. The protocol shall contain:

- 1) the number of the territorial election district;
- 2) the number of the election precinct;
- 3) the number of ballot papers for voting transferred to the election precinct;
- 4) last names and signatures of the precinct election commission members who received the ballot papers.

5. The protocol on the handover of the ballot papers to the precinct election commissions shall be completed in three copies and shall be signed by all members of the district election commission present at its meeting, as well as by candidates for the President of Ukraine, their agents, official observers that are present at the election commission's meeting. The first copy of the protocol shall be submitted to the Central Election Commission, the second copy shall be stored at the district election commission, and the third copy shall be immediately posted in the premises of the district election commission for public review.

An excerpt from the protocol prepared in accordance with the form approved by the Central Election Commission, signed by the chair and secretary of the district election commission and three members of the respective precinct election commission and affixed with the seal of the district election commission, specifying the data related to the respective election precinct, shall be handed together with the ballot papers over to the representatives of each precinct election commission who received the ballot papers.

6. Ballot papers shall be delivered to the precinct election commissions of the out-of-country election precincts by the Central Election Commission through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, in the

manner specified by the Central Election Commission. The Central Election Commission shall draw up a protocol, as specified in Part five of this Article, on delivery of the ballot papers to the election commissions of the out-of-country election precincts. The protocol shall be completed in two copies, one of which shall be stored at the Central Election Commission, while the other copy, together with excerpts from the protocols for each out-of-country election precinct, shall be submitted to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine; information included in the aforementioned protocol shall, no later than on the following day, be made public on the official website of the Central Election Commission.

7. Each member of a district election commission, a candidate for President of Ukraine, his or her authorized person or official observer from a candidate or a party that are electoral subjects who were present during the delivery of the ballot papers shall be entitled to familiarize themselves with the protocols specified in Parts one and five of this Article.

8. The precinct election commission members shall transport the ballot papers received by them to the premises of the precinct election commission, accompanied by a representative of the police who shall be responsible for the safekeeping of the ballot papers.

9. Immediately after the arrival of the election commission members who received the ballot papers, the ballot papers shall be accepted by the precinct election commission at a meeting. The secretary of the commission shall open the packaging of the printing enterprise and affix the precinct election commission's seal on the designated places of each ballot paper. Another member of the precinct election commission, appointed by a decision of the commission, shall separately count the ballot papers for voting and check the accuracy of indication of the election district and the numbers of the election precinct on the ballot papers. During the counting of the ballot papers, it shall be prohibited to divide the commission into groups to count separate parts of all ballot papers. If a discrepancy is found between the number of ballot papers and the respective numbers indicated in the excerpt from the protocol of the district election commission on the handover of the ballot papers, the precinct election commission shall produce an act, in three copies, in a form established by the Central Election Commission, on such discrepancies, which shall indicate the reason for the discrepancy as established by a decision of the precinct election commission. One copy of the act shall be submitted to the district election commission, the second copy shall be stored at the precinct election commission, while the third copy shall be made available for public review at the stand for information materials of the election commission. If such discrepancies are detected, the number of the ballot papers received by the precinct election commission shall be deemed to be the number of the ballot papers established at the meeting of the precinct election commission and entered in the act on discrepancies.

10. The ballot papers shall be stored in the premises of the precinct election commission in a safe (metal case) which shall be sealed at the same meeting of the commission with a tape signed by all persons present at the election commission's meeting and affixed with the election commission's seal, and shall be continuously (until the day of voting) guarded by a representative of the police.

11. Should it be impossible for the Central Election Commission to transfer ballots to the district election commission the respective ballot papers shall be deemed unused and shall be invalidated by the Central Election Commission by handing them over for destruction to the printing enterprise. The ballot papers shall be destroyed by the printing enterprise in presence of the representatives of the Central Election Commission and the control commission established by the Central Election Commission in accordance with Part eight of Article 113 of this Code, which shall prepare the respective act thereon.

Should it be impossible for a district election commission to transfer ballot papers to the precinct election commission, the respective ballot papers shall be deemed unused, and the election commission shall produce an act thereon in two copies in a form established by the Central Election Commission. One copy of the act shall be submitted to the Central Election Commission, the second copy shall be stored at the respective district election commission. Such ballot papers shall be invalidated by a district election commission after the end of voting by cutting off the bottom right corner of the ballot papers. The invalidated unused ballot papers shall be packed in a separate package. The inscription "Unused ballot papers invalidated by a district election commission" shall be made on the package, with indication of the number of the territorial district, number (numbers) of an election precinct, number of packaged ballot papers, date and time of packaging. The package shall be signed by the present members of the district election commission and affixed with the commission's seal.

**Article 116.** Equipping Premises for Voting

1. In the premises for voting or directly in front of them, the precinct election commission shall necessarily place posters, which shall provide explanation of the procedure of voting and liability for violation of the legislation on the election of the President of Ukraine, as well as the information posters of candidates for the President of Ukraine placed in the alphabetic order (in the order of placement of candidates on the ballot).

2. The materials specified in Part one of this Article, shall be made public in the manner that make them accessible for the voters, including voters with health problems (due to disability, temporary health disorder, age).

**Article 117.** Preparation for Voting on the Day of Voting (Day of Repeat Voting)

1. Voting shall be held on the day of voting or on the day of repeat voting from 8:00 until 20:00. At out-of-country election precincts, voting shall be held according to the local time of the country where such precincts are established.

2. The precinct election commission of a regular election precinct shall notify voters of the time and place of voting no later than seven days prior to the day of voting, or on the day preceding the day of voting in exceptional cases of formation of election precincts in accordance with Part five of Article 30 of this Code.

3. The precinct election commission shall be responsible for organizing the conduct of voting and ensuring appropriate order in the premises for voting, and for ensuring the secrecy of expressing the voters' will during the voting.

4. On the day of voting, the precinct election commission shall hold a preparatory meeting no sooner than 45 minutes prior to the start of voting, at which it shall open a safe (metal case) with ballot papers. The chair of the precinct election commission, based on the excerpt from the protocol of the district election commission on handover of the ballot papers to the precinct election commission, or on the act(s) specified in Part nine of Article 115 of this Code, shall announce the number of the ballot papers received by the precinct election commission. This number shall be entered by the secretary of the election commission in the respective vote counting protocol of the precinct election commission.

5. If, during the examination of the tape sealing the safe (metal case) with the ballot papers, damage to the tape or a discrepancy between the signatures or a seal affixed to it is detected, the precinct election commission shall immediately notify thereof the bodies of the National Police of Ukraine and the district election commission. The precinct election commission members then shall re-count the ballot papers and produce an act thereon, which shall be signed by all members of the precinct election commission that are present at the meeting and affixed with the commission's seal. The number of ballot papers specified in the act shall be deemed the number of ballots received by a precinct election commission.

6. The chair of the precinct election commission, at the commission meeting prior to the beginning of voting, shall make each ballot box at the election precinct, one by one, available for individual examination by members of the precinct election commission, candidates for the President of Ukraine present, their agents, official observers, and mass media representatives. As soon as a ballot box has been examined, it shall be sealed or affixed with the precinct election commission's seal; after that, a control sheet shall be deposited into the ballot box, with indication of the number of the territorial district, or indication that the election district is an out-of-country election district, the number of the election precinct, the time when the control sheet was deposited into the ballot box, and with the signatures of the chair, deputy chair, secretary and other members of precinct election commission members present, as well as of any candidates, their agents, and official observers wishing to sign it. The control sheet shall be signed by aforementioned persons, and their signatures shall be affixed with the commission seal. As soon as the control sheet has been deposited into the ballot box, the chair of the election commission shall provide the next ballot box for examination, repeating the same procedure. After sealing or affixing the commission



seal to the last ballot box, depositing a control sheet into it and placing the stationary (large) ballot boxes at the places assigned for them, the premises for voting shall be deemed to be ready for conducting the voting. Mobile (small) ballot boxes shall be placed in the premises for voting with their slots for putting in the ballot papers downwards, within plain view of the election commission members and other persons present in the premises for voting in accordance with the requirements of this Code.

7. The chair of the precinct election commission shall hand over the necessary number of ballot papers for voting to the precinct election commission members who will be responsible for delivering the ballot papers to voters in the premises for voting or who will organize voting at voters' place of stay. The handover of the ballot papers shall be registered in a special register of a form approved by the Central Election Commission. The aforementioned members of the commission shall certify the receipt of the ballot papers by their signatures in the register and shall ensure their storage as well as adherence to the procedure for handing them over to the voters, as prescribed by this Code. No ballot paper shall be left in the safe.

8. The chair of the precinct election commission shall hand the sheets of the voter list over to the precinct election commission members who will be responsible for working with the voter list on the day of voting. The respective members of the commission shall ensure that they are stored and used in accordance with the procedures prescribed by this Code.

#### **Article 118. Organization and Procedure of Voting**

1. During the conduct of voting at an election precinct, two members of the precinct election commission shall provide a voter with the opportunity to vote: one member of the precinct election commission, upon presentation by the voter of the documents specified in Part one of Article 8 of this Code, and if the voter is included in the voter list for the respective election precinct, shall hand the voter list to the voter for his or her signature; the other member shall enter his or her last name and initials and put his or her signature in the designated places on the counterfoils of the ballot paper, as well as writing the number under which the voter is included in the voter list for the election precinct. The voter shall certify the receipt of the ballot paper by putting his or her signature on the voter list and on the designated places on the counterfoils of the ballot paper. After that, the member of the election commission shall detach the counterfoils from the ballot paper and hand a ballot paper over to the voter. The counterfoils of the ballot paper shall be stored by the member of the commission who handed over the ballot paper. Making any other marks on the ballot papers shall be prohibited.

2. A voter shall be allowed to stay in the premises for voting only for the time necessary for him or her to vote.

3. A voter shall fill out the ballot paper personally, in a booth for secret voting. The presence of other persons in the booth for secret voting, or photo and video recording during the filling out the ballot paper by the voter shall be prohibited. A voter who, due to health reasons (due to disability, temporary health disorder, age) , is unable to fill out the ballot paper independently, may, with consent of the chair or other member of the precinct election commission, ask another voter for assistance, with the exception of a member of the election commission, candidates for the President of Ukraine, their agents and official observers.

4. A voter shall have no right to hand his or her ballot papers over to other persons. It shall be prohibited to receive the ballot papers from a person other than the member of the election commission in charge of handing over the ballot papers, as well as to encourage or force voters, by means of bribery, threats, or in any other manner, to hand their ballot papers over to other persons.

5. On the ballot paper for voting, the voter shall enter a "plus" symbol ("+") or any other mark that makes clear the result of the expression of his or her will in the box next to the name of a candidate for President of Ukraine he or she is voting for. A voter may vote for one candidate only.

6. Voters shall personally deposit his or her completed ballot papers into the ballot box, ensuring the secrecy of voting. A voter who, due to health reasons (due to disability, temporary health disorder, age), is unable to deposit the ballot paper into the ballot box independently may, with the consent of the chair or other member of the precinct election commission, ask another person to do that in his or her presence, except that he or she may not ask for assistance from a member of the election commission, a candidate for President of Ukraine, a candidate's authorized person, or an official observer.

7. If in the course of voting a ballot box has been damaged, the chair and no less than three members of the election commission representing different candidates for the President of Ukraine shall seal the box in a way that shall exclude the possibility of further depositing in or taking out of ballot papers. Such ballot box shall be kept in the premises for voting within plain sight of the election commission members and other persons who have the right to be present at the election precinct during the voting in accordance with the requirements of this Code, and shall not be used until the end of voting.

8. If a voter makes a mistake when filling out the ballot paper, he or she shall have the right to immediately address the election commission member who handed over the ballot paper to him or her with a written request to hand over to him or her another ballot paper. The member of the election commission shall hand another ballot paper over to the voter in accordance with the procedure prescribed by Part one of this Article only in exchange for a spoiled ballot paper, which fact shall be noted in the voter list opposite to the voter's name and certified by the signature of this member of the precinct election commission. A spoiled ballot paper shall be immediately invalidated as unused, and an act certifying this fact shall be drawn up. During vote counting, such spoiled and invalidated ballot paper shall be considered as unused and shall be packed together with the counterfoil into the package with unused ballot papers. Repeated handover of a ballot paper instead of a spoiled one shall not be allowed.

9. At 5 minutes to 20:00, the chair of the precinct election commission shall announce that the voting will end and the election precinct will be closed at 20:00. Voters who have come to the election precinct before 20:00 for voting shall have the right to vote. To ensure the exercise of those voters' right, one of the commission's members shall, on instructions from the chair of the precinct election commission, approach the entrance to the premises for voting and invite all voters who have not voted yet to come into the premises for voting, and shall close the door. As soon as the last voter leaves the premises for voting, the premises shall be locked, and only the election commission members and persons entitled by this Code to be present at the election commission's meeting shall be allowed to stay inside.

10. At an election precinct established on a ship which on the day of voting will be sailing under the National Flag of Ukraine, or at Ukraine's polar station, the precinct election commission shall be allowed to announce the end of voting prior to the term specified in Part one of Article 117 of this Code if all voters included in the voter list for the election precinct have taken part in the voting. The votes at such precinct shall be counted in accordance with the procedure established by this Code immediately after announcement of the end of voting.

11. During the day of voting, a district election commission shall provide for sending the data on a number of voters, which were issued ballot papers at an election precinct, to the Central Election Commission pursuant to the procedure established by the Central Election Commission.

12. In case the Central Election Commission decides to conduct an experiment or a pilot project using innovative technologies in accordance with Part one of Article 18 of this Code, the respective election commissions shall organize the voting procedure within the framework of such an experiment or pilot project simultaneously with the actions provided for in this Article, in compliance with the requirements of this Code.

Voters may participate in an experiment or pilot project using innovative technologies, only if they simultaneously vote in the manner prescribed by this Article.

Voters cannot be forced to participate in an experiment or pilot project using innovative technologies.

**Article 119. Procedure for Organizing Voting at Voters' Place of Stay**

1. Each precinct election commissions shall ensure that voters who are included in the voter list of a regular or special precinct and are incapable of moving independently due to health reasons (due to disability, temporary health disorder, age) are able to vote at the place of their stay.

2. On the last day before the day of voting, each precinct election commission shall create, at its meeting, an excerpt from the voter list, in a form established by the Central Election Commission, for the purpose of organizing voting by those who are incapable of moving independently at the place of their stay.

As soon as this excerpt has been created, it shall be immediately posted in the premises of the precinct election commission for public review.

3. The following voters may be included in the excerpt from the voter list:

- 1) without a decision of the commission, a voter specially marked in the voter list as permanently incapable of moving independently, unless such voter notifies the precinct election commission, in writing or in person, by 12:00 noon on the last Saturday prior to the day of voting of his or her wish to vote in the premises for voting;
- 2) upon a decision of the commission, a voter being temporarily incapable of moving independently; such a decision must be based on his or her application and certificate of his or her health issued by a medical institution.

4. When entering a voter in the excerpt from the voter list for voting at places of voters' stay, the secretary of the precinct election commission shall make an entry "votes at place of residence" in the column "Voter's signature" of the voter list for the election precinct.

When entering a voter in the excerpt from the voter list for voting at places of voters' stay, members of the precinct election commission shall be obliged to verify the fact of a voter's temporary incapability of moving independently. Should the fact of a voter's temporary incapability of moving independently be not confirmed, a precinct election commission shall make a decision refusing a possibility for this voter to vote at the place of his or her residence.

5. A voter being temporarily incapable of moving independently shall file, by mail or through a third person, a handwritten application in his or her own handwriting requesting that he or she be provided with an opportunity to vote at the place of his or her stay, with indication of the voter's place of stay. Such application shall be submitted, along with a certificate of the voter's health issued by a medical institution, to the precinct election commission no later 20:00 of the last Friday prior to the day of voting.

6. It shall be the responsibility of a voter to file the application provided for by Part five of this Article to ensure compliance with the requirements relating to the voting procedure stipulated by this Code.

7. At special election precincts established in inpatient care establishments, voting at the place of voters' stay shall be conducted on the basis of a voter's application, in his or her own handwriting, with a request to be provided with the opportunity to vote at his or her place of stay, in view of his or her need to be confined to bed.

8. An application by a voter to vote at the place of his or her stay shall be registered by the precinct election commission in a separate register, indicating the day and time of the receipt of the application, and also the last name, first name, patronymic name, and address of the voter's place of residence (place of stay).

9. Voting at voters' place of stay shall be organized by no less than three members of the precinct election commission appointed by a decision of the election commission.

10. Voting at voters' place of stay shall be organized in such a way that the precinct election commission members involved in organizing such voting will be able to return to the premises for voting no later than one hour prior to the end of voting .

11. The chair of a precinct election commission shall announce the departure of the precinct election commission members who are conducting voting at voters' place of stay in the precinct. The chair of the precinct election commission shall provide the appointed election commission members with the excerpt from the voter list created in compliance with Parts two and three of this Article, and with a sealed (or affixed with a seal) mobile ballot box into which he or she shall deposit a control sheet. The control sheet shall contain the following information: the ballot box number; the time at which the appointed election commission members departed (in hours and minutes); the numbers of ballot papers received by them; and the last names of the appointed election commission members, who received ballot papers. The control sheet shall be signed by all the election commission members present, whose signatures shall be certified by the seal of the commission, and, upon request, by candidates, their agents, or official observers.

12. Candidates for the President of Ukraine, their agents, and official observers have the right to be present during the conduct of voting at voters' place of stay.

13. A voter or his or her family members may not refuse entry to any of the commission members appointed to conduct voting at voters' place of stay, or to any official observers, candidates for the President of Ukraine, candidates' agents, that have the right to be present during the voting. In the event that the aforementioned persons are denied entry into the voter's place of stay, the voter in question shall not be provided with the opportunity to vote at his or her place of stay.

14. In the event of organizing voting at a voter's place of stay, a member of the precinct election commission shall, based on the excerpt from the voter list, issue to the voter, provided that the latter presents one of the documents specified in Part one of Article 8 of this Code, a ballot paper for voting. When issuing the ballot paper, the precinct election commission member shall enter his or her last name and initials and put his or her signature in the designated place on the counterfoil of the ballot paper, as well as indicating the number of the voter in the voter list. The voter shall, in the manner of secret voting, without presence of anybody, including a candidate for President of Ukraine, official observers, election commission members, put his or her signature on the counterfoil of the ballot paper and in the excerpt from the voter list in person, fill out the ballot paper in accordance with the procedure provided for by this Code, and cast the completed ballot paper into the ballot box.

A member of the voter's family or a person caring for him or her has the right to be present during voting, to help him or her to fill in the ballot paper and to put it in the ballot box if the voter due to health problems (due to disability, temporary health disorder, age) cannot perform these actions on their own.

15. If a voter included in the excerpt from the voter list for voting at voters' place of stay arrives at the premises for voting after the precinct election commission members have departed to conduct voting at voters' place of stay, that voter may not be issued ballot papers for voting until the return of the commission members in charge of organizing voting at voters' place of stay and until it has been determined that the voter has not already voted at the place of his or her residence.

16. After a voter has voted at his or her place of stay, the precinct election commission member who issued the ballot papers to the voter shall put the mark "voted at place of residence" next to the voter's name, enter his or her own last name, and put his or her signature.

17. The excerpt from the voter list used for voting at voters' place of stay shall be appended to the voter list and be deemed to be an integral part thereof. The voter list shall be appended with voters' written applications, certificates from medical institutions, and copies of the respective decisions by the precinct election commission.

18. The provisions of this Article shall not apply to out-of-country election precincts.

19. In case the Central Election Commission decides to conduct an experiment or a pilot project using innovative technologies in accordance with Part one of Article 18 of this Code, the respective

election commissions shall organize the carrying out of such an experiment or pilot project simultaneously with the actions provided for in this Article, in compliance with the requirements of this Code.

Voters may participate in an experiment or pilot project using innovative technologies, only if they simultaneously vote in the manner prescribed by this Article.

Voters cannot be forced to participate in an experiment or pilot project using innovative technologies.

**Article 120. Procedure for Vote Counting at an Election Precinct**

1. Vote counting at an election precinct shall be conducted openly and transparently, by members of the precinct election commission at its meeting, which shall be held in premises where the voting took place.

At its final meeting, a precinct election commission shall, by its decision, assign the keeping of the minutes, accordingly, to the deputy chair of the precinct election commission or to some other member of the precinct election commission. At that meeting, the secretary of the precinct election commission shall enter data in the protocols on vote counting at the election precinct

When the election of the President of Ukraine occurs simultaneously with local elections, the counting of votes cast in such elections shall take place after the vote counting protocols for the election of the President of Ukraine have been drafted and signed pursuant to the established procedure at the same meeting of the precinct election commission. While the final meeting of a precinct election commission is underway, the packages with the protocols and other election documents relating to the election of the President of Ukraine shall remain in the premises where the meeting is being held, within plain view of the precinct election commission members and other persons present at the commission meeting. Packages with the election documents shall be transported to the district election commission, pursuant to the procedure established by Article 123 of this Code, immediately after the respective protocols on all other elections have been signed.

2. The meeting of a precinct election commission shall take place immediately after the end of voting at the election precinct, shall continue without interruption and shall end when the vote counting protocols of the election precinct have been drawn up and signed.

3. If during the voting the precinct election commission received complaints about violations that took place during the voting at the precinct, the precinct election commission shall consider them at the beginning of its meeting, prior to the counting of votes at the precinct.

4. The vote counting at an election precinct shall be performed by the precinct election commission according to the sequence of provisions of this Article under the procedure specified by Central Election Commission.

5. Each member of the precinct election commission who is responsible for working with the voter list shall count and enter the following information on each sheet of the voter list received (for each sheet separately):

- 1) 1 the number of voters at the precinct included in the voter list;
- 2) the number of voters who received ballots (signed by voters and marked "voted at the place of residence" in the voter list);

6. A precinct election commission shall, on the basis of a voter list, establish the number of voters at the election precinct that shall be announced and entered by the secretary of the election commission in the protocol on vote counting at an election precinct.

7. A precinct election commission shall count unused ballot papers. A number of such ballot papers shall be announced and entered by the secretary of the commission in the protocol on the vote counting at the election precinct. The unused ballot papers shall be invalidated by cutting off the bottom right corner of the ballot papers. The invalidated unused ballot papers, together with the ballot papers indicated in Part eight of Article 118 of this Code (spoiled ballot papers), shall be packed in separate packages. The inscription "Unused ballot papers" shall be made on the packages, with

indication of the number of the territorial district, or indication that the election district is an out-of-country election district, as well as the number of election precinct, number of packaged ballots, date and time of packaging; the package shall be signed by the precinct election commission members present and affixed with the precinct election commission's seal.

8. A precinct election commission shall count the number of voters who received ballot papers, based on the voters' signatures in the voter list and marks "voted at the place of stay" in the voter list. That number shall be announced.

9. A precinct election commission shall sum up the number of the counterfoils of the ballot papers with signatures of voters and election commission members who issued them. The number of such counterfoils shall be announced.

10. If there is no mismatch between the number of counterfoils specified in Part nine of this Article, and the number indicated in Part eight of this Article, the secretary of the election commission shall announce this number and enter this number in the protocol on vote counting at the election precinct as the number of voters who received ballot papers at the election precinct.

11. If there is a discrepancy between the number of counterfoils specified in Part nine of this Article, and the number of signatures of voters who received ballot papers, the precinct election commission shall write an act thereon, stating the reason for such discrepancy established by the commission's decision, which shall be signed by the precinct election commission members present. The aforementioned act may be signed by the candidates present, their agents, and official observers. The signatures shall be affixed with the election commission's seal. After that, the election commission shall take a decision establishing the number of voters who received the ballot papers. That number shall be announced and entered in the vote counting protocols of the election precinct.

12. The voter list, along with the excerpt from the voter list created pursuant to Part three of Article 119 of this Code; the applications of voters based on which the excerpt was compiled; court decisions on making changes to the voter list; notifications from the State Voter Register maintenance body shall be packed in one package. The inscription "Voter List" shall be made on the package, with indication of the number of the territorial district, or indication that the election district is an out-of-country election district, as well as the number of election precinct, date and time of packaging; the package shall be signed by the precinct election commission members present and affixed with the precinct election commission's seal.

13. The counterfoils of the issued ballot papers shall be packed. The inscription "Counterfoils of ballot papers" shall be made on the packages, with indication of the number of the territorial district or indication that the election district is an out-of-country election district, as well as the number of the election precinct, the number of packed counterfoils, the date and time of packaging; the package shall be signed by the precinct election commission members present and affixed with the commission's seal.

14. The precinct election commission shall check if the number of unused ballots and the number of voters that received ballot papers are equal to the number of ballot papers received by the precinct election commission. In the event of a discrepancy of those numbers, the precinct election commission shall draw up an act thereon, stating the reason for such discrepancy established by the commission's decision, which shall be signed by the precinct election commission members present. The aforementioned act may be signed by the candidates, candidates' agents, or official observers present. The signatures shall be affixed with the commission's seal.

15. The precinct election commission shall check the integrity of the sealing tape or seal on each ballot box.

16. If the precinct election commission discovers damage to the tape or seal, or any other damage that indicates that the integrity of ballot box has been violated, the precinct election commission shall write an act thereon, stating the nature of the discovered damage, which shall be signed by the precinct election commission members present. The aforementioned act may be signed by the candidates, candidates' agents, or official observers present. The signatures shall be affixed with the commission's seal.

17. The precinct election commission shall open the ballot boxes one by one. The first ballot boxes to be opened shall be the mobile ones that were used for voting at voters' place of stay; and the last ballot boxes to be opened shall be the ones with damaged seals or sealing tape or with other damage revealed during the voting (if there are any such boxes).

18. When an undamaged ballot box is opened, its content shall be emptied on the table at which the precinct election commission members are sitting. The presence of a control sheet in the ballot box (or, in case of a mobile ballot box – the control sheets) shall also be checked.

19. The ballot papers from a damaged ballot box shall be taken out one by one without mixing them. The precinct election commission shall count the numbers of ballot papers contained in such ballot box, and check the presence of a control sheet, which shall be taken out of the ballot box last.

20. If there is no control sheet in the ballot box, the precinct election commission shall draw up an act on the absence of the control sheet in the ballot box in accordance with the procedure specified by this Article, in which the number of ballot papers contained in the ballot box shall be indicated. The aforementioned ballot papers shall not be subject to counting during the establishment of the total number of voters who took part in the voting and in the vote counting.

21. If there are more ballot papers in the mobile ballot box than the number of voters included in the excerpt from the voter list in the election precinct, the district election commission shall draw up an act in accordance with the procedure specified by this Article on such a discrepancy, in which the number of ballot papers contained in this ballot box shall be indicated. The aforementioned ballot papers shall not be subject to counting during the establishment of the total number of voters who took part in the voting and in the vote counting.

22. If the members of the commission have doubts as to the authenticity of a control sheet, or in other doubtful situations, the precinct election commission shall adopt, by voting, a decision recognizing the ballot papers contained in the ballot box as ones that shall not be subject to counting during the establishment of the total number of voters who took part in the voting and in the vote counting.

23. If the numbers of the territorial district or the election precinct indicated on the ballot paper do not correspond to the numbers of the territorial district or the election precinct, at which the vote counting is being performed, the ballot paper shall not be subject to counting during the establishment of the total number of voters who took part in the voting and in the vote counting.

24. The ballot papers that are not to be counted when establishing the total number of voters who took part in the voting and when counting votes, shall be packed in a separate package. The inscriptions "Ballot papers not subject to counting" shall be made on the package, with indication of the number of the territorial district or indication that the election district is an out-of-country election district, as well as the number of the election precinct, the number of packed ballot papers, the date and time of packaging; the package shall be signed by the precinct election commission members present and affixed with the commission's seal.

25. The election commission shall count the total number of the ballot papers, except for ballot papers not subject to counting. When counting ballot papers, a member of the precinct election commission, appointed by a decision of the commission, shall count the ballot papers aloud. All items found in the ballot boxes other than the ballot papers of the approved form shall be placed separately and not counted. In case of doubt as to whether an item is a ballot paper, the precinct election commission shall adopt a decision thereon by voting. Each member of the election commission shall have the right to personally examine such items. The counting of ballot papers shall be suspended while such items are being examined. Any items that are not deemed to be ballot papers shall be packed in one package. Control sheets shall be also deemed as such items. The inscription "Items" shall be made on the package, with indication of the number of the territorial district or indication that the election district is an out-of-country election district, as well as the number of the election precinct, the number of packed ballot papers, the date and time of packaging; the package shall be signed by the precinct election commission members present and affixed with the commission's seal. The number established as a result of the above shall be considered the number of voters that took part in the voting. The

secretary of the election commission shall announce this number and enter it into the protocol on vote counting at the election precinct.

26. The ballot papers shall be put on the places marked with special plates bearing, on both sides, the last names and initials of candidates or the inscription “Invalid ballot papers”. When sorting out the ballot papers, a precinct election commission member selected by the commission shall show each ballot paper to all the election commission members, announcing the result of the expression of the voter’s will. If the election commission members have doubts as to the content of a ballot paper, the election commission shall resolve the doubts by voting. Each member of the election commission shall have the right to personally examine the ballot paper. For the time of examination of the ballot paper, the work with the other ballot papers shall be suspended.

27. A ballot paper shall be deemed invalid if:

- 1) it bears no seal of the respective precinct election commission;
- 2) it has not been amended as required by Part seven of Article 114 of this Code, or it has been amended without a decision by the Central Election Commission or amended in a way that fails to comply with the decision of the Central Election Commission;
- 3) more than one mark has been placed next to the names of the parties or to the last names of candidates;
- 4) no mark has been placed;
- 5) the counterfoil of the ballot paper has not been separated therefrom;
- 6) it is impossible to identify the result of the expression of the voter’s will for any other reason.

28. If any members of the election commission have doubts about the validity of a ballot paper in the case provided for by clause six of Part twenty-seven of this Article, the precinct election commission shall resolve the doubts by voting. Each member of the election commission shall be allowed to personally examine the ballot paper in question. During the examination of the ballot paper, the counting of other ballot papers shall be suspended.

29. Invalid ballot papers shall be counted separately. The secretary of the election commission shall announce this number and enter it into the protocol on vote counting at the election precinct. The invalid ballot papers shall be packed together. The inscription “Invalid ballot papers” shall be made on the package, with indication of the number of the territorial district or indication that the election district is an out-of-country election district, as well as the number of the election precinct, the number of packed ballot papers, the date and time of packaging; the package shall be signed by the precinct election commission members present and affixed with the commission’s seal.

30. The precinct election commission shall separately count the number of votes cast for each candidate for President of Ukraine. During the vote counting each member of the commission shall be allowed to examine or re-count the respective ballot papers. The vote counting results at the election precinct shall be announced and entered, respectively, in the protocol on vote counting at the election precinct by the secretary of the election commission.

31. When counting votes at an election precinct, the precinct election commission shall check whether the number of voters who took part in the voting at the precinct is equal to the sum of the numbers of invalid ballot papers and ballot papers with votes cast for each of the candidates. In case of discrepancy of these data, the election commission shall draw up an act thereon, stating the reason for such discrepancy established by the commission’s decision, which shall be signed by the precinct election commission members present. The aforementioned act may be signed by the candidates present, their agents, and official observers. The signatures shall be affixed with the election commission’s seal.

32. Ballot papers with the votes cast for each of the candidates for the President of Ukraine shall be packed separately. The last name and initials of the respective candidate, the number of the territorial district or indication that the election district is an out-of-country election district, as well as the number



of the election precinct, the number of packed ballot papers, the date and time of packaging shall be inscribed on the packages; the package shall be signed by the precinct election commission members present and affixed with the commission's seal.

**Article 121. Protocols of Precinct Election Commission Vote Counting at the Election Precinct**

1. At its meeting, no later than eighty days before election day a precinct election commission shall draw up a protocol on vote counting at the election precinct in a form established by the Central Election Commission.

It shall be prohibited to draw up a protocol of precinct election commission on vote counting at the election precinct in a manner other than specified by the Central Election Commission.

The procedure for drawing up and requirements for the protocols of the precinct election commission on the counting of votes at the election precinct shall be established by the Central Election Commission no later than seventy days before election day.

2. The protocol of a precinct election commission on vote counting at the election precinct shall contain the following data, entered in numbers:

- 1) the number of ballot papers received by the precinct election commission or produced thereby upon consent of the Central Election Commission;
- 2) the number of unused ballot papers invalidated by the precinct election commission;
- 3) the number of voters included in the voter list for the election precinct (at the end of the voting);
- 4) the number of voters who received ballot papers;
- 5) the number of ballot papers that are not subject to counting;
- 6) the number of voters who took part in the voting in the premises for voting;
- 7) the number of ballot papers declared invalid;
- 8) the number of votes cast for each candidate for President of Ukraine.

3. The protocol on vote counting at the election precinct shall be drawn up by the precinct election commission in four copies. The copies of the protocols shall be numbered and shall have equal legal force.

4. The protocol of the precinct election commission on vote counting shall specify the date and time (hours and minutes) of its signing by the precinct election commission members. Each copy of the protocols shall be signed by the chair, deputy chair, secretary and other members of the precinct election commission present at the election commission's meeting. If a member of the commission disagrees with the vote counting results entered in a protocol, that member shall sign the protocol with a note "With dissenting opinion". A written dissenting opinion shall be attached to the protocol of the precinct election commission on vote counting at the election precinct. Failure or refusal of the precinct election commission member to sign a vote counting protocol at the election precinct shall entail no legal consequences for the validity of the protocol. In the case of absence of the signature of the precinct election commission member in a vote counting protocol at the election precinct, the reasons for the absence of the signature shall be indicated next to his or her last name. Such protocol shall be signed by the precinct election commission members and affixed with the precinct election commission's seal only after having been fully completed.

5. It shall be prohibited to fill out the protocols of the precinct election commission on vote counting at the election precinct by pencil, or to make any changes thereto without the respective commission decision.

6. If after the signing of the protocols of the precinct election commission on vote counting at the election precinct in the respective election district, the precinct election commission discovers inaccuracies (a slip of the pen or an erroneous number), it shall at the same meeting consider the issue of introducing changes to the protocol by completing a new protocol; such protocol shall be marked

“Corrected.” The ballot papers shall not be re-counted. A protocol marked “Corrected” shall be completed in the number of copies specified in Part three of this Article.

7. The first and the second copies of the protocols of the precinct election commission on vote counting at the election precinct and, if available, the respective copies of each protocol with the mark “Corrected” shall be packed into a package. The inscription “Protocol on vote counting” shall be made on the package, with indication of the number of the territorial district, the number of the election precinct, the date and time of packaging; the package shall be signed by the precinct election commission members present at the election commission’s meeting, and affixed with the election commission’s seal. The third copy of the protocol of the precinct election commission on vote counting at the election precinct shall remain with the secretary of the precinct election commission, while the fourth copy of the aforementioned protocol shall be immediately placed in the premises of the precinct election commission for public review.

8. The precinct election commission members, candidates for the President of Ukraine, their agents, official observers who were present during the vote counting at the election precinct shall have the right to immediately receive upon their request copies of the protocols on vote counting at the election precinct provided for by this Article, certified by the chair and the secretary of the precinct election commission and affixed with the election commission’s seal; no more than one copy of the protocol for each member of the election commission, candidate and for each official observer.

9. The precinct election commission shall prepare an act, of a form approved by the Central Election Commission, recording the handover of copies of the protocols of the precinct election commission on vote counting. The act shall contain a list of persons who received copies of the respective protocol, the date and time of the receipt of such copies, and the signatures of such persons. The act shall be signed by the chair and the secretary of the precinct election commission and affixed with the precinct election commission’s seal. The act shall be packed in the package together with the first and second copies of the protocol of the precinct election commission on vote counting at the election precinct.

10. After the end of the election commission’s meeting, the packages with the protocols of the precinct election commission on vote counting at the election precinct, the ballot papers, counterfoils and items, voter lists, and also written dissenting opinions of the election commission members (if any), acts, applications, complaints, and decisions adopted by the election commission, shall be delivered to the district election commission.

11. In case of use of the automated information-analytical system by the precinct election commission, the secretary of the commission or the responsible person determined by the decision of the precinct election commission shall enter into the automated information-analytical system the information necessary for drawing up the protocol on counting of votes, and shall ensure their verification by means of this system.

If the protocol is filled in correctly, the responsible person must:

- 1) print out four copies of the protocol on the counting of votes at the precinct and hand them over to the chair, deputy chair, secretary and other members of the precinct election commission for signing and affixing of the precinct election commission’s seal. Information on the counting of votes shall be immediately provided to the candidates for the post of President of Ukraine, their agents, official observers present at the meeting who have the right to sign the first copies of the protocol;
- 2) after signing the protocol on the counting of votes by all members of the commission present at the meeting, send it to the district election commission and the Central Election Commission by means of an automated information-analytical system. Copies of the protocol on the counting of votes at the precinct may be made using an automated information-analytical system and shall be, while certified by the secretary of the precinct election commission and affixed with commission’s seal, provided to members of the precinct election commission, candidates for President of Ukraine, their agents, official

observers present at the counting of votes at the precinct, at their request, in accordance with Part eight of this Article.

**Article 122.** Declaration by a Precinct Election Commission of the Invalidity of Voting at the Election Precinct

1. A precinct election commission shall be entitled to declare the voting in an election precinct invalid if it establishes that there have been violations of the requirements of this Code that make it impossible to determine the true results of expression of the voters' will, only under the following circumstances:

- 1) discovery of cases of illegal voting (depositing of a ballot paper into the ballot box by other persons instead of the voter, except in the cases specified by Part six of Article 118 of this Code; voting by persons who have no right to vote; voting by persons who are not included in the voter list for the election precinct or who have been included in the voter list without legal grounds; multiple voting by the same person) in a number that exceeds by five percent the number of voters who received ballot papers at the election precinct;
- 2) discovery in the ballot boxes of ballot papers in a number that exceeds by more than ten percent the number of voters who received ballot papers at the election precinct;
- 3) destruction of or damage to a ballot box (ballot boxes) that makes it impossible to establish the content of the ballot papers, if the number of such ballot papers exceeds by five percent the number of voters who received ballot papers at the election precinct.

2. If the circumstances provided for by Part one of this Article are discovered, the precinct election commission shall in each case write an act, which shall be signed by all members of the precinct election commission present and affixed with the election commission's seal. Such act(s) shall be the ground for consideration by the precinct election commission of whether to declare the voting at the election precinct in the respective district invalid.

3. If a precinct election commission takes a decision declaring voting at the election precinct to be invalid, then protocol on vote counting of the precinct election commission at the election precinct shall contain only the data specified in clauses one through five of Part two of Article 121 of this Code. In other places a dash shall be inserted. The protocol of the precinct election commission on vote counting shall be completed by the precinct election commission in accordance with the procedure prescribed by Article 121 of this Code.

4. If a precinct election commission takes a decision declaring voting at the election precinct to be invalid, the ballot papers shall be packed. The inscription "The ballot papers" shall be made on the package, with indication of the number of the territorial district, the number of the election precinct, the number of the packed ballot papers, the date and time of packaging; the package shall be signed by the precinct election commission members, and affixed with the election commission's seal.

5. A decision of a precinct election commission declaring voting at the election precinct to be invalid, and the act on the basis of which such decision was adopted, shall be attached to the protocols of the precinct election commission on vote counting at the election precinct.

**Article 123.** Procedure for Transportation and Delivery of Election Documents to District Election Commission

1. The election documents specified in Part ten of Article 121 of this Code shall be transported by the chair or the deputy chair of the precinct election commission and two other members of this election commission, who shall be accompanied by a representative of the police, or by representatives of the Security Service of Ukraine, if necessary, upon request of the Central Election Commission. Other members of the precinct election commission, candidates, their agents, and official observers may, if they choose, accompany the transportation of the election documents. Other persons shall be prohibited from accompanying the transportation of the election documents. Unpacking the packages with the ballot papers and other election documents during transportation shall be prohibited.

If simultaneously with the election of the President of Ukraine local elections are held, the election documents related to such elections shall be transported to the respective election commission by members of the precinct election commission who will not participate in transporting the election documents related to the election of the President of Ukraine to the district election commission.

The secretary of the precinct election commission, as well as other members of the commission not accompanying the election documents during their transportation to the district election commission, shall stay in the premises of the precinct election commission until they are notified of the acceptance by the district election commission of the protocols of the precinct election commission on vote counting at the election precinct. During the transportation of the election documents, the precinct election commission's seal and blank protocols of the precinct election commissions on vote counting at the election precinct, unless they were used for drawing up the protocols with the mark "Corrected" prior to the dispatch of those protocols together with the election documents to the district election commission, shall be kept in the safe (metal case) in the premises of the precinct election commission.

2. The protocol on vote counting at the election precinct and other documents of the precinct election commission shall be handed over to the respective district election commission at its meeting.

3. The contents of the protocol on vote counting at a special election precinct established on a ship sailing, as of the day of voting, under the National Flag of Ukraine, or at Ukraine's polar station, upon its signing by the precinct election commission members, shall be immediately sent by the precinct election commission via technical means of communication to the respective district election commission, followed by mandatory delivery of the first and second copies of the protocol on vote counting at the election precinct, together with other documents specified in Part ten of Article 121 of this Code.

4. The contents of the protocol on vote counting at an out-of-country election precinct, upon its signing by the precinct election commission members, shall be immediately sent by the precinct election commission via technical means of communication to the Central Election Commission, followed by mandatory delivery of the first and second copies of the protocol on vote counting at the election precinct, through respective central executive bodies, in accordance with the procedure established by the Central Election Commission. The protocol shall be appended with other documents specified in Part ten of Article 121 of this Code.

**Article 124.** Procedure for Receipt and Consideration of Documents of Precinct Election Commissions by District Election Commission

1. Immediately after the end of voting, a district election commission shall convene a meeting that shall continue without a break until the results of the voting in the territorial election district are established. During this period of time, the members of the district election commission shall not be engaged in any activities other than participation in the election commission's meeting.

From the moment when the voting ended, and till the beginning of receipt by the district election commission of protocols on vote counting at election precincts, the district election commission shall send the current information on vote counting at election precincts of the election district (hereinafter referred to as the information on vote counting) to the Central Election Commission via an automated information analysis system.

2. The meeting of the district election commission specified in Part one of this Article shall be officially recorded in the minutes of continuous meeting.

3. At the meeting of the district election commission specified in Part one of this Article, the chair of the district election commission shall receive the sealed packages with the protocols of the precinct election commissions on vote counting; unpack them and announce the content of the protocols of the precinct election commissions on vote counting at the respective election precincts; and also receive the sealed packages with the other election documents specified by Part ten of Article 121 of this Code. The time of the receipt by the district election commission of the protocols of the precinct election commission on vote counting, the list of the received election documents, and the data entered into the

protocol on vote counting at the election precinct shall be recorded in the minutes of the meeting of the district election commission.

4. Immediately after the announcement by the chair of the district election commission (or the commission meeting chairperson) of the contents of the protocol at the meeting of the district election commission, the commission member authorized by the commission decision shall announce the data of the protocol and respective acts (if any) for the system administrator who shall enter those data in the data base of the automated information analysis system to verify the correctness of the data contained in the protocol.

If the protocol is filled out correctly, the system administrator shall:

- 1) print out the information on vote counting relating to the respective election precinct, sign it and hand it over for signing by the chair, deputy chair and secretary of the district election commission (or the commission meeting chairperson), as well as the election commission members. The information on vote counting shall be immediately provided to the members of the respective precinct election commission, candidates for the President of Ukraine, their agents, and official observers. The aforementioned information shall be stored in the district election commission until the termination of its powers and shall be transferred thereby to the local archival institution together with other election documents;
- 2) using the automated information analysis system, transfer the information on vote counting to the Central Election Commission.

The Central Election Commission shall immediately publish the aforementioned information on its official website.

5. When receiving the precinct election commission documents, the district election commission shall examine the completeness of the documents and the integrity of all packages containing election documents. During this checking, each member of the commission shall have the right to examine each package containing election documents. Based on the results of consideration of the precinct election commission documents and complaints concerning violations of the requirements of this Code during the conduct of voting and vote counting at the election precinct, as well as during the transportation of the election documents to the district election commission that had been received by the district election commission prior to the time period of the receipt of the precinct election commission documents, the district election commission shall accept the election documents from the precinct election commission and adopt one of the following decisions:

- 1) to include the data in the protocols on vote counting at the election precinct, when establishing the results of voting in the territorial district;
- 2) to oblige the precinct election commission to correct the revealed defects by drawing up a protocol marked "Corrected";
- 3) to conduct a re-count of votes at the election precinct in accordance with procedures provided for by this Code.

The above decision shall be adopted by voting of all members of the district election commission, by an absolute majority of the votes of all members of the commission, and shall be recorded in the minutes of the meeting of the district election commission.

6. If any corrections, mistakes, or inaccuracies are discovered in the protocols of the precinct election commission on vote counting at the election precinct, which can be eliminated without re-counting the votes, the district election commission shall adopt a decision specified in clause two of Part five of this Article (if the content of such corrections, mistakes and inaccuracies cannot be ascertained without drawing up a protocol marked "Corrected"), or shall consider an issue about making changes to the aforementioned data with the purpose to eliminate the detected drawbacks without the re-count of votes.

As a result of such consideration, the district election commission shall make a decision documented in the minutes of the commission meeting, requiring the precinct election commission to introduce changes to the protocol on vote counting at the election precinct, to accept the said protocol with changes made and to include the data contained in the said protocol with changes made, when establishing the results of voting in the territorial district.

Such a decision documented in the minutes of the commission shall be appended to the minutes of the meeting of the precinct election commission.

The precinct election commission shall be obliged, within the time limit established by the district election commission, to consider an issue about introducing changes to the protocol on vote counting without the re-count of ballot papers. The protocol with the mark "Corrected" shall be drawn up pursuant to this Code in the manner in which the protocol of the precinct election commission on the counting of votes at the precinct, which needs to be updated, was drawn up, be transported and handed over to the district election commission in the manner prescribed by Article 123 of this Code.

During the time period, when the precinct election commission considers the above issue, the copies of the protocol of a precinct election commission on vote counting at the election precinct and other election documents delivered to the district election commission shall be stored in the district election commission

7. If there are complaints, applications, acts duly drawn up by candidates, their agents and official observers, relating to violations of the requirements of this Code during the conduct of the voting and/or vote counting at the election precinct that raise doubts about the vote counting results at such election precinct, the district election commission shall be entitled to adopt a decision on re-counting of votes at the election precinct.

8. If there is an act or an application in writing submitted by persons specified in Part one of Article 123 of this Code, on violation of the requirements of this Code during the transportation of the protocol on vote counting at the election precinct, as well as other documents, to the district election commission, the district election commission shall be entitled, or shall be obliged, in case if there are clear signs that the packages with the election documents have been interfered with, to adopt a decision ordering a re-count of the votes at such election precinct.

A decision of a district election commission ordering to conduct a re-count of votes in case if the violation of integrity of the packages with packed documents is revealed, following the acceptance of election documents from the precinct election commission, shall not be allowed.

9. The protocols of a precinct election commission on vote counting at the election precinct shall be stored at the premises where the meeting of the district election commission is being held until the votes at the election precinct have been re-counted by the district election commission.

10. The votes of the voters at the election precinct shall be re-counted by the district election commission after consideration and receipt of protocols and other documents from all precinct election commissions. All members of the precinct election commission shall have the right to be present during re-counting of votes at the election precinct by the district election commission; moreover, candidates, their agents, and official observers may be also present there.

11. In the event of re-counting of votes at the election precinct, a district election commission shall, in accordance with the form approved by the Central Election Commission, draw up a protocol on re-counting of votes at the respective election precinct.

After the district election commission has drawn up a protocol on re-counting of votes at the election precinct, the information contained in the respective protocol shall be transferred to the Central Election Commission in accordance with the same procedure as the information on the vote counting.

The protocols on the re-counting of votes at the respective election precinct shall be drawn up by the district election commission in four copies. The copies of the protocols shall be numbered and shall have equal legal force. Each copy of the protocol shall be signed by the chair, deputy chair, secretary and other members of the district election commission present there and by the precinct election

commission members who took part in the re-counting of votes at the respective election precinct. Each copy of the protocol shall be affixed by a seal of the district election commission. The district election commission shall announce the data entered in the respective protocol. Candidates, their agents, official observers who were present during the re-counting of votes, shall have the right to sign the first copy of the protocol. If a member of the commission disagrees with the information entered in a protocol, that member shall be obliged to set out in writing his or her dissenting opinion, which shall be attached to the protocol.

Failure or refusal of some members of the election commission to sign a vote counting protocol at the election precinct shall entail no legal consequences for the validity of the protocol.

12. Should the district election commission, during the re-counting of votes at the respective election precinct, discover circumstances indicated in Part one of Article 122 of this Code, the district election commission shall be entitled to make a decision declaring the voting at the election precinct invalid. In this case, the protocol on re-counting of votes at this election precinct shall be drawn up in accordance with the procedure specified by Part 11 of this Article, and shall contain only the information indicated in clauses one through five of Part two of Article 121 of this Code. In other places a dash shall be inserted.

13. The first copy of the protocol of the district election commission on the re-counting of votes at the respective election precinct, together with the respective protocol of the precinct election commission on vote counting at the election precinct, and the decision of the district election commission declaring the voting at the election precinct to be invalid, shall be attached, respectively, to the protocol of the district election commission on the voting results in the respective territorial election district. The second copy of the protocol of the district election commission on re-counting of votes at the respective election precinct shall be kept by the secretary of the district election commission; the third copy of the protocol shall be delivered to the respective precinct election commission; the fourth copy shall be immediately placed in the premises of the district election commission for public review. The information contained in the protocol of the district election commission on the re-counting of votes at the respective election precinct shall be announced.

14. The election commission members, candidates for the President of Ukraine, their agents, official observers who were present during the re-counting of votes at the election precinct shall have the right to immediately receive upon their request copies of the protocol specified in this Article, certified by the chair and the secretary of the district election commission and affixed with the election commission's seal; no more than one copy of the protocol for each member of the election commission, candidate and for each official observer.

15. The information on the voting results in the territorial district shall be formed and transmitted to the Central Election Commission by means of the automated information analysis system only after the information on the vote counting with regard to all election precincts in the territorial district has been transmitted to the Central Election Commission via means of this system.

#### **Article 125. Tabulation of Voting Results in the Territorial District**

1. After the receipt and consideration of the precinct election commission vote counting protocols, including those marked "Corrected", based on the precinct election commission vote counting protocols and messages about the contents of such protocols of the precinct election commissions transmitted via technical means of communication from special election precincts established on ships sailing, as of the day of voting, under the National Flag of Ukraine, or at Ukraine's polar station, and, in case of vote re-counting, the protocol of the district election commission on re-counting the votes at the respective election precinct, the district election commission shall determine:

- 1) the number of ballot papers received by the district election commission;
- 2) the number of unused ballot papers invalidated by the district election commission;
- 3) the number of ballot papers received by the precinct election commissions in the territorial election district and produced thereby upon consent of the Central Election Commission;

- 4) the number of unused ballot papers invalidated by precinct election commissions in the territorial district;
- 5) the total number of voters included in the voter lists at the election precincts in the territorial district;
- 6) the number of voters who received ballot papers within the territorial district;
- 7) the number of ballot papers that were not subject to counting at the election precincts within the territorial district;
- 8) the number of voters who took part in the voting within the territorial district;
- 9) the number of ballot papers declared invalid;
- 10) the number of votes cast for each candidate for President of Ukraine.

2. The data on the voting results within the territorial district shall be entered in numbers in the protocol of the district election commission on the voting results within the territorial district. The data specified in clauses 3 - 10 of Part one of this Article shall be entered into the protocol for each election precinct within the territorial district, and the total for the territorial district.

3. The voting result protocol within the territorial district shall be compiled by the district election commission in three copies. The copies of the protocol shall be numbered and shall have equal legal force.

4. It shall be prohibited to fill out the voting result protocol in the territorial district by pencil, or to make changes thereto without the respective decision of the district election commission.

5. The voting result protocol in the territorial district shall be signed by the chair, deputy chair, secretary and other members of the district election commission present at the election commission's meeting. The aforementioned protocol shall be affixed with the election commission's seal. If a member of the commission disagrees with the information entered in a protocol, that member shall be obliged to set out in writing his or her dissenting opinion, which shall be attached to the protocol.

Failure or refusal of some members of the election commission to sign a vote counting protocol shall entail no legal consequences for the validity of the protocol.

The protocol shall specify the date and time (hour and minutes) of the signing thereof by the members of the district election commission. If a commission member has not signed the protocol, the reasons for the absence of his or her signature shall be indicated next to his or her last name. Candidates, their agents, and official observers who were present during the tabulation of the voting results in the territorial district shall be entitled to sign the first copy of the protocol. If after signing the said protocol, but before sending it to the Central Election Commission, the district election commission discovers inaccuracies therein (a slip of the pen or an erroneous number), it shall at the same meeting consider introducing changes to the protocol by drawing up a new protocol, which shall be marked "Corrected." A protocol marked "Corrected" shall be completed and signed in accordance with the procedure and in the number of copies prescribed by this Article.

6. The district election commission shall transport to the Central Election Commission the first copy of the protocol of the district election commission on the voting results within the territorial district, and, if any changes were made to the protocol, the protocol in which inaccuracies were discovered (slips of the pen or erroneous numbers), the respective protocols and acts of the precinct election commissions, decisions adopted on the basis of such acts; the protocols of the district election commission on re-counting of votes (if available) at the respective election precinct within the territorial district; written dissenting opinions of members of the district election commission; applications and complaints together with any decisions adopted by the district election commission as a result of consideration thereof. The second copy of the protocol shall be stored at the district election commission and the third copy shall be immediately placed in the premises of the district election commission for public review.



7. Upon his or her request, the member of the district election commission, a candidate for President of Ukraine, his or her authorized person or an official observer shall immediately receive a copy of the protocol of the district election commission on the results of the voting in the territorial district and, if available, a copy of the protocol on re-counting of votes at the respective election precinct, one copy of each protocol for each member of the election commission, candidate and each official observer.

8. The district election commission shall be obliged to establish the results of voting in the territorial district no later than the fifth day of the day of voting, regardless of the number of election precincts in the respective election district at which the voting was declared invalid. The voting in the territorial district may not be declared invalid. The protocols on the voting results in the territorial election district, after signing thereof, shall be transported to the Central Election Commission.

9. The district election commission shall be obliged to establish the results of voting in the territorial district regardless of the number of election precincts in the respective district, in which the voting has not been organized and conducted on the day of voting, in accordance with the requirements of Article 118 or Article 119 of this Code.

10. If the voting at all election precincts of the election district on the day of voting has not been organized and conducted in accordance with the requirements of Article 118 or 119 of this Code, the district election commission shall consider that the voting within the respective territorial district as not having taken place.

11. The documents specified in Part six of this Article shall be transported by the chair of the district election commission or by his or her deputy as well as by two other members of the election commission representing different candidates, who shall be accompanied by a representative of the police, or by representatives of the Security Service of Ukraine, if necessary, upon request of the Central Election Commission. Other members of the district election commission, candidates, their agents, and official observers may, if they choose, accompany the transportation of the election documents. Other persons shall be prohibited from accompanying the transportation of the election documents.

#### **Article 126.** Tabulation of Voting Results in the Out-of-Country Election District

1. The Central Election Commission shall, at its meeting, consider and announce protocols of the precinct election commissions on the vote counting at the out-of-country election precincts, which were received by the Commission, or notifications about the contents of the respective protocols of vote counting, transmitted by technical means of communication in accordance with the Part four of Article 123 of this Code.

2. The Central Election Commission shall, after the receipt and consideration of the protocols of the precinct election commissions on the vote counting at the out-of-country election precincts, at the same meeting establish the information provided for by Part one of Article 125 of this Code, based on the aforementioned protocols and the notifications about the contents thereof, which have been transmitted using the technical means of communication.

3. The information on the voting results within the out-of-country election district shall be announced at the meeting of the Central Election Commission and entered in numbers in the protocols of the Central Election Commission on the voting results within the out-of-country election district.

4. The protocol specified in Part three of this Article shall be drawn up in accordance with the procedure specified by Article 125 of this Code.

5. The protocol specified in Part three of this Article shall be drawn up in two copies. The protocol shall be signed by the Chair, Deputy Chairs, Secretary and other members of the Central Election Commission present at the meeting of the commission, and affixed by the seal of the Central Election Commission. The protocol shall specify the date and time (hours and minutes) of its signing by the members of the Central Election Commission. If a member of the commission disagrees with the vote counting results entered in a protocol of the Central Election Commission, that member of Central Election Commission shall sign the protocol with a note "With dissenting

opinion". A written dissenting opinion shall be attached to the protocol on vote counting. Failure or refusal of some members of the election commission to sign a vote counting protocol shall entail no legal consequences for the validity of the protocol. In the case of absence of the signature of the member of the Central Election Commission in a protocol, the reasons for the absence of the signature shall be indicated next to his or her last name. Candidates for the President of Ukraine, their authorized representatives in the Central Election Commission that were present during the establishing the voting results within the out-of-country election district shall be entitled to sign the first copy of the protocol. The contents of the protocol shall be immediately made public using the official website of the Central Election Commission.

6. Upon his or her request, a candidate, his or her authorized representative in the Central Election Commission shall immediately receive a copy of the protocol (including the one marked "Corrected") of the Central Election Commission on the voting results within the out-of-country election district, one copy of each protocol for each candidate. The said copies shall be certified on each page by signatures of the Chair and the Secretary of the Central Election Commission and affixed with the seal of the Central Election Commission.

7. The Central Election Commission shall be obliged to establish the results of voting within the out-of-country election district regardless of the number of out-of-country election precincts at which the voting was declared invalid or such that was not organized and conducted in accordance with the requirements of Article 118 of this Code.

8. The voting in the out-of-country election district may not be declared invalid.

**Article 127.** Establishing the Results of Election of the President of Ukraine

1. At its meeting, the Central Election Commission shall, within ten days, but no later than the third day of the day of receipt of all protocols of the district election commissions on the voting results within the respective territorial districts, based on such protocols, including those marked "Corrected", and the protocol of the Central Election Commission on the voting results within the out-of-country election district, establish the results of voting on the day of the election of the President of Ukraine by drawing up the protocol thereon. The Central Election Commission shall be obliged to establish the results of voting on the day of the election of the President of Ukraine regardless of the number of election precincts (election district), in which (within which) the voting has not been organized and held in accordance with the requirements of Articles 118 or 119 of this Code.

The Central Election Commission may extend, but no more than by one day, the time period, if necessary, for the district election commission to provide a protocol with the mark "Corrected".

Should a district election commission fail to draw up, or fail to draw up properly, a protocol on the voting results, including the one with the mark "Corrected", within the time limit established by this Code, or should it fail to deliver it to the Central Election Commission, the Central Election Commission shall exercise powers of the district election commission with regard to establishing the voting results in the respective territorial district. In this case, the Central Election Commission shall demand from the district election commission to provide the election documents specified in Part ten of Article 121 of this Code and ensure the transportation thereof, and may also require other documents.

The following data shall be entered into the protocol on the results of voting on the day of the election of the President of Ukraine, in words and in numbers:

- 1) the number of ballot papers printed by request of the Central Election Commission;
- 2) the number of ballots received by the district election commissions;
- 3) the number of unused ballot papers invalidated by the district election commissions;
- 4) the number of ballot papers received by the precinct election commissions, and printed by them with the permission of the Central Election Commission;
- 5) the number of unused ballot papers invalidated by the precinct election commissions;
- 6) the number of voters included in the voter lists at election precincts;

- 7) the number of voters who received ballot papers;
- 8) the number of ballot papers at the election precincts that were not subject to counting;
- 9) the number of voters who took part in the voting;
- 10) the number of ballot papers declared invalid;
- 11) the number of votes cast for each candidate for the post of President of Ukraine;
- 12) the percentage of the votes cast for each candidate for the post of President of Ukraine, in relation to the total number of voters who took part in the voting;

2. The data on the voting results shall be entered in numbers in the protocol of the Central Election Commission on the voting results on the day of the election of the President of Ukraine. The data specified in clauses 2-12 of Part one of this Article shall be entered for each territorial district, with the totals for the nationwide election district. The protocol shall be signed by the Chair, Deputy Chairs, the Secretary and other members of the Central Election Commission, who are present at the meeting of the Central Election Commission, and affixed with the seal of the Central Election Commission. The protocol shall specify the date and time (hours and minutes) of their signing by the members of the Central Election Commission. If a member of the Central Election Commission disagrees with the established results of the election entered into the protocol of the Central Election Commission, that member shall sign the protocol with a note "With dissenting opinion". A written dissenting opinion of an individual member of the Central Election Commission shall be attached to the protocol on the results of voting on the day of the election of the President of Ukraine. In the case of absence of the signature of the member of the Central Election Commission in the protocol, the reasons for the absence of the member of the Central Election Commission at its meeting shall be indicated next to his or her last name. Candidates for the President of Ukraine, their authorized representatives in the Central Election Commission who are present during the establishing the results of voting on the day of the election of the President of Ukraine shall be entitled to sign the first copy of the protocol. The contents of the protocol shall be immediately published on the official website of the Central Election Commission.

Failure or refusal of some members of the Central Election Commission to sign the protocol shall entail no legal consequences for the validity of the protocol.

In the case if the voting within certain territorial districts has not been organized and conducted, in accordance with the provisions of Article 118 or 119 of this Code, the results of the voting on the day of voting in the election of the President of Ukraine shall be established based on the voting results established in other territorial districts.

3. A candidate who has received more than half of votes of voters who took part in the voting shall be deemed elected on the day of voting in the election the President of Ukraine. In this case, the protocol of the Central Election Commission on the results of the voting on the day of the election of the President of Ukraine shall contain the last name and initials of the candidate who, in accordance with this Code, has been elected the President of Ukraine.

4. If the ballot for voting includes no more than two candidates for the President of Ukraine, and if according to the results of the voting on the day of the election of the President of Ukraine none of the candidates was elected in accordance with the requirements of Part three of this Article, the Central Election Commission shall, on the basis of clause 1 of Part four of Article 76 of this Code, adopt a decision to address the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine with a submission requesting to appoint the repeat election of the President of Ukraine, stating the above in the protocol on the results of the voting on the day voting in the election of the President of Ukraine. If after the expiry of the time period for the registration of candidates for the President of Ukraine no candidate has been registered, the Central Election Commission, on the basis of clause 2 of Part four of Article 76 of this Code, no later than on the fifth day after the expiry of the registration period, address the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine with a submission requesting to appoint the repeat election of the President of Ukraine.

5. If the ballot for voting includes more than two candidates for the President of Ukraine, and if according to the results of the voting on the day of the election of the President of Ukraine none of the candidates was elected in accordance with the requirements of Part three of this Article, the Central Election Commission shall adopt a decision to hold a repeat voting, stating the above in the protocol on the results of the voting on the day of the election of the President of Ukraine.

6. No later than on the third day after signing the protocol on the results of the voting on the day of the election of the President of Ukraine, the Central Election Commission shall publish the notification on the results of the voting on the day of the election of the President of Ukraine, in the newspapers *Holos Ukrainy* and *Uriadovyy Courier*.

**Article 128. Repeat Voting**

1. Repeat voting shall be called by the Central Election Commission for the third Sunday following the day of voting.

2. Two candidates for the President of Ukraine, who, according to the results of voting on the day of election, received the highest number of votes, shall be included on the ballot for repeat voting.

3. If one of the candidates included on the ballot for repeat voting has withdrawn his or her candidacy by filing a written application thereon with the Central Election Commission, and if the Central Election Commission has adopted a decision on cancellation of the registration of the candidate included on the ballot for repeat voting, the Central Election Commission shall immediately adopt a decision to include a candidate, who is next on the list by the number of votes received on the day of voting in the election, on the ballot for repeat voting.

4. If a candidate has filed a written application with the Central Election Commission on refusal to stand in the election, and if the Central Election Commission has adopted a decision on cancellation of the registration of the candidate included on the ballot for repeat voting, after the expiry of the time period specified in Part three of this Article, or if for other reasons there are no candidates who can be included on the ballot for repeat voting instead of the one who has withdrawn, the repeat voting shall be held with regard to one candidate only.

If the Central Election Commission decides to hold the repeat voting, the status of candidates for the post of President of Ukraine, authorized representatives of candidates for the post of President of Ukraine in the Central Election Commission, agents of candidates for the post of President of Ukraine in the nationwide district and territorial districts, official observers from parties that have nominated candidates for the post of President of Ukraine, official observers from candidates for the post President of Ukraine shall be retained only by candidates for the post of President of Ukraine, included in the ballot paper for repeat voting, by their authorized representatives in the Central Election Commission, agents of these candidates in the nationwide district and territorial districts, official observers from parties that have nominated these candidates, official observers from these candidates, official observers from nongovernmental organizations, foreign states and international organizations that were registered (accredited) before the day of the election of the President of Ukraine and continue to exercise the powers provided by this Code during the preparation, organization and voting in repeat voting of the President of Ukraine until the results of the election of the President of Ukraine are officially published.

5. In order to hold the repeat voting in the election of the President of Ukraine, the Central Election Commission shall, no later than ten days prior to the day of repeat voting, based on submissions from candidates for the President of Ukraine, included on the ballot for repeat voting, form a new composition of district election commissions consisting of 14 persons, seven persons being nominated by each of the candidates included on the ballot for repeat voting.

6. Candidates for the President of Ukraine, included on the ballot for repeat voting, shall, no later than twelve days prior to the day of repeat voting, file with the Central Election Commission a submission of a list of persons that they wish to nominate to the district election commissions in a form established by the Central Election Commission.

7. When distributing managerial positions in the district election commissions, the Central Election Commission shall provide an equal number of positions of the chair and the secretary of

the district election commission for each candidate for President of Ukraine (with possible deviation from the equal quantity by no more than one position, respectively, of the chair or the secretary of the commission). The chair and the secretary of a district election commission shall not be representatives of one and the same candidate for President of Ukraine. Deputy chair of the district election commission shall not be appointed.

8. No later than five days prior to the day of repeat voting, a district election commission shall, based on submissions from candidates for the President of Ukraine included on the ballot for repeat voting, form a new composition of the precinct election commissions in the number of:

- 1) 16 persons for large election precincts (eight persons from each candidate for President of Ukraine included on the ballot for repeat voting);
- 2) 14 persons for medium-sized election precincts (seven persons from each candidate for President of Ukraine included on the ballot for repeat voting);
- 3) 12 persons for small election precincts (six persons from each candidate for President of Ukraine included on the ballot for repeat voting).

At election precincts in which the number of voters does not exceed fifty persons, a precinct election commission may consist of four persons (two persons from each candidate for President of Ukraine included on the ballot for repeat voting).

9. No later than eight days prior to the day of repeat voting, a candidate for President of Ukraine included on the ballot for repeat voting, or his or her agents in the respective territorial districts, shall file with the district election commission a submission with a list of persons that he or she wishes to nominate to the precinct election commissions, according to the form established by the Central Election Commission.

10. In the event if the number of persons nominated to the respective election commissions is less than the number established by this Code, the respective election commission shall be formed in accordance with the procedure established by Part twelve of this Article.

11. When distributing managerial positions in the precinct election commissions, the district election commission shall provide an equal number of positions of the chair and the secretary of the precinct election commission for each candidate for President of Ukraine (with possible deviation from the equal quantity by no more than one position, respectively, of the chair or the secretary of the commission). The chair and the secretary of a precinct election commission shall not be representatives of one and the same candidate for President of Ukraine. Deputy chair of the district election commission shall not be appointed.

12. If a candidate for President of Ukraine did not use the possibility to submit the required number of nominees to the respective district election commission within the time period provided for by Part six of this Article, the Central Election Commission shall form a district election commission consisting of the number of persons specified in Part five of this Article, based on the submission of the Chair of the Central Election Commission in accordance with the proposals from the members of the Central Election Commission.

If a candidate for President of Ukraine did not use the possibility to submit the required number of nominees to the respective precinct election commission within the time period provided for by Part nine of this Article, the district election commission shall form a precinct election commission consisting of the number of persons specified in Part eight of this Article, based on the submission of the chair of the respective district election commission in accordance with the proposals from the members of the district election commission.

13. The powers of the election commission formed for the conduct of the repeat voting, as well as the powers of an individual member of such a commission shall be terminated in accordance with the procedure established by this Code.

14. To conduct the repeat voting, the State Voter Register maintenance bodies shall hand over the voter lists to election commissions, no later than two days prior to the day of repeat voting pursuant to the procedure provided for by this Code.

The procedure for drawing up a voter list for repeat voting, as well as the form of such a list, shall be established by the Central Election Commission.

Voter lists for repeat voting at special election precincts (except the election precincts established in penitentiary institutions) shall be printed by the respective election commissions no later than two days prior to the day of repeat voting, based on the information submitted by the heads of the respective establishments, institutions, captains of ships, commanders of military units (commands), in which such election precincts are established.

A voter list for repeat voting shall include the citizens of Ukraine who have reached or, as of the day of voting, will have reached eighteen years of age.

The State Voter Register maintenance body shall hand over personal invitations for voters to the respective precinct election commissions of regular election precincts immediately after the establishment thereof, but no later than five days prior to the day of repeat voting.

No later than three days prior to the day of repeat voting, a precinct election commission shall send or deliver in another manner a personal invitation to each voter.

15. The voting, vote counting and establishing the results of voting in the event of repeat voting shall be conducted in accordance with the procedure specified by Articles 117-125 of this Code.

16. The voting of voters at the out-of-country election precincts shall be organized and conducted by the precinct election commissions having the same composition as the one that was present on the day of voting. In the event of withdrawal of individual members from the said election commissions, new persons may be included in the commission at the request of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine to replace the ones that have withdrawn.

17. Based on the protocols of the district election commissions on the results of the repeat voting within the respective territorial election districts, protocol on the results of voting within the out-of-country election district the Central Election Commission shall, at its meeting, no later than on the tenth day following the day of repeat voting, establish and promulgate the results of repeat voting in the election of the President of Ukraine, drawing a protocol thereon.

18. If two candidates are included on the ballot for repeat voting, a candidate, having received more votes of the voters who took part in the voting, than another candidate, based on the results of repeat voting, shall be deemed the President of Ukraine elected based on the results of repeat voting.

19. If only one candidate is included on the ballot for repeat voting, a candidate shall be deemed elected the President of Ukraine, if he or she received more than half of votes of the voters who took part in the voting.

20. If as a result of repeat voting both candidates standing in the election have received the same number of votes of the voters, or if the voting was held with regard to one candidate only, and he or she did not receive more than half of votes of the voters who took part in the voting, the Central Election Commission shall declare the election of the President of Ukraine invalid.

#### **Article 129. Official Promulgation of Results of the Election of the President of Ukraine**

1. If the protocol on the results of voting on the day of the election of the President of Ukraine or the protocol on the results of repeat voting on the election of the President of Ukraine specifies a person elected as President of Ukraine in accordance with Part three of Article 127 or Parts eighteen, nineteen of Article 128 of this Code, the Central Election Commission shall, at its meeting, promulgate the results of the election of the President of Ukraine, which shall be reflected in the minutes of the commission meeting, with indication of the last name, first name, patronymic name of the elected President of Ukraine, his or her year of birth, speciality, job position (occupation), place of employment, place of residence, party membership, the nominating subject.

2. The official promulgation of the results of the election of the President of Ukraine shall be deemed the promulgation of the results of the election of the President of Ukraine in the newspapers *Holos Ukrainy* and *Uriadovyy Courier* with indication of the last name, first name, patronymic name of the elected President of Ukraine, his or her year of birth, speciality, job position (occupation), place of employment, place of residence, party membership, the nominating subject.

3. The official promulgation of the results of the election of the President of Ukraine shall be a ground for dismissal of a person from a job (position) incompatible with the post of the President of Ukraine, and for adopting a decision on termination of another representative mandate held by a person elected as the President of Ukraine.

#### **Article 130. Acquiring Powers of the President of Ukraine**

1. A newly elected President of Ukraine shall take office no later than thirty days after the official promulgation of the results of the election.

2. A newly elected President of Ukraine shall acquire powers upon taking the oath to the Ukrainian people at a solemn sitting of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine.

3. After a newly elected President of Ukraine has taken an oath, the Central Election Commission shall present him or her with a certificate of the President of Ukraine.

### **Chapter XXII. REPEAT AND EXTRAORDINARY ELECTION OF THE PRESIDENT OF UKRAINE**

**Article 131. Peculiarities of Preparation and Conduct of the Repeat Election of the President of Ukraine**

1. The grounds, the procedure for calling and the time period for conduct of repeat election of the President of Ukraine shall be determined, respectively, by Part four of Article 76, Article 77 and Parts six, seven, and eight of Article 78 of this Code.

2. The election procedures of the repeat election of the President of Ukraine shall be performed in the manner and within the time period specified by this Code for the ordinary election of the President of Ukraine.

**Article 132. Peculiarities of Preparation and Conduct of an Extraordinary Election of the President of Ukraine**

1. An extraordinary election of the President of Ukraine shall be held in the manner and within the time period specified by this Code, with observance of peculiarities established by this Article.

2. The Central Election Commission shall publish a list of regular and special election precincts, with indication of the territorial districts, to which those election precincts belong, on its official website.

3. Repealed.

### **BOOK THREE. ELECTIONS OF MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT OF UKRAINE**

#### **Chapter XXIII. GENERAL PROVISIONS OF THE ELECTION OF MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT OF UKRAINE**

**Article 133. Main Principles of the Election of Members of Parliament of Ukraine**

1. The election of Members of Parliament of Ukraine (hereinafter referred to as “MPs”) shall be held according to the proportional system with unified lists of MP candidates in the nationwide election district, on the basis of which regional lists of MP candidates shall be formed (hereinafter referred to as the nationwide electoral list, regional electoral lists) from parties.

2. The right to participate in distribution of MP seats may be exercised by parties, in support of regional electoral lists of MP candidates from which within the nationwide election district five

or more percent of the total number of votes of the voters, who supported the regional electoral lists of MP candidates from all parties within the nationwide district, were cast.

**Article 134.** The Right to Be an MP Candidate

1. A citizen of Ukraine who has reached the age of 21, shall have the right to vote, and has been residing in Ukraine over the previous five years prior to the day of election may be elected an MP.

2. Residing in Ukraine under this Code shall mean:

- 1) residing in the territory within the state borders of Ukraine;
- 2) staying on a ship sailing under the National Flag of Ukraine;
- 3) staying of citizens of Ukraine, pursuant to the procedure established by the Law, in foreign diplomatic institutions of Ukraine, international organizations and in their bodies, as a result of their out-of-country assignment;
- 4) staying at Ukraine's polar station;
- 5) staying within the command the Armed Forces of Ukraine stationed abroad.

3. Persons residing with persons specified in clause 3 of Part two of this Article as their family members shall be also deemed to be residing in Ukraine.

4. A person shall be deemed to be such a person that resides in Ukraine, in accordance with Part one of this Article, if his or her one-time trip abroad in private matters did not exceed 90 days, whereas the total period of his or her stay outside Ukraine each year during the last ten years prior to the day of voting did not exceed 183 days. It shall not be deemed a violation of the requirement about the residence in Ukraine, if a person travels abroad on a business trip, for study, on vacation, or for a medical treatment upon the recommendation of the respective healthcare institution.

5. A person who has a criminal record for committing a deliberate crime or a crime, which has not been lifted or expunged pursuant to the procedure established by law, may not be nominated as an MP candidate and elected as an MP.

**Article 135.** Form of Elections of Members of Parliament of Ukraine and Procedure by which They are Called

1. The election of MPs may be ordinary and extraordinary.

2. Regular elections of MPs shall be conducted in connection with termination of the term of powers of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine, as established by the Constitution of Ukraine, and shall not require a separate decision on its calling.

3. Extraordinary elections of MPs shall be called by the President of Ukraine on the grounds and in accordance with the procedure provided for by the Constitution of Ukraine.

**Article 136.** Time Frames for Conduct of Elections of Members of Parliament of Ukraine

1. Ordinary elections to the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine shall be held on the last Sunday in October of the fifth year of the term of powers of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine.

2. In ordinary elections, the election process shall start sixty days prior to the day of voting. The Central Election Commission shall announce the start of the election process no later than sixty-one days prior to the day of voting.

3. Extraordinary elections of MPs shall be held on the last Sunday of the sixty-day period following the day of publication of the decree of the President of Ukraine on early termination of the term of powers of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine, issued in accordance with the Constitution of Ukraine.

4. In extraordinary election, the election process shall start on the day following the day of publication of the decree of the President of Ukraine specified in Part three of this Article.



**Article 137.** Election Process of Elections of Members of Parliament of Ukraine

1. The election process shall include the following stages:
  - 1) nomination and registration of MP candidates;
  - 2) formation of district and precinct election commissions;
  - 3) conducting election campaigning;
  - 4) formation of special election precincts that exist on a temporary basis;
  - 5) compiling voter lists, their verification and correction;
  - 6) voting;
  - 7) vote counting, establishing the results of voting and results of the election of MPs and their official promulgation;
  - 8) Repealed.
2. The election process shall terminate fifteen days after the day of official promulgation by the Central Election Commission of the results of the election of MPs.

3. In the cases, specified by this Code, the powers of district and precinct election commissions may partially extend beyond the time frame of the election process.

**Chapter XXIV. TERRITORIAL ORGANIZATION OF ELECTIONS OF MPs**

**Article 138.** Territorial organization of Elections of Members of Parliament of Ukraine

1. A system of the territorial organization of the election of MPs consists of the following:
  - 1) a single nationwide multi-member election district;
  - 2) electoral regions;
  - 3) territorial districts;
  - 4) election precincts.
2. The election of MPs shall be held in a single nationwide multi-member election district, which shall include the whole territory of Ukraine and the out-of-country election district.
3. For preparation, organization and conduct of the election of MPs, the Central Election Commission shall establish, in accordance with this Code, territorial districts, which shall exist on a permanent basis.
4. For preparation, organization and conduct of the voting and vote counting in the election of MPs, regular, special and out-of-country election precincts shall be used, which shall be formed on a permanent basis, as well as special election precincts, which shall be formed on a temporary basis, in accordance with this Code (hereinafter, election precincts).
5. Regional electoral lists of MP candidates shall be formed in the following electoral regions:
  - 1) electoral region No. 1 (Kyivsky) – city of Kyiv;
  - 2) electoral region No. 2 (Vinnytsky) – Vinnytsya oblast;
  - 3) electoral region No. 3 (Volynsky) – Volyn oblast;
  - 4) electoral region No. 4 (Dnipropetrovsky) – Dnipropetrovsk oblast;
  - 5) electoral region No. 5 (Donetsky) - Donetsk oblast;
  - 6) electoral region No. 6 (Zhytomyrsky) – Zhytomyr oblast;
  - 7) electoral region No. 7 (Zakarpatsky) – Zakarpattya oblast;
  - 8) electoral region No. 8 (Zaporizky) – Zaporizhzhya oblast;

- 9) electoral region No. 9 (Ivano-Frankivsky) - Ivano-Frankivsk oblast;
- 10) electoral region No. 10 (Kyiv Oblast) – Kyiv oblast;
- 11) electoral region No. 11 (Kropyvnytsky) – Kirovograd oblast;
- 12) electoral region No. 12 (Luhansky) – Luhansk oblast;
- 13) electoral region No. 13 (Lvivsky) - Lviv oblast;
- 14) electoral region No. 14 (Mykolayivsky) - Mykolayiv oblast;
- 15) electoral region No. 15 (Odesky) – Odesa oblast;
- 16) electoral region No. 16 (Southern) – Kherson oblast, the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, city of Sevastopol;
- 17) electoral region No. 17 (Poltavsky) – Poltava oblast;
- 18) electoral region No. 18 (Rivnensky) – Rivne oblast;
- 19) electoral region No. 19 (Sumsky) - Sumy oblast;
- 20) electoral region No. 20 (Ternopilsky) – Ternopil oblast;
- 21) electoral region No. 21 (Kharkivsky) – Kharkiv oblast;
- 22) electoral region No. 22 (Khmelnysky) – Khmelnytsk oblast;
- 23) electoral region No. 23 (Cherkasky) - Cherkasy oblast;
- 24) electoral region No. 24 (Chernivetsky) – Chernivtsi oblast;
- 25) electoral region No. 25 (Chernihivsky) – Chernihiv oblast.

6. No later than the second day after the start of the election process, the Central Election Commission shall publish on its official website a list of territorial districts, indicating their numbers, boundaries and centers of the electoral regions.

## **Chapter XXV. ELECTION COMMISSIONS IN ELECTIONS OF MPS OF UKRAINE**

### **Article 139.** System of Election Commissions

1. The election of MPs shall be organized and conducted by:

- 1) the Central Election Commission;
- 2) district election commissions;
- 3) precinct election commissions.

### **Article 140.** Establishing a District Election Commission

1. A district election commission shall be established by the Central Election Commission no later than twenty-eight days prior to the day of voting and shall consist of the chair, the deputy chair, the secretary, and other commission members, consisting of no less than twelve and no more than eighteen persons.

2. The following subjects (hereinafter, nominating subjects) may nominate candidates for membership in district election commissions:

- 1) any political party whose parliamentary faction is registered with the Apparatus of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine of current convocation;
- 2) political parties that are electoral subjects, MP candidates from which were registered in the nationwide election district.

3. A district election commission shall necessarily include two representatives from each nominating subject specified in clause 1 of the Part two of this Article (if they have made the required submission). Any remaining seats on the district election commission shall be filled by no more than

one representative from the nominating subjects specified in clause 2 of Part two of this Article, selected based on the result of drawing of lots by the Central Election Commission in accordance with procedures established thereby, no later than three days following the day of expiry of the time for filing the submissions specified in Part four of this Article.

Persons nominated to a district election commission may be rejected only on the grounds of their noncompliance with the requirements of Article 34 of this Code, violation of the requirements set forth in Parts four – six of this Article by way of decision of the Central Election Commission, or as a result of application of the mechanism of drawing of lots specified by this Part. The decision to reject candidates based on the results of the drawing of lots shall not be made.

4. No later than thirty-three days prior to the day of voting, the central governing body of a nominating subject shall submit to the Central Election Commission, in accordance with the format approved by the Central Election Commission, the paper and electronic forms of the list of persons that it wishes to nominate to the respective district election commissions. Each submission shall be signed by the chair of the nominating subject (or by a person acting in his or her capacity) and affixed with the seal of the respective nominating subject.

Submissions of nominees to the district election commissions may be filed to the Central Election Commission by means of electronic services in accordance with the procedure established by the Central Election Commission.

5. Nomination submissions to district election commissions shall include the following information on each nominee:

- 1) last name, first name (all first names), patronymic name (if any);
- 2) date, month, year of birth;
- 3) citizenship;
- 4) place and address of residence, as well as contact phone numbers;
- 5) command the state language;
- 6) educational background;
- 7) place of employment and occupied position;
- 8) election commission experience;
- 9) information on whether the nominee has no criminal record for committing a grave or especially grave crime or a crime against citizens' electoral rights or a corruption crime, which has not been lifted or expunged pursuant to the procedure established by law.

6. The submission shall be appended with copies of each of the nominees' passport of a citizen of Ukraine (copies of the first and second pages of the passport of a citizen of Ukraine in the form of a passport book or copies of the front and reverse side of a passport of a citizen of Ukraine in the form of a card), or copies of the first and second pages of a temporary certificate of a citizen of Ukraine (for persons who were recently granted a citizenship of Ukraine).

Statements of the persons nominated to a district election commission, expressing their consent to participate in the commission's work on behalf of the respective nominating subject, and consent to perform the respective official responsibilities of the chair, deputy chair, or secretary of the commission, and expressing non-consent to participate in the work of the election commission on behalf of other nominating in the respective elections shall be submitted to the respective political parties – nominating subjects before the submission to the Central Election Commission of the nominees to the district election commissions.

If the Central Election Commission finds a simultaneous nomination of one candidate to the district election commission from different nominating subjects, the Commission shall address the respective nominating subjects, and the candidate nominated to the district election commission, requesting to clarify information and submit a statement of consent to participate in the work of the district election

commission on behalf of the respective nominating subject. In case a person's consent to participate in the work of the district election commission from the respective nominating subject is not confirmed, the Central Election Commission shall reject the candidacy of such person.

7. Technical errors or inaccuracies contained in a submission shall not constitute a reason for the rejection of nominees.

When technical errors or inaccuracies are found with respect to last name, first name and patronymic name of the person, date of his or her birth - the resolution establishing the district election commission shall contain information on the basis of copies of passport documents.

8. If the submission of nominees to a district election commission fails to be filed within the time period prescribed by Part four of this Article, or if the number of persons nominated to the district election commission is less than twelve, the Central Election Commission shall form a district election commission within the time period specified by Part one of this Article, consisting of twelve members of the district election commission, nominated upon proposal submitted by the Chair of the Central Election Commission, submitted in compliance with the requirements provided for by Article 34 of this Code, in accordance with the proposals submitted by the members of the Central Election Commission, necessarily having regard to the nominees proposed by the respective nominating subjects specified in Part two of this Article.

9. Each subject that nominates candidates to district election commission shall have the right to a proportional share of each category of managerial positions in district election commissions. The share of managerial positions for each subject nominating candidates to district election commissions within the nationwide election district shall be determined on the basis of the proportion of a number of nominees included from this nominating subject in a district election commission, in relation to the total number of members included in the district election commission. A person appointed to a district election commission upon proposal of the Chair of the Central Election Commission cannot be appointed to a managerial position in that election commission, unless no submissions, or less than the required number of submissions from subjects nominating candidates to the commission. Managerial positions shall be distributed between the nominating subjects based on the shares determined in accordance with this Part of this Article according to procedures established by the Central Election Commission. Such procedures shall provide for approximate evenness of the territorial distribution of the positions received by each nominating subject.

The provisions of this Part concerning the right to a proportional share of each category of managerial positions shall apply only with regard to the initial formation of district election commissions. In case a district election commission is formed as a result of early termination of the powers of its previous composition, the provisions of this Part shall not apply.

In case of early termination of powers of the chair, deputy chair, secretary of the district election commission and failure by the nominating subject from which the person was included in the district election commission to submit other candidates for replacement no later than on the next day after the day of receipt of the notice on the grounds for termination of their powers, but not later than on the last day before the day of voting, another member of this commission shall be appointed to the respective position of the chair, deputy chair, and secretary of the district election commission without respecting the right of the nominating subject to a proportional share of each category of managerial positions.

10. The chair, deputy chair, and secretary of a district election commission shall represent different political parties.

11. The Central Election Commission shall make public its decision on the establishment and composition of the district election commissions, made in accordance with this Code, on the official website of the Central Election Commission no later than on the day following the day on which the decision was adopted. A decision on changes in the composition of a district election commission shall be published pursuant to the procedure and within the terms provided for by this Part, but, in any case, no later than on the last day prior to the day of voting.

**Article 141.** Procedure for Establishing a Precinct Election Commission of a Regular or Special Election Precinct

1. A precinct election commission shall be established by the respective district election commission no later than fifteen days prior to the day of voting and shall consist of the chair, deputy chair, secretary, and other members of the commission.

2. A precinct election commission shall be formed with the following number of members:

- 1) for small election precincts - 10-14 members;
- 2) for medium-sized election precincts - 12-16 persons;
- 3) for large election precincts - 14 - 18 members.

3. At election precincts in which the number of voters does not exceed two hundred persons, a precinct election commission may consist of the chair, the secretary and two to four other members.

4. The right to nominate candidates to precinct election commissions shall be granted to the nominating subjects specified in Part two of Article 140 of this Code.

The second paragraph was repealed.

5. The precinct election commission of a regular or special election precinct (except the cases provided for by Part twelve of this Article) must include one representative of each nominating subject specified in clause 1 of Part two of Article 140 of this Code that has made the required submission. No more than one representative of each nominating subject specified in clause 2 of Part two of Article 140 shall be included in the precinct election commission on the basis of the results of drawing lots, to be conducted by the district election commission no later than on the third day following the day of expiry of the term for filing the submissions specified in Part six of this Article, in accordance with the procedure established by the Central Election Commission. Persons nominated to a precinct election commission may be rejected only on the grounds of their noncompliance with the requirements of Article 34 of this Code, or by a decision of the district election commission when the filing of a submission failed to comply with the requirements of Parts six and seven of this Article, or as a result of the application of the mechanism of drawing lots specified by this Part. The decision to reject the candidates based on the results of the drawing of lots shall not be made.

6. No later than seventeen days prior to the day of voting, a nominating subject wishing to nominate candidates to precinct election commissions shall submit to the respective district election commission, in a format approved by the Central Election Commission, the paper and electronic forms of the list of persons nominated by that subject (no more than one candidate to one election commission) to the respective precinct election commissions. The submission shall indicate the persons suggested by the nominating subject for the positions of the chair, deputy chair, and secretary of the election commission. The submission from a party shall be signed by the chair of the party (or a person acting in his or her capacity) and affixed with the seal of that party.

The submission from the party shall be filed by a person authorized on the basis of a power of attorney issued by the party or by an authorized person of the party in a nationwide or territorial district.

Submissions of nominees to the precinct election commissions may be filed by means of electronic services in accordance with the procedure established by the Central Election Commission.

7. A submission of nominees for precinct election commissions shall contain the information listed in Part five of Article 140 of this Code.

The submission shall be appended with copies of each of the nominees' passport of a citizen of Ukraine (copies of the first and second pages of the passport of a citizen of Ukraine in the form of a passport book or copies of the front and reverse side of a passport of a citizen of Ukraine in the form of a card), or copies of the first and second pages of a temporary certificate of a citizen of Ukraine (for persons who were recently granted a citizenship of Ukraine).

Statements of the persons nominated to a district election commission, expressing their consent to participate in the commission's work on behalf of the respective nominating subject, and consent to perform the respective official responsibilities of the chair, deputy chair, or secretary of the commission, and expressing non-consent to participate in the work of the election commission on behalf of other nominating subjects in the respective elections shall be submitted to the respective political parties – nominating subjects before the submission to the district election commission of the nominees to the district election commissions.

If the district election commission finds a simultaneous nomination of one candidate to the precinct election commission from different nominating subjects, the Commission shall address the respective nominating subjects, and the candidate nominated to the precinct election commission, requesting to clarify information and submit a statement of consent to participate in the work of the precinct election commission on behalf of the respective nominating subject. In case a person's consent to participate in the work of the precinct election commission from the respective nominating subject is not confirmed, the district election commission shall reject the candidacy of such person.

8. If the submission of nominees to a precinct election commission fails to be filed within the time period prescribed by Part six of this Article, or if the number of persons nominated to the precinct election commission is less than the minimum number established by Parts two and three of this Article, the district election commission shall be obliged to form, within the time period specified by Part one of this Article, a precinct election commission upon a proposal by the chair of the district election commission, the number of its members not exceeding the average of the numbers established by Parts two or three of this Article, necessarily having regard to the nominees proposed by the respective nominating subjects specified in Part four of this Article. The members of the district election commission shall be entitled to submit proposals for such nominees to the chair of the district election commission.

If necessary, in order to ensure the proper preparation and conduct of the election by precinct election commissions, including that on the day of voting, the district election commission may, at any time prior to the day of voting, increase the number of members of the precinct election commission to its maximum established by Parts two and three of this Article, upon a proposal of the chair of the respective district election commission on the basis of proposals of the members of this election commission.

9. Technical errors or inaccuracies contained in a submission shall not constitute a reason for the rejection of nominees.

10. When technical errors or inaccuracies are found with respect to last name, first name and patronymic name of the person, date of his or her birth - the resolution establishing the precinct election commission shall contain information on the basis of copies of passport documents. Each subject that nominates candidates to precinct election shall have the right to a proportional share of each category of managerial positions in precinct election commissions, separately for small, medium-sized and large election precincts within the territorial district, which depends on the number of nominees from the respective nominating subject included in precinct election commissions. The share of managerial positions for each subject nominating candidates to each type of election commissions within the territorial district shall be determined on the basis of the proportion of a number of nominees included from this nominating subject in election commissions of each type of election precincts, in relation to the total number of members included in the election commissions of the respective type of election precincts. A person appointed to a precinct election commission upon proposal of the chair of the district election commission cannot be appointed to a managerial position in that election commission, unless no submissions, or less than the required number of submissions, from subjects nominating candidates to the commission have been submitted. Managerial positions shall be distributed between the nominating subjects based on the shares determined in accordance with this Part of this Article according to procedures established by the Central Election Commission.

The provisions of this Part concerning the right to a proportional share of each category of managerial positions shall apply only with regard to the initial formation of precinct election

commissions. In case a precinct election commission is formed as a result of early termination of the powers of its previous composition, the provisions of this Part shall not apply.

In case of early termination of powers of the chair, deputy chair, secretary of the precinct election commission and failure by the nominating subject from which the person was included in the precinct election commission to submit other candidates for replacement no later than on the next day after the day of receipt of the notice on the grounds for termination of their powers, but not later than on the last day before the day of voting, another member of this commission shall be appointed to the respective position of the chair, deputy chair, and secretary of the precinct election commission without respecting the right of the nominating subject to a proportional share of each category of managerial positions.

11. The chair, deputy chair, and secretary of a precinct election commission shall represent different political parties, except for a case specified in Part ten of this Article.

12. A precinct election commission of a special election precinct established on a ship which on the day of voting will be sailing under the National Flag of Ukraine, or at Ukraine's polar station, shall be established by the district election commission according to the place of registration of such a ship or Ukraine's polar station upon a submission, respectively, of the ship's captain or Ukraine's polar station's chair, which can be sent via technical means of communication within the time period prescribed by Part six of this Article.

13. In the event of formation of a special election precinct in an exceptional case, in accordance with Part five of Article 30 of this Code, a precinct election commission shall be established by the Central Election Commission simultaneously with the creation of an election precinct upon a submission of the district election commission or the Ministry of Defense of Ukraine.

14. If a district election commission makes a submission to the Central Election Commission seeking to establish a special election precinct in an exceptional case, it shall notify all subjects eligible to nominate members to precinct election commissions and invite them to file submissions concerning nominations to the precinct election commission under the procedure established by this Article and within the terms prescribed by the district election commission, but no later than five days following the day of such notification.

15. A decision establishing a precinct election commission shall be published in the manner prescribed by the respective election commission or the Central Election Commission no later than on the fifth day following the day when such a decision was adopted. A decision establishing the precinct election commission of a special election precinct established in an exceptional case, or a decision changing the composition of a precinct election commission shall be published or made public pursuant to the procedure and within the terms prescribed by this Part, but no later than on the last day prior to the day of voting.

**Article 142.** Procedure for Establishing the Precinct Election Commission of an Out-of-Country Election Precinct

1. The precinct election commission of an out-of-country election precinct shall be established by the Central Election Commission no later than fifteen days prior to the day of voting and shall consist of the chair, deputy chair, secretary, and other members of the commission. The number of members of a precinct election commission of an out-of-country election precinct shall be determined in accordance with Parts two and three of Article 141 of this Code.

2. The precinct election commission of an out-of-country election precinct shall be made up of voters residing or staying, during the period of preparation and conduct of election, in the territory of the respective foreign state.

3. The right to nominate candidates to the precinct election commissions of out-of-country election precincts, except for subjects specified in Part two of Article 140 of this Code, shall also be granted to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine.

4. No later than seventeen days prior to the day of voting, a subject eligible to nominate precinct election commission members in an out-of-country election precinct shall submit to the Central Election Commission, in a form approved by the Central Election Commission, the paper and electronic forms

of the list of persons nominated by that subject (no more than one candidate to one commission) to be appointed to the respective precinct election commissions. Such a submission shall indicate the persons nominated to the positions of the chair, deputy chair, and secretary of the commission. The submission shall be signed by the chair of the nominating subject (or a person acting in his or her capacity) and affixed with the seal of the respective nominating subject.

5. In the submission, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine shall include the employees of foreign diplomatic institutions of Ukraine (in compliance with the requirements of Article 34 of this Code), members of military units (commands) deployed abroad, or other citizens of Ukraine entitled to vote who reside or stay during the period of preparation and conduct of the election in the territory of the respective foreign state.

6. The submission of nominees to precinct election commissions shall contain the data required by Part five of Article 140 of this Code. The submission shall be appended with photocopies of each of the nominees' passport of a citizen of Ukraine for foreign travel (diplomatic or service passport) containing the information on the last name, first name and patronymic name, the date, month and year of birth of such persons (such a person), or photocopies of a passport of a citizen of Ukraine (photocopies of the first and second pages of the passport of a citizen of Ukraine in the form of a passport book or photocopies of the front and reverse side of a passport of a citizen of Ukraine in the form of a card) in the states, which allow entry of citizens of Ukraine based on a passport of a citizen of Ukraine.

7. Repealed.

8. Candidates proposed by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine shall be appointed to the precinct election commission of an out-of-country election precinct in case insufficient number of candidates was submitted by the nominating subjects specified in Part two of Article 140 of this Code.

9. Nominees may be rejected only on the grounds of their noncompliance with the requirements specified in Parts two and six of this Article, as well as in Article 34 of this Code, or application of the mechanism of drawing of lots specified by Part five of Article 141 of this Code.

10. Repealed.

11. Each subject that nominates candidates to precinct election shall have the right to a proportional share of each category of managerial positions in precinct election commissions, separately for small, medium-sized and large out-of-country election precincts, which depends on the number of nominees from the respective nominating subject included in precinct election commissions. The share of managerial positions for each subject nominating candidates to each type of out-of-country election commissions shall be determined on the basis of the proportion of a number of nominees included from this nominating subject in election commissions of each type of election precincts, in relation to the total number of members included in the election commissions of the respective type of election precincts. A person appointed to a precinct election commission upon proposal of the chair of the district election commission cannot be appointed to a managerial position in that election commission, unless no submissions, or less than the required number of submissions, for appointment of respective nominees to the positions of the chair, deputy chair, and secretary of the respective election commission have been submitted. Managerial positions shall be distributed between the nominating subjects based on the shares determined in accordance with this Part of this Article according to procedures established by the Central Election Commission.

12. A person appointed to a precinct election commission upon submission of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine can be appointed to a managerial position in the election commission only if no candidates for such a position have been nominated by other nominating subjects.

13. Decisions on the establishment and composition of precinct election commissions of out-of-country election precincts, adopted in accordance with the requirements of this Code, shall be made public on the official website of the Central Election Commission on the day following the day on which that decision was adopted. Information on the location (address of the premises) and working hours of the precinct election commissions established at foreign diplomatic institutions of Ukraine and



in military units (commands) deployed abroad shall be published by the respective foreign diplomatic institutions of Ukraine in accordance with the local conditions of the country in question.

**Article 143. Powers of the Central Election Commission with Regard to Preparation and Conduct of Elections of Members of Parliament of Ukraine**

1. The powers of the Central Election Commission related to preparation and conduct of the election of MPs shall be determined by this Code, the Law of Ukraine “On the Central Election Commission”, and other Laws of Ukraine.

2. In addition to the powers provided for by the Law of Ukraine “On the Central Election Commission”, the Central Election Commission shall:

- 1) convene, if necessary, on its own initiative, a meeting of a lower level election commission;
- 2) control the use by election commissions (regional and territorial representations of the Central Election Commission) of resources of the State Budget by engaging staff members of respective state executive bodies for auditing thereof;
- 3) provide for the production and placement on the national television and radio channels of information programs for voters with an explanation of the principles and procedure of holding elections, their role in the society and in the state, voting procedures, rights and responsibilities of voters, and tools for monitoring compliance with the legislation on the election of MPs of Ukraine;
- 4) establish the standards and the list of equipment and inventory for the premises of the election commission and the voting premises, as well as the types of services or works that can be provided to election commissions;
- 5) establish the forms of election documents, approve samples of seals and signboards of election commissions, specify the procedure for the storage and submission of election documents to the respective state archival institutions;
- 6) suspend the flow of funds in the accounts of the election commissions (regional and territorial representations of the Central Election Commission) opened in territorial bodies of the central executive body, which implements the state policy in the area of treasury management of the budget funds, state budget accounting, execution of budgets within time periods established by this Code;
- 7) register MP candidates;
- 8) register a party’s representative to the Central Election Commission, as well as a party’s authorized persons, agents of an MP candidate;
- 9) directly and through its regional and territorial representations exercise oversight over the receipt and use of resources of the electoral funds of parties, and MP candidates in accordance with the procedure established by this Code;
- 10) make decisions granting a nongovernmental organization the right to have official observers during the election of MPs; register official observers from parties and nongovernmental organization in an out-of-country election district, and official observers from nongovernmental organizations in a nationwide district;
- 11) accredit official observers from foreign states and international organizations;
- 12) approve the form, color, and text of the ballot papers; ensure centralized printing of the required number of ballot papers, stocktaking thereof, and their distribution to the district election commissions;
- 13) approve the text and form of information posters and information brochures of parties that are electoral subjects for each electoral region, as well as posters clarifying the voting procedures and the liability for violating the legislation on the election of MPs; provide for the production of information posters, information brochures of parties that are electoral subjects;

- 14) deliver to a representative of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine ballot papers, forms of other documents, seals and stamps for the delivery thereof to the precinct election commissions of out-of-country election precincts;
- 15) consider applications and complaints in accordance with procedures provided for by this Code and the Law of Ukraine “On Central Election Commission”;
- 16) establish the voting results and draws up a protocol on the voting results within the out-of-country election district;
- 17) exercise powers of the respective district election commission, if it does not receive, within the time frame specified by this Code, the protocol from the district election commission on the voting results in the territorial district, as well as in the case of inaction of the district election commission;
- 18) within three months from the date of official promulgation of the results of elections, send to the Accounting Chamber a report on the use of resources from the State Budget of Ukraine allocated for preparation and conduct of elections of MPs;
- 19) exercise other powers provided for by this Code or by other Laws of Ukraine.

**Article 144.** Powers of the District Election Commission with Regard to Preparation and Conduct of Elections of MPs of Ukraine

1. A district election commission shall:
  - 1) ensure preparation and conduct of the election of MPs in the territorial district;
  - 2) exercise control, within the respective territorial district, of compliance with and uniform application of the legislation on the election of MPs;
  - 3) establish the special election precincts in the cases provided for by this Code;
  - 4) establish the precinct election commissions of a regular and special election precincts, in accordance with this Code;
  - 5) manage the activity of the precinct election commissions;
  - 6) convene, if necessary, on its own initiative, a meeting of a precinct election commission;
  - 7) control providing voter lists for public review;
  - 8) control activities of local executive bodies and local self-government bodies with regard to provision of voting premises, transport, means of communication, and equipment; within the scope of its powers, consider and decide on other issues pertaining to the material and technical support of the election of MPs within the territorial district;
  - 9) provide for delivery to the precinct election commissions, after they have been formed, of the seals of those commissions;
  - 10) provide for delivery to the precinct election commissions, after they have been formed, of ballot papers produced in the established form, as well as information posters, information brochures of parties that are electoral subjects, information posters clarifying the voting procedures and the liability for violations of the legislation on the election of MPs of Ukraine, as well as production and delivery of blanks of other documents in accordance with this Code;
  - 11) provide for production of information posters clarifying the voting procedure and the liability for violations of the legislation on the election of MPs; seals of precinct election commissions, “Withdrawn” stamps, and shall deliver them to precinct election commissions, as well as provide for the production of other election documents;
  - 12) provide the precinct election commissions with legal, organizational, methodological, and technical support, organize training for the precinct election commission members on the issues relating to preparation for the election process;

- 13) take into account information from precinct election commissions, local executive bodies and the bodies of local self-government pertaining to preparation and conduct of election;
- 14) register official observers of a party, and a nongovernmental organization;
- 15) consider, within the scope of their powers, submissions, applications and complaints concerning preparation for and conduct of elections within the territorial district, as well as submissions, applications and complaints concerning decisions, actions or inaction of the precinct election commissions and/or their members, and take decisions on these matters;
- 16) tabulate voting results in the territorial district, compile the tabulation protocols, and submit thereof to the Central Election Commission
- 17) invalidate the results of voting at an election precinct in cases provided for by this Code;
- 18) ensure delivery of election and other documents for storage to the respective archival institution in accordance with the procedure approved by the Central Election Commission, with approval of the central executive body which implements state policy in archival matters;
- 19) summarize the information with regard to applications and complaints submitted to the district and precinct election commission relating to the process of election of MPs, as well as the results of their consideration; post this information on the stand for information materials of the commission for public review and submit it to the Central Election Commission pursuant to the procedure established thereby for its placement on its official website;
- 20) exercise other powers provided for by this Code and other Laws of Ukraine.

The powers of the district election commission specified in clauses 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 18 of this Part may be exercised by the territorial representations of the Central Election Commission in case of their formation.

2. A district election commission shall begin to exercise its powers as soon as no less than two-thirds of its minimum composition, specified in Part one of Article 140 of this Code, are sworn-in at its first meeting, which shall be held no later than on the second day following the day, on which the decision establishing the district election commission was adopted.

3. The powers of a district election commission shall be terminated within fifteen days following the day of official promulgation by the Central Election Commission of the results of the election of MPs in accordance with the procedure established by this Code.

4. A district election commission shall cease to have legal personality in accordance with the procedure and within the terms prescribed by Article 35 of this Code.

**Article 145.** Powers of the Precinct Election Commission with Regard to Preparation and Conduct of Elections of MPs of Ukraine

1. A precinct election commission shall:

- 1) control strict compliance with and uniform application of the legislation on the election of MPs during the voting and vote counting at the election precinct;
- 2) receive a voter list from the State Voter Register maintenance body or the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine, or compile a voter list in the cases specified by this Code, present the voter list for public review, and amend it in the cases specified by this Code;
- 3) ensure the possibility of voter access to the regional electoral lists, to election programs of parties that are electoral subjects, the information on MP candidates included in the aforementioned voter lists, which is presented on the information posters and information brochures of the parties that are electoral subjects, as well as the decisions adopted by the Central Election Commission, the respective district election commission, and its own decisions and notifications;

- 4) deliver or send to each voter a personal invitation indicating the date of voting, the address of the voting premises, and the time of beginning and close of voting, in accordance with the procedure and within the time framework prescribed by this Code;
- 5) ensure stock-taking of the ballot papers received by the commission;
- 6) ensure preparation of the voting premises and ballot boxes;
- 7) organize the voting at the election precinct;
- 8) conduct the counting of votes at the election precinct, compile the vote counting protocols for the election precinct, and deliver them and other election documents to the respective district election commission in accordance with the procedures prescribed by this Code;
- 9) invalidate the results of voting at the election precinct on the grounds specified by this Code;
- 10) consider addresses concerning preparation and organization of voting at the election precinct and, within the scope of its powers, adopt decisions thereon;
- 11) summarize the information on addresses filed with the precinct election commission relating to the process of elections of MPs, as well as the results of consideration thereof, and post this information on the stand for official materials of the election commission for public review and submit it to the district election commission to summarize and transfer to the Central Election Commission for publication on its official website;
- 12) exercise other powers provided for by this Code and other Laws of Ukraine.

2. A precinct election commission shall begin to exercise its powers as soon as no less than two-thirds of its minimum composition, specified in Parts two and three of Article 141 of this Code, have been sworn-in at its meeting, which shall be held no later than on the second day following the day when the decision on its establishment was adopted.

3. The powers of a precinct election commission shall be terminated five days following the day of official promulgation by the Central Election Commission of the results of the election of MPs

4. Activities of a precinct election commission shall be terminated simultaneously with the termination of its powers.

#### Article 146. Early Termination of Powers of an Election Commission or a Member of an Election Commission

1. The powers of all members of a district or precinct election commission may be terminated before the expiry of their ordinary term by a decision of the higher-level commission that established it, by a decision of the commission itself, or by a decision of a court in cases of systematic violation or one-time gross violation by the commission of the Constitution of Ukraine, this Code, or other Laws of Ukraine, failure to comply with the decision of the higher-level election commission.

2. Early termination of powers of all members of an election commission shall not be considered to be termination of the commission.

3. The powers of an individual member of a district or precinct election commission shall be terminated at the same time with the termination of powers of the respective election commission.

The powers of an individual member of a district or precinct election commission may be terminated before the expiry of its ordinary term by a decision of the higher-level commission on the grounds of:

- 1) a statement of resignation of the member of the commission. Such a statement shall be submitted to the subject nominating the member to the election commission to be handed over to the respective election commission, or for filing of a submission seeking replacement of a member of the election commission;

- 2) the filing of a submission seeking replacement of a member of the election commission by the subject nominating the member to the election commission;
- 3) termination of his or her Ukrainian citizenship;
- 4) his or her departure for the period up to the day of voting inclusive abroad or from the country in the territory of which an out-of-country election precinct was established, which results in impossibility to perform the duties of member of a commission;
- 5) his or her registration as a candidate for President of Ukraine, as well as a deputy candidate to the Verkhovna Rada of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, a deputy candidate to a local council or a candidate for village, settlement or city mayor, or a candidate for village or settlement starosta, if the aforementioned election is conducted simultaneously with the election MPs of Ukraine;
- 6) his or her registration as a party's representative to the Central Election Commission, an official observer, a party's authorized person, a agent of a deputy candidate to the Verkhovna Rada of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, as well as a agent of a deputy candidate to a local council or a candidate for village, settlement or city mayor and a, a representative or an authorized person of a local party organization, an authorized person of a referendum subject in the all-Ukrainian or local referendum, a representative of the initiative group to the Central Election Commission, if the election process of such election or referendum is conducted simultaneously with the election of MPs;
- 7) his or her appointment to another election commission responsible for preparation and conduct of the election of MPs or the election of deputies of the Verkhovna Rada of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, deputies of local councils, or village, settlement or city mayors, if the election process of such election is conducted simultaneously with the election of MPs;
- 8) his or her refusal to take the oath of a commission member;
- 9) violation of the oath of a commission member in the form of a systematic failure to perform his or her duties ascertained by at least two decisions thereon adopted by the election commission of which he or she is a member;
- 10) systematic violation or one-time gross violation by him or her of the Laws of Ukraine on elections ascertained by a court decision or by a decision of the higher-level election commission; his or her failure to attend two or more meetings of an election commission with no good reason or failure to arrive at the meeting of an election commission on the day of voting;
- 11) if a decision of a court comes into legal force, whereby he or she was found guilty of committing a grave or especially grave crime or a crime against citizens' electoral rights, or a corruption crime;
- 12) discovery of the fact that shall deprive a person of the right to be a member of an election commission;
- 13) his or her being declared incapacitated or a missing person;
- 14) his or her death, or his or her being declared dead.

The submission for replacement of a member of the election commission shall be filed to the respective election commission, while signed by the persons specified in Part four of Article 140, Part six of Article 141, Part four of Article 142 of this Code, and affixed with the seal of nominating subject, on paper and in electronically, in the form approved by the Central Election Commission. The documents provided for in Part six of Article 140, Part seven of Article 141, Part six of Article 142 of this Code, respectively, shall be attached to the submission.

The aforementioned submission shall be considered within five days, but not later than on the last day before the voting day.

The submission to replace a member of the election commission may be filed by means of electronic services in accordance with the procedure established by the Central Election Commission.

4. Should any of the grounds provided for by clauses 1 - 7, 9 - 14 of Part three of this Article appear, the powers of the member of an election commission shall be terminated from the moment the election commission that established it adopts a decision on early termination of his or her powers, and as regards the grounds provided in clause 8 of Part three of this Article, from the moment of a person's refusal to sign the text of an oath at the election commission's meeting, or in the event of his or her failure to attend two first meetings of an election commission, which he or she has been included therein and which he or she has been duly notified of.

The Central Election Commission or the respective district election commission shall be immediately notified of the early termination of powers of a commission member due to the refusal to take the oath of powers, in order to decide on changes in the composition of the respective election commission.

A person who has filed an application seeking early termination of his or her powers shall continue to act as the election commission's chair, deputy chair, secretary, or member up to the point when the commission that established the respective commission takes a decision on early termination of his or her powers.

5. An election commission that adopts a decision on early termination of the powers of all the members of an election commission shall no later than on the following day notify the subject that nominated the person(s) to the election commission of the termination.

Such subjects may, no later than the next day after the receipt of this notification, file a submission with new nominees to the respective election commission.

If the submission of nominees to an election commission fails to be filed within the time period established by this Part, or if the number of persons nominated to an election commission is less than the minimum number established by Part one of Article 140, Parts two and three of Article 141 of this Code, the respective election commission shall form this election commission, upon a proposal by the chair of the election commission, according to the proposals from the members of this commission, the number of its members being in compliance with the minimum number (being no less than the minimum required), necessarily having regard to the nominees proposed by the nominating subjects, except for those that shall be rejected on the grounds established by this Code.

In the case of early termination of powers of a member of the election commission on the grounds provided for by clauses 8,10 of Part three of this Article, or on the ground of early termination of powers of all members of the election commission, his or her candidacy may not be re-included in the election commission and shall be rejected.

A decision on early termination of powers of a member of an election commission due to his or her replacement shall be made simultaneously with a decision on inclusion in the respective election commission of a replacement member representing the same nominating subject, simultaneously appointing the replacement member to the respective position in the election commission held by the commission member, whose powers were terminated early.

In the event of early termination of powers of all the members of an election commission, or an individual member thereof, the respective election commission shall, no later than the third day of the day of the termination of powers of all the members of an election commission (an individual member thereof), but no later than the last day prior to the day of voting, shall approve a new composition of the election commission, or shall make a decision to include a replacement member to the respective election commission (in case if the respective submission has been filed, in accordance with the procedure specified by this Part) in accordance with the procedure established by this Code.

In the case of early termination of powers of a member of a precinct election commission at an out-of-country election precinct, should no submission be received, as provided for in Part two of Article 140 of this Code, another person shall be included in the election commission only if the number of members of the precinct election commission became less than the minimum number required.

6. Should a decision on early termination of powers of a member of an election commission be adopted on the day preceding the day of voting, such decision shall be adopted simultaneously with the decision appointing a replacement member of the respective election commission nominated by the same subject.

7. If the chair, deputy chair, or the secretary of an election commission repeatedly fails to perform his or her duties, the respective district election commission or precinct election commission shall be entitled to make a submission to the election commission that established it with a motivated request that he or she be replaced, provided that such submission is supported by at least two-thirds of all the members of the commission. The aforementioned submission shall be signed by the chair, deputy chair, or the person presiding at the respective meeting of the election commission and shall be affixed with the seal of this commission. The submission shall be appended with at least two decisions of the election commission on the failure of the chair, deputy chair or the secretary of the election commission to perform their duties, as well as the excerpt from the minutes of the decision of the election commission which considered an issue about filing such a submission.

The chair, deputy chair, or the secretary of election commission may personally submit a statement on resignation (without terminating the membership in the commission) to the election commission that established it.

The aforementioned submission or statement shall be a subject to mandatory consideration within three days, but no later than the last day prior to the day of voting. A decision replacing the chair, deputy chair, or the secretary of an election commission shall not necessarily result in termination of his or her powers as a member of the election commission.

8. In case of receipt of a submission to replace a member of the election commission who is acting chair, deputy chair, secretary of an election commission, , a decision to appoint to the respective election commission of a replacement member from the same nominating subject shall be made, simultaneously appointing this member to the respective position in the election commission held by the commission member, whose powers were terminated early.

In case of early termination of powers of the chair, deputy chair, secretary of the election commission on other grounds provided for in Part three of this Article, the election commission shall appoint another commission member to the respective position.

9. If there are grounds for early termination of the powers of an entire election commission, or an individual member of the election commission due to the signs that members (or an individual member) of this commission committed a crime or administrative offense, the respective election commission, while making a decision on termination, shall notify the law enforcement bodies to verify the grounds and respond according to the law.

## **CHAPTER XXVI. FINANCIAL, MATERIAL, AND TECHNICAL SUPPORT FOR PREPARATION AND CONDUCT OF ELECTIONS OF MPs OF UKRAINE**

### **Article 147. Financing the Election of MPs of Ukraine**

1. Expenditures relating to preparation and conduct of the election of MPs shall be covered solely at the expense of the funds of the State Budget allocated for preparation and conduct on the election of MPs, as well as at the expense of resources of electoral funds of parties that are electoral subjects and resources of electoral funds of MP candidates included in the electoral lists of parties that are electoral subjects (hereinafter, party, an MP candidate).

2. To finance its election campaign, including campaigning activities, a party shall be obliged to establish an electoral fund, which shall be formed in accordance with procedures provided for by this Code.

To finance his or her election campaign, including campaigning activities, an MP candidate may establish his or her electoral fund, which shall be formed in accordance with procedures provided for by this Code.

3. The financing of election campaigning activities of parties or MP candidates from sources other than those specified in Part two of this Article, with or without the approval of parties or MP candidates, shall be prohibited.

**Article 148.** Financial Support for preparation and Conduct of Elections of MPs of Ukraine at the Expense of State Budget of Ukraine

1. Financing preparation and conduct of the election of MPs at the expense of the funds of the State Budget of Ukraine shall be provided by the Central Election Commission which shall be the principal administrator of such funds.

2. The amount of budget funds for preparation and conduct of the election of MP shall be set as a separate item line in the Law of Ukraine “On the State Budget of Ukraine” for the respective year based upon submission of the Central Election Commission. Expenditures relating to preparation and conduct of extraordinary election of MPs may be covered from the reserve budget fund in accordance with the procedure approved by the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine.

3. Expenditures relating to preparation and conduct of the election of MPs shall be covered by the Central Election Commission and district election commissions (regional or territorial representations of the Central Election Commission) in accordance with the separate budget estimates approved by the Central Election Commission within the budget allocations established by the law on the State Budget of Ukraine. Financing the election commissions of out-of-country election precincts shall be provided by the Central Election Commission through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Financing the production of election documents by the State Voter Register maintenance bodies shall be provided at the expense of funds of the State Budget of Ukraine allocated for preparation and conduct of the election of MPs, in accordance with the procedure specified by the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine upon submission of the Central Election Commission.

4. The budget funds for preparation and conduct of elections of MPs, budget allocation for which is established by the Law “On State Budget of Ukraine” shall be transferred by the central executive body for implementation of state policy in the area of treasury management of the budget funds to the Central Election Commission in accordance with the monthly schedule of allocations of the general fund of the State Budget of Ukraine, formed based on the proposals by the Central Election Commission, according to the budget program providing for the financial support for preparation and conduct of the election.

5. The Central Election Commission shall approve the average expenditure amounts of a district election commission (regional or territorial representation of the Central Election Commission), as well as the average expenditure amounts to address the needs of the precinct election commissions which shall cover, in particular, expenditures relating to remuneration for the work of the election commission members and other persons engaged in activities of the election commission; expenditures relating to the needs connected with the exercise of powers of election commissions (payment for transport services, communication services, reimbursement of payment for utilities services, etc.)

6. Within ten days from the day of its establishment, each district election commission (regional or territorial representation of the Central Election Commission) shall, based on the average expenditure amounts approved in accordance with Part five of this Article, prepare a unified budget of expenditures for preparation and conduct of the election which shall include the expenditures of the district election commission (regional or territorial representation of the Central Election Commission), as well as the expenditures to cover the needs of the precinct election commissions. The unified budget of expenses of a district election commission (regional or territorial representation of the Central Election Commission) shall be subject to approval by the Central Election Commission.

7. The election commissions shall be financed in accordance with the procedure approved by the Central Election Commission jointly with specially authorized central executive body for development and implementation of the financial policy of the state.

8. No later than seven days after the day of the official promulgation of the results of the election of MPs, the district election commission (regional or territorial representation of the Central Election



Commission) shall submit to the Central Election Commission extracted statement from the registration account and terminate the movement of any funds on this account. Within ten days of the day of the official promulgation of the results of the election of MPs, Central Election Commission shall withdraw the unused funds allocated from the State Budget of Ukraine for preparation and conduct of the election of MPs by way of by submitting an adjustment to the distribution of available allocations to the central executive body for the implementation of state policy in the area of treasury management of the budget funds.

9. Within fifteen days of the day of the official promulgation of the election results, each district election commission (regional or territorial representation of the Central Election Commission) shall draw up and submit to the Central Election Commission, in accordance with procedures established by the Central Election Commission, a financial report, of a form approved by the Central Election Commission jointly with the specially authorized central executive body for the implementation of state policy in the area of treasury management of the budget funds, on the receipt and use of the funds of the State Budget of Ukraine for preparation and conduct of elections.

10. The control over appropriate and purposeful use of the funds allocated from the State Budget of Ukraine for preparation and conduct of the election of MPs shall be exercised by the Central Election Commission, regional or territorial representation of the Central Election Commission, the bodies of public financial control and the State Treasury Service of Ukraine, in accordance with the procedure approved by the Central Election Commission jointly with the specially authorized central executive body for development and implementation of the state policy in the area of public financial control, and the State Treasury Service of Ukraine.

**Article 149. Remuneration of Members of Election Commissions and Persons Engaged in Activities of Election Commissions**

1. According to a decision of the election commission, subject to approval by the higher-level election commission, the chair, the deputy chair, the secretary or other members of the district or precinct election commission (no more than three persons in total) may exercise their powers during the entire duration of term of powers of the election commission, or a part thereof, on a paid basis, pursuant to a civil law agreement between them and the election commission (regional or territorial representation of the Central Election Commission). The said persons shall be released from performance of employment-related or official duties at the main place of employment for the duration of the said time period, with preservation of the general and special length of service.

2. Remuneration for the work of the members of election commissions shall be paid within the limits and in accordance with the procedure approved by the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine upon submission of the Central Election Commission, at the expense of the funds of the State Budget of Ukraine allocated for preparation and conduct of the election of MPs.

3. The remuneration to a member of the election commission who has been released from performance of the working or official duties at his or her principal place of employment shall not be lower than his or her average salary at the principal place of employment. The remuneration to a member of an election commission who is a pensioner or temporarily unemployed shall not be lower than the minimum salary as of the day of calculation of the remuneration.

4. Within the scope of the general savings of the remuneration fund allocated by the budget of expenditures of the respective election commission for preparation and conduct of the election of MPs, members of the election commissions can be paid a one-time remuneration in accordance with procedures approved by the Central Election Commission.

5. Remuneration for the work of the members of election commissions (including pensioners and temporarily unemployed persons) on the day of voting and on the days of tabulation of the voting results shall be paid within the limits and in accordance with procedures approved by the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine upon submission of the Central Election Commission.

6. Remuneration for the work of the persons specified in Part ten of Article 33 of this Code shall be paid at the expense of the funds of the State Budget of Ukraine allocated for preparation and conduct of the election of MPs, within the limits and in accordance with procedures established by the Cabinet

of Ministers of Ukraine. The remuneration amount for such persons shall not be lower than the minimum salary as of the day of calculation of the remuneration.

7. Work related to preparation and conduct of the election of MPs performed by persons registered as unemployed under the law, as members of district or precinct election commissions or as professionals, experts or technical workers specified in Part ten of Article 33 of this Code, shall not constitute a reason for cancellation of registration of such persons at the State Employment Service as those seeking employment, or for termination of the payment of social unemployment benefits or other types of social benefits. The payment of remuneration to members of an election commission, as well as to persons specified in Part ten of Article 33 of this Code, who are pensioners, may not be a reason for restriction of the amount of pension received by them.

8. The payment of remuneration to members of an election commission, as well as to persons engaged in activities of the commission, in particular on the day of voting and on the days of tabulation of the voting and election results, may not be a reason for cancellation, restriction, or decrease in any types of social payments, pensions, or subsidies for reimbursement of expenses related to housing and utility payment, etc.

## **Chapter XXVII. ELECTORAL FUNDS OF PARTIES AND MP CANDIDATES**

**Article 150.** Basic Principles of Formation and Functioning of Electoral Funds of Parties and Electoral Funds of MP Candidates. Control over Electoral Funds

1. The electoral fund of a party shall have one accumulation account to which the funds for financing the election campaign of the party shall be transferred, as well as current accounts from which the expenditures relating to election campaigning shall be covered. Resources shall be transferred to the current accounts of a party's electoral fund exclusively from the accumulation account of its electoral fund.

A party shall open an electoral fund account no later than on the tenth day following the day of registration by the Central Election Commission of candidates included in the party's electoral lists.

An MP candidate's electoral fund shall have one current account to which the funds for financing the election campaign of an MP candidate shall be transferred and from which the expenditures relating to election campaigning shall be covered.

An MP candidate shall be entitled to open a current account of his or her electoral fund in the case if he or she finances his or her election campaign independent from a party, in the electoral lists of which he or she is included.

The amount of resources in an MP candidate's electoral fund shall not exceed four thousand minimal salaries, established as of January 1 of the respective year.

2. A party shall open the accumulation account of its electoral fund at a banking institution of Ukraine located in the city of Kyiv, and no more than one current account at a banking institution within the electoral region. One current account of the party's electoral fund may serve several electoral regions.

An MP candidate shall open a current account of his or her electoral fund at a banking institution within the respective electoral region, depending on his or her inclusion in the regional electoral list of a party.

3. Accounts of electoral funds shall be opened in banking institutions in the national currency.

4. An accumulation account of a party's electoral fund and a current account of an MP candidate's electoral fund shall be opened on the basis of a copy of the decision of the Central Election Commission on registration of candidates included in the electoral lists of the respective party. A current account of a party's electoral fund shall be opened on the basis of a certificate from a banking institution certifying the opening of the accumulation account of the electoral fund.

5. The procedure for opening and closing the accounts of electoral funds shall be established by the National Bank of Ukraine in coordination with the Central Election Commission, no later than fifty-three days prior to the day of voting.

6. The funds in the current accounts of the electoral fund shall be spent only in a cashless form.

7. The banking institutions' services relating to the opening and closing of the accounts of the electoral fund, as well as to the functioning thereof, shall be delivered free of charge. A banking institution shall neither accrue nor pay any interests on the funds maintained in the accounts of the electoral fund.

8. No later than on the next business day following the day of opening of the account of a party's electoral fund, the banking institution shall notify the Central Election Commission and the National Agency for Corruption Prevention in writing of the opening of the respective account and its details.

No later than on the next business day following the day of opening of a current account of an MP candidate's electoral fund, the banking institution shall notify the respective regional or territorial office of the Central Election Commission and the National Agency for Corruption Prevention in writing of the opening of the respective account and its details.

9. The information on the opening of the accumulation account of a party's electoral fund and its respective details shall be published by the Central Election Commission on its official website, no later than on the fifth day following the day of receipt of the notification from a banking institution on opening the accumulation account of a party's electoral fund.

The information on the opening of the current account of an MP candidate's electoral fund and its respective details shall be entered by the respective regional or territorial office of the Central Election Commission in the information analysis system for its further publication on the official website of the Central Election Commission, no later than on the fifth day following the day of receipt of the notification from a banking institution on opening the current account of an MP candidate's electoral fund.

Further information on the details of the accumulation account of a party's electoral fund and current account of an MP candidate's electoral fund shall be published in mass media at the expense of the resources of the electoral fund.

10. The spending of the funds in current accounts of the electoral fund shall be terminated at 18:00 on the last Friday prior to the day of voting.

11. The accounts of the electoral funds shall be closed by the banking institutions on the fifteenth day of the day of the official promulgation by the Central Election Commission of the results of the election of MPs.

12. Seizure of the funds in the accounts of an electoral fund prior to the day of voting shall not be allowed.

13. Closing of the accounts or termination of transactions in the accounts of the electoral fund before the deadline specified in Part ten and eleven of this Article shall not be allowed.

14. Control over the electoral funds of parties shall be exercised by the Central Election Commission, the National Agency for Corruption Prevention and the banking institutions, in which accounts of the electoral funds of parties have been opened

Control over the electoral funds of MP candidates shall be exercised by the respective regional or territorial office of the Central Election Commission, the National Agency for Corruption Prevention Central Election Commission and the banking institutions, in which current accounts of electoral funds of candidates have been opened.

Control provided for by this Part shall be performed in accordance with the procedure established no later than fifty-three days prior to the day of voting by the Central Election Commission jointly with the National Bank of Ukraine, and approved with the National Agency for Corruption Prevention.

15. The banking institutions, in which accounts of electoral funds of parties were opened, shall, on a weekly (daily) basis or upon request, provide the information to the Central Election Commission and the National Agency for Corruption Prevention, on the amounts and sources of

contributions received in the accounts of the electoral funds, as well as with information on the flow of resources, and on the remaining resources.

The banking institutions, in which current accounts of electoral funds of MP candidates were opened, shall, on a weekly (daily) basis or upon request, provide the information to the respective regional or territorial office of the Central Election Commission and the National Agency for Corruption Prevention, on the amounts and sources of contributions received in the accounts of the electoral funds, as well as with information on the flow of resources, and on the remaining resources.

The said information shall be provided in accordance with the procedure to be established pursuant to Part fourteen of this Article.

**Article 151. Managers of Accounts of an Electoral Fund**

1. A party shall, from among its authorized persons in the nationwide election district specified in Part five of Article 165 of this Code, or candidates included in a party's nationwide electoral list, appoint no more than two managers of the accumulation account of the electoral fund who shall have the exclusive right to use the funds credited to the accumulation account. The managers of the accumulation account of a party's electoral fund shall be obliged to keep the records of the receipt and distribution of the resources that are credited to the accumulation account of the electoral fund, between the current accounts of a party's electoral fund.

The size of the electoral fund of the party, the candidates from which are registered in the nationwide district, may not exceed ninety thousand minimum salaries, as established on January 1 of the respective year.

2. A party shall, from among its authorized persons in the territorial election district within the respective electoral region, specified in Part five of Article 165 of this Code, or candidates included in a party's respective regional electoral list, appoint no more than one manager of the current account of the electoral fund in the respective election district, who shall have the exclusive right to use the funds in the current account of the electoral fund.

An MP candidate himself or herself or his or her authorized person may be a manager of the current account of an MP candidate's electoral fund.

The managers of the current accounts of the electoral funds shall ensure observance of financial discipline, as well as purposeful use of the resources of the electoral fund; they shall keep the records of the use of the funds of the respective current accounts of the electoral fund.

3. The banking institutions at which the accounts of the electoral fund have been opened shall, on a weekly (daily) basis or upon request of the manager of the respective accounts, provide the latter with information on the amounts and sources of donations transferred to the accounts of the electoral fund, as well as with information on the flow of resources and on the remaining resources, pursuant to the procedure established in accordance with Part fourteen of Article 150 of this Code.

**Article 152. Procedure for Formation of an Electoral Fund of a Party or an MP Candidate and Use of Its Resources**

1. The electoral fund of a party shall be formed from its own resources, resources of MP candidates included in a party's electoral lists, as well as voluntary donations from natural persons, which, according to the Law of Ukraine "On Political Parties in Ukraine" shall be entitled to make donations in support of parties.

An MP candidate's electoral fund shall be formed from his or her own resources, own resources of a party, in the electoral list of which he or she is included, as well as voluntary donations from natural persons, which, according to the Law of Ukraine "On Political Parties in Ukraine" shall be entitled to make donations in support of parties.

Voluntary contributions shall be made exclusively in monetary form.

The total amount of the candidate's own resources may not exceed the maximum amount of the voluntary donation made by a natural person in support of a party's in a given year, as established by the Law of Ukraine "On Political Parties in Ukraine".

The own resources of a party that nominated the list of MP candidates shall be limited only by the size of the electoral fund.

2. A voluntary donation to the electoral fund shall not exceed the amount of maximum donation in support of a party during one year, established by the Law of Ukraine "On Political Parties in Ukraine".

If a natural or a legal person exercises or may exercise a decisive influence on activities of one or more legal entities (in particular, if such a person is an ultimate beneficial owner (controller) of a legal entity), the donations of such natural or legal person or legal entities under their control shall be considered to be a donation from the same person and shall be limited by the amount of maximum donation in support of a party during one year, established by the Law of Ukraine "On Political Parties in Ukraine".

Restrictions, other than those established by this Article, including restrictions deriving from the financial and banking legislation, shall not be applied to the formation of the electoral funds.

3. It shall be prohibited for persons, which, in accordance with the Law of Ukraine "On Political Parties" shall not be entitled to make donations in support of parties, to make voluntary donations to the electoral funds.

4. Donations to the electoral fund may be made by natural or legal person exclusively in cashless form by way of transferring the respective amount to the account of the electoral fund.

If the voluntary donation is made by a natural person, the chosen method of banking transaction must provide the possibility of identification of this natural person (including if such banking operations are performed by a natural person using the Internet).

The document formed as a result of such a banking transaction must contain the following information: first name, last name, and (if any) patronymic name, citizen's address and place of residence, registration number of a taxpayer's account card or identification number in the State Register of Individual Taxpayers (for persons who on the ground of their religious beliefs refused to accept a registration number of a taxpayer's account card and notified the respective supervisory authority thereof, having obtained a respective record in his or her passport shall provide series (if any) and number of the passport of citizen of Ukraine, with a record on refusal to accept an identification number or a passport number with record on refusal to accept a registration number of a taxpayer's account card in electronic contactless carrier), date of birth, an amount (sum) of the donation, a purpose of the transaction.

5. A voluntary donation shall be transferred by a banking institution or a post office to the accumulation account of a party's electoral fund no later than on the next business day following the day of the receipt of the respective payment document. The overall term for cashless transfer of the contribution to the account of the electoral fund shall not exceed two banking days.

6. The manager of the accumulation account of a party's electoral fund, or the current account of an MP candidate's electoral fund may refuse to accept a voluntary donation to an electoral fund, submitting an application to that effect appended with the payment document to the banking institution in which the respective account of the electoral fund has been opened. Such voluntary donation shall be returned to the individual at the expense of his or her voluntary donation or, if such return is impossible, shall be transferred to the State Budget of Ukraine.

7. In case of receipt of a donation exceeding the amount established by Part two of this Article, the amount exceeding the established amount shall be returned by a banking institution, in which the account of the electoral fund has been opened, based on the respective application and a payment document, submitted by the manager of the respective account of the electoral fund, to

a person who made the donation, at the expense of his or her voluntary donation or, if such return is impossible, shall be transferred to the State Budget of Ukraine.

8. The manager of the respective account of the electoral fund shall be obliged to reject a donation from a natural person who under this Code has no right to make a voluntary donation, within three working days following the day when the manager becomes aware thereof. Based on the manager's application rejecting the donation for such a reason, the banking institution in which the respective account of the electoral fund has been opened shall transfer such voluntary donation to the State Budget of Ukraine.

9. The resources of a party's electoral fund or an MP candidate's electoral fund shall be used by a party or an MP candidate for financing their election campaigns, including financing campaigning activities. A banking institution in which the current account of a party's electoral fund has been opened, shall, no later than on the fifth day following the day of voting, transfer the funds unused by the party to the accumulation account of the respective electoral fund.

10. The unused resources of a party's electoral fund, based on a decision of the governing body of a party, which shall be made within ten days from the day of the official promulgation of the results of elections of MPs by the Central Election Commission, shall be returned from the accumulation account of a party's electoral fund to the current bank account of a party, no later than within five days from the date of receipt by a banking institution of the respective decision of a party. Should a party fail to make such a decision within the specified time period, the unused resources of a party's electoral fund shall be transferred by a banking institution to the State Budget, on the fifteenth day following the day of the official promulgation of the results of elections of MPs by the Central Election Commission.

The unused resources of an MP candidate's electoral fund, shall, no later than within three days following the official promulgation of the results of elections of MPs by the Central Election Commission, be transferred by a banking institution to the respective candidate:

- 1) in full, if the amount of resources unused by an MP candidate, does not exceed the amount of funds paid by him or her to his or her own electoral fund;
- 2) in the amount which equals the amount of resources contributed by him or her to his or her own electoral fund, if the amount of resources unused by an MP candidate exceeds the amount of resources contributed by him or her to his or her own electoral fund.

The resources remaining in the account, following the transfer of funds to an MP candidate, shall be transferred by a banking institution to the State Budget within the same period.

11. In the case of cancellation of the decision on the registration of an MP candidate (MP candidates) the remaining resources of a party's electoral fund or an MP candidate's electoral fund, shall, after the tenth day following the adoption of the respective decision, be indisputably transferred to the State Budget.

12. A donation received in the electoral fund after the day of voting shall be returned by a banking institution to the respective person at the expense of his or her voluntary donation or, if such return is impossible, shall be transferred to the State Budget of Ukraine.

**Article 153. Financial Reports on the Receipt and Use of Resources of Electoral Funds and Their Analysis**

1. Managers of the respective accounts of the electoral fund shall provide for reporting on the receipt and use of funds of a party's electoral fund, or an MP candidate's electoral fund.

2. Managers of the current accounts of a party's electoral fund shall submit, in accordance with the procedure established by this Code, the respective financial reports to a manager of the accumulation account of a party's electoral fund.

A manager of the accumulation account of a party's electoral fund shall submit the respective financial reports to a party, the Central Election Commission and the National Agency for Corruption Prevention.

A manager of the current account of an MP candidate's electoral fund shall submit respective financial reports to a party, in the electoral lists of which he or she has been included, and the respective regional or territorial office of the Central Election Commission.

3. Managers of the respective accounts of a party's electoral fund, or an MP candidate's electoral fund shall submit, in accordance with the procedure and within the time period, specified by this Code, two types of the financial reports: interim and final.

4. A manager of the current account of a party's electoral fund shall be obliged, no later than eight days prior to the day of voting, submit to a manager of the accumulation account of a party's electoral fund an interim financial report on the use of funds in the respective current account of a party's electoral fund, for the time period from the day of opening the current account of the electoral fund till the twelfth day prior to the day of voting.

A manager of the current account of a party's electoral fund shall be obliged, no later than on the seventh day following the day of voting, submit to a manager of the accumulation account of a party's electoral fund the final financial report on the use of funds in the respective current account of the electoral fund.

5. A manager of the accumulation account of a party's electoral fund shall be obliged, no later than five days prior to the day of voting, submit to a party, in the electoral lists of which he or she has been included, to the Central Election Commission and the National Agency for Corruption Prevention, an interim financial report on the receipt and use of resources of a party's electoral fund for the time period from the day of opening the accumulation account of the electoral fund till the twelfth day prior to the day of voting (in paper and electronic form), which shall be published on the official websites of a party (if any) and the Central Election Commission and National Agency for Corruption Prevention no later than on the day, following the day of its receipt.

A manager of the accumulation account of a party's electoral fund shall be obliged, no later than on the fifteenth day, following the day of voting, to submit to a party, the Central Election Commission and the National Agency for Corruption Prevention, a final financial report on the receipt and use of funds of a party's electoral fund (in paper and electronic form), which shall be published on the official websites of a party (if any) and the Central Election Commission and National Agency for Corruption Prevention no later than on the day, following the day of its receipt.

6. A manager of the current account of an MP candidate's electoral fund shall be obliged, no later than eight days prior to the day of voting, to submit to a party, in the electoral list of which he or she has been included, and to the respective regional or territorial office of the Central Election Commission, an interim financial report on the receipt and use of funds of an MP candidate's electoral fund, for the time period from the day of opening the current account of an MP candidate's electoral fund, till the twelfth day prior to the day of voting, which shall be entered by the respective regional or territorial office of the Central Election Commission in the information analysis system for its publication on the official website of the Central Election Commission.

The regional or territorial office of the Central Election Commission shall, no later than on the fifth day following the day of receipt of an interim financial report on the receipt and use of resources of an MP candidate's electoral fund, send its copy (in paper and electronic form) to the National Agency for Corruption Prevention.

A manager of the current account of an MP candidate's electoral fund shall be obliged, no later than on the tenth day following the day of voting, submit to a party, in the electoral list of which he or she has been included, and to the respective regional or territorial office of the Central Election Commission, a final financial report on the receipt and use of funds of an MP candidate's electoral fund,

which shall be entered by the respective regional or territorial office of the Central Election Commission in the information analysis system for its publication on the official website of the Central Election Commission.

The regional or territorial office of the Central Election Commission shall, no later than on the fifth day following the day of receipt of a final financial report on the receipt and use of resources of an MP candidate's electoral fund, send its copy (in paper and electronic form) to the National Agency for Corruption Prevention.

The financial reports provided for in Parts five and six of this Article shall necessarily contain the following information: a natural person's last name, first name, patronymic name, and place of residence (oblast, rayon, settlement), subject to mandatory disclosure. Other information relating to a natural person, classified as restricted information, shall not be a subject to disclosure.

The analysis of the financial reports provided for in Part five of this Article shall be performed by the Central Election Commission and the National Agency for the Corruption Prevention. The purpose of the analysis is to establish the compliance of the reporting data with the requirements of this Code, as well as the timeliness of submission of financial reports, and to reconcile the reporting data with the information received from banking institutions, in which the accounts of electoral funds have been opened.

The Central Election Commission and the National Agency for the Corruption Prevention shall, no later than two days prior to the day of voting, and, respectively, no later than the thirtieth day following the day of voting, publish on their official websites an analysis of the financial reports provided for in paragraph one of Part five of this Article, and, respectively, in paragraph two of Part five of this Article.

The analysis of the financial reports provided for in Part six of this Article shall be performed by the respective regional or territorial office of the Central Election Commission. The purpose of the analysis is to establish the compliance of the reporting data with the requirements of this Code, as well as the timeliness of submission of financial reports, and to reconcile the reporting data with the information received from banking institutions, in which the accounts of electoral funds have been opened.

The regional or territorial office of the Central Election Commission shall, no later than two days prior to the day of voting, enter in the information analysis system, for its publication on the official website of the Central Election Commission, an analysis of the financial reports provided for in paragraph one of Part six of this Article, and, no later than on the twentieth day following the day of voting, an analysis of the financial reports provided for in paragraph three of Part six of this Article.

7. Should the Central Election Commission, the National Agency for Corruption Prevention and the respective regional or territorial representations of the Central Election Commission, as a result of analysis of the financial reports, discover a failure to comply with the requirements of the law, the Central Election Commission, the National Agency for the Corruption Prevention or the respective regional or territorial representations of the Central Election Commission within five days from the date of detection of thereof, shall notify in writing the respective bodies, authorized to ensure that persons who have violated the requirements of the law are brought to justice in accordance with the law, or shall ensure, within the limits of their powers, that the respective persons are held accountable.

8. The financial reports provided for by Parts four, five and six of this Article, shall necessarily contain the information on the receipt of all amounts in the accumulation and current accounts of a party's electoral fund, and the current account of an MP candidate's electoral fund; as well as incurred expenses and remaining resources in the respective accounts, including the information on the date of receipt of each contribution in the respective electoral fund, its amount, a person who has made a donation to the respective account of the electoral fund, as well as a party's name, purpose of payment, the date of payment and the amount of each payment from the respective account of the electoral fund; a beneficiary of each payment.



9. Forms of financial reports provided for by Parts four, five and six of this Article, and the procedure for the analysis of financial reports shall be established by the Central Election Commission in coordination with the National Agency for Corruption Prevention.

10. Pursuant to the decision of the Central Election Commission and in accordance with the procedure established by it, the financial statements on the receipt and use of resources of the electoral funds provided for in this Article may be submitted to the Central Election Commission and/or respective regional representation of the Central Election Commission by means of electronic services. In this case, the paper form of the specified report shall not be submitted.

## **Chapter XXVIII. NOMINATION AND REGISTRATION OF MP CANDIDATES**

### **Article 154. Procedure for Nominating MP Candidates**

1. The right to nominate MP candidates shall be exercised by the voters through the parties in accordance with the procedure specified by this Code.

2. The nomination of MP candidates shall begin on the first day of the election process and shall end forty-five days before the day of voting.

3. The nomination of MP candidates by a party, the formation and approval of a party's nationwide electoral list and regional electoral list of MP candidates shall be conducted by the party at its congress (meeting, conference) pursuant to the procedure prescribed by the party's charter and this Article.

A member of the Central Election Commission, on behalf of the chair of the Central Election Commission, has the right to be present a party congress (meeting, conference) regarding the nomination of MP candidates.

4. A notification of the time and place of holding a party's congress (meeting, conference) with the purpose of nominating MP candidates, and the procedure for accreditation of media representatives at such a congress, determined by its organizers, shall be published on the official website of the party, no later than five days prior to the day of the congress (meeting, conference) and be submitted to the Central Election Commission. The Central Election Commission shall publish such announcement on its official website no later than the next day after its receipt.

5. A party may nominate as an MP candidate a person who is either a member of that party or not a member of any party, provided that the person shall have the right to be elected an MP under Article 134 of this Code.

6. A party shall nominate candidates from among the persons specified in Part five of this Article, in the form of a nationwide electoral list, which shall be formed and approved at the congress (meeting, conference) of a party.

7. A party's nationwide electoral list shall consist of no more than 450 MP candidates.

8. From among MP candidates included in the nationwide electoral list, except for candidates included under first nine numbers in the nationwide electoral list, a party shall, at the same congress (meeting, conference) form and approve the regional lists of MP candidates in each election district, provided for by Article 138 of this Code. A party's regional electoral list shall include no less than five and no more than eighteen candidates.

9. Each MP candidate, included in the nationwide electoral list, shall be also included in the one of the regional electoral lists, except for candidates included under first nine numbers in the nationwide electoral list. A candidate shall not be included in a party's nationwide electoral list more than once, or in two or more different regional electoral lists.

10. A person shall be entitled to give his or her consent to stand as a candidate in an election and be included in the nationwide and regional electoral lists of only one party.

11. A sequence of appearance (sequence number) of MP candidates in the nationwide electoral list and in the regional electoral lists shall be determined at a party's congress (meeting, conference) during the nomination of MP candidates and formation of the respective list.

12. When compiling a nationwide and regional electoral list, a party shall ensure that both men and women (no less than two candidates of each gender) shall be present in each five candidates (places from the first to the fifth, from the sixth to the tenth and so on) in the electoral lists.

In case the party forms nationwide and regional electoral lists with the number of MP candidates, which is not a multiple of five, the requirement on alternate inclusion of candidates of different sexes in the list shall be applied to the last candidates in the list (from 1 to 4).

13. A decision of a party's congress (meeting, conference) to nominate MP candidates from the party shall be made by way of approval of both nationwide and regional electoral lists of MP candidates, assigned by the party to the respective electoral regions, provided for by Article 138 of this Code, which shall be appended to such a decision and shall be an integral part thereof. A decision of a party's congress (meeting, conference) on nomination of MP candidates shall be signed by the chair of the party and affixed with the seal of the party.

14. The forms of a party's nationwide and regional electoral lists of MP candidates shall be established by the Central Election Commission and cannot be changed during the election process.

15. The nationwide electoral list shall contain the following information with regard to each candidate:

- 1) ordinal number of an MP candidate in the nationwide electoral list;
- 2) last name, first name (all first names), patronymic name (if any) of an MP candidate;
- 3) day, month and year of birth;
- 4) citizenship with indication of the time of residing in the territory of Ukraine;
- 5) information on educational background;
- 6) job position (occupation), place of employment;
- 7) address of place of residence;
- 8) party membership;
- 9) information on presence or absence of a criminal record pertaining to an MP candidate;
- 10) information on presence or absence of a representative mandate pertaining to an MP candidate;
- 11) number and name of an electoral region, to which an MP candidate has been assigned;
- 12) ordinal number of an MP candidate in the respective regional electoral list.

16. Each regional electoral list shall contain an ordinal number of each MP candidate in this regional electoral list, as well as the data indicated in clauses 2-8 of Part 15 of this Article.

#### **Article 155. Terms of Registration of MP Candidates**

1. The Central Election Commission shall register MP candidates included in the nationwide and regional electoral lists, provided the following documents have been submitted:

- 1) an application on registration of MP candidates signed by the party's chair and affixed with the party's seal;
- 2) a decision of a party's congress (meeting, conference) on the nomination of MP candidates from the party, provided for in Part 13 of Article 154 of this Code, together with the approved nationwide electoral list and all regional electoral lists of MP candidates, assigned by the party to the respective electoral regions, referred to in Article 138 of this Code, which shall be appended to this decision and shall be an integral part thereof, in a form established by the Central Election Commission, both as a paper copy, which shall necessarily contain the information specified, respectively, in Parts 15 and 16 of Article 154 of this Code, certified by the signature of the party's chair and affixed with the party's seal, and an electronic copy thereof;

- 3) a party's election program, prepared in the state language, having the volume up to 7800 printed characters, approved by the party's congress (meeting, conference), both as a paper copy, certified by the signature of the party's chair and affixed with the party's seal, and an electronic copy thereof;
- 4) a document certifying that a financial deposit has been made by a party in accordance with Article 156 of this Code;
- 5) statements of the persons included in the party's electoral lists expressing consent to be nominated as that party's MP candidate (including that in the respective electoral region). Such statements shall also contain an MP candidate's consent to the publication of his or her biographical information as well as processing his or her personal data in connection with participation in the election, with acknowledgement of the obligation, in the event of being elected as an MP, to transfer, within one month from the day of the official promulgation of the election results, to another person, pursuant to the procedure prescribed by the Law, the management of enterprises and corporate rights owned by the MP candidate (or indicating absence thereof), as well as the acknowledgement of the obligation to terminate any activities or lay down any representative mandate which are incompatible with the mandate of an MP of Ukraine under the Constitution and the Laws of Ukraine, or indicating absence thereof;
- 6) a statement of each MP candidate, confirming him or her being or not being a citizen (national) of another state, or a citizen (national) of states other than Ukraine;
- 7) the autobiography of MP candidates, in both paper and electronic form, which shall necessarily include the following information: last name, first name (all first names), patronymic name (if any), all previous last names, first names, patronymic names and dates of their change (if a person has changed his or her last name and/or first name (one of his or her first names or all first names) and/or patronymic name, in the period over the last five years prior to the day of voting), the day, month, year and place of birth, citizenship with indication of time of residing in the territory of Ukraine, information about the educational background, job position (occupation), place of employment, party membership, address of place of residence, presence or absence of a representative mandate, telephone number, information on presence or absence of a criminal record, date of autobiography and a signature of an MP candidate (in printed form);
- 8) a statement by MP candidates on presence (absence) of arrears of child support in the amount exceeding the amount of respective payments for six months, from the date of presentation to him or her of an enforcement document;
- 9) one photograph on paper, sized 4x6 cm, and in an electronic format, of each of the MP candidates;
- 10) photocopies of the first and second page of each MP candidate's passport of a citizen of Ukraine in the form of a passport book or photocopies of the front and reverse page of a passport of a citizen of Ukraine in the form of a card.

Should the Central Election Commission find discrepancies between the party's nationwide and regional electoral lists provided in both paper and electronic form, a paper copy shall prevail.

2. The Central Election Commission shall issue to a person, who has submitted documents provided for by Part one of this Article, a certificate confirming the receipt of such documents. The certificate shall contain a list of documents received, the day, month, year and time of their receipt, and the position and last name of the person who received the documents.

Documents for registration of MP candidates may be submitted to the Central Election Commission by means of electronic services in accordance with the procedure established by the Central Election Commission.

In this case, the accuracy of copies of documents provided for in Part one of this Article may be certified by the chair of the respective party, taking into account the requirements of the laws of Ukraine "On electronic documents and electronic document management" and "On electronic trust services".

3. The Central Election Commission shall not accept the documents specified in Part one of this Article, if they are submitted after expiry of the deadline specified in Part two of Article 158 of this Code.

In case of violation of the deadline prescribed, as well as in case of submission of documents by mail (including e-mail, in a different manner than established by the Central Election Commission), as well as in another manner without taking into account the requirements of this Code, documents for MP candidate registration shall not be considered by the Central Election Commission and shall be returned by way of a letter from the member of the Central Election Commission on behalf of the chair of the Central Election Commission.

4. Persons nominated as MP candidates shall be held responsible for the authenticity and accuracy of the data in the documents specified in clauses 5-8 of Part one of this Article, filed with the Central Election Commission for the registration of MP candidates.

#### **Article 156. Financial Deposit**

1. Each party nominating an electoral list of MP candidates shall, after the commencement of the election process and before submitting documents to the Central Election Commission for the registration of the MP candidates, by way of a single payment transfer to the special account of the Central Election Commission a financial deposit in the amount of one thousand minimum salaries, determined in a monthly amount (established as of the day of the beginning of the election process).

The Central Election Commission shall, no later than the first day of the election process, post on its official website the deposit's amount, the bank account details of the account for depositing a financial deposit.

2. Should the Central Election Commission make a decision on refusal of registration of all MP candidates nominated by the party, the financial deposit shall, within five days from the day of making such a decision, be returned to the account of the party that transferred it.

In case of receipt on the special account of the Central Election Commission for depositing a financial deposit of funds in the amount less than specified in Part one of this Article and/or of funds deposited in violation of the requirements of Part one of this Article, such funds shall not be refunded and shall be transferred to the state budget within five days after the deadline for registration of MP candidates.

3. The financial deposit paid by the party that nominated MP candidates shall be returned to the account of the party that transferred it, if, based on the election results, the party has obtained the right to participate in distribution of MP seats, within eight days following the day of the official promulgation of the results of the election of MPs.

4. In other cases the financial deposit shall, within eight days following the day of the official promulgation of the results of the election of MPs, be transferred to the State Budget.

#### **Article 157. Filing a Declaration of Property, Income, Expenditures and Financial Liabilities of an MP Candidate**

An MP candidate, registered in accordance with the procedure established by this Code, no later than the fifth day after registration shall submit a declaration of a person authorized to perform the functions of the state or local self-government, pursuant to the Law of Ukraine "On Corruption Prevention".

#### **Article 158. Procedure for Registration of MP Candidates**

1. MP candidates included in the party's nationwide or nationwide and regional electoral lists and regional electoral lists shall be registered by the Central Election Commission upon receipt of the documents specified in Article 155 of this Code.

2. The submission of documents to the Central Election Commission for registration of MP candidates shall end forty days prior to the date of voting.

3. Should a person included in the party's nationwide or nationwide and regional electoral lists fail to submit a statement of consent to be nominated as an MP candidate for that party, he or she shall be deemed excluded from the party's nationwide or nationwide and regional electoral lists as of the day of submission of a party's application. A statement of consent submitted after submission of the aforementioned party's application for registration of the MP candidates shall not be accepted.

4. A person included in the party's nationwide or nationwide and regional electoral lists may withdraw his or her statement of consent prior to the day of registration. Such person shall, in person, file with the Central Election Commission, an application on withdrawal of his or her statement of consent to be nominated as an MP candidate from the respective party. Such person shall be deemed excluded from the party's nationwide or nationwide and regional electoral lists as of the moment of receipt by the Central Election Commission of the statement of withdrawal of his or her consent to be nominated as an MP candidate from this party. The Central Election Commission shall notify the party that nominated the MP candidate in writing of the receipt of a statement of withdrawal no later than on the day following the day of the receipt of the statement of withdrawal. A statement of consent submitted by a person who has previously withdrawn consent to be nominated as an MP candidate by the party shall not be accepted.

5. If it becomes known that a person has been included in the electoral lists of several parties, the authorized representative of the Central Election Commission shall, no later than on the next day following the day when such information has become known, address the said person with the requirement to file, in person, with the Central Election Commission a statement on confirmation of his or her consent to be nominated as an MP candidate only from one party, which shall be notarized pursuant to the procedure established by the Law of Ukraine "On Notaries".

Should a person file a statement on confirmation of his or her consent to be nominated as an MP candidate from the respective party, such person shall be excluded from the nationwide and respective regional electoral lists of other parties.

Should a person fail to submit a statement on confirmation of his or her consent to be nominated as an MP candidate from the respective party within two days following the day of receipt of the respective address, such person shall be excluded by a decision of the Central Election Commission from electoral lists of all parties in which he or she has been included.

6. Within five days of the receipt of the party's application on registration of MP candidates, provided for in this Article, and the documents appended thereto, the Central Election Commission shall make a decision on registration of MP candidates, or on refusal to register MP candidates based on the results of verification of the presence or absence of grounds for decision on registration, or a decision on refusal to register an MP candidate. The registration of MP candidates ends thirty-five days before the day of voting.

7. The list and sequence of MP candidates in the nationwide electoral list, as well as the list of MP candidates in each regional electoral list, determined by the party, may not be changed after the documents for MP candidate's registration have been filed with the Central Election Commission. The order of MP candidates in the regional electoral list may be changed only based on the voting results under conditions and in accordance with the procedure specified by Parts one and two of Article 185 this Code.

8. In the event of registration of MP candidates, the party's representative in the Central Election Commission shall be presented with a copy resolution on the MP candidates' registration, no later than within three days after the adoption of the decision on MP candidates' registration, together with identity cards of MP candidates in a form established by the Central Election Commission. Within the same time period, a decision on the registration of MP candidates shall be published on the official website of the Central Election Commission.

**Article 159. Refusal to Register an MP Candidate (MP Candidates)**

1. The Central Election Commission shall refuse to register all MP candidates nominated by the party in the event of:

- 1) violation of the requirements of Parts one through three, seven through nine, eleven through thirteen of Article 154 of this Code;
- 2) absence of at least one of the documents specified in clauses 1-4 of Part one of Article 155 of this Code;
- 3) discovery by the Central Election Commission of presence of the statements in the party's election program aimed at liquidation of Ukraine's independence, forcibly changing the constitutional order, breach of sovereignty and territorial integrity of the state, undermining its security, illegal seizure of state power, propaganda of war, violence, incitement to inter-ethnic, racial, religious enmity, encroachment on human rights, liberties and public health;
- 4) nomination of MP candidates by the party that promotes communist and / or National Socialist (Nazi) totalitarian regimes and their symbols, with regard to which the Cabinet of Ministers has made a decision declaring the party's activities, name and/or symbols as such that fail to comply with the requirements of the Law of Ukraine "On Condemnation of Communist and National Socialist (Nazi) Totalitarian Regimes in Ukraine and Prohibition of their Symbols".

2. The Central Election Commission shall refuse to register an individual MP candidate in the event of:

- 1) absence of at least one of the documents with regard to an MP candidate specified in clauses 5-10 of Part one of Article 155 of this Code;
- 2) receipt of the information from the competent authority that confirms the fact of termination of an MP candidate's citizenship of Ukraine;
- 3) receipt of the information from the competent authority that confirms the fact of departure of an MP candidate abroad for permanent residence;
- 4) receipt from the court of a duly certified copy of a court decision declaring an MP candidate incapacitated;
- 5) entry into force of a court decision convicting the nominee of a deliberate crime;
- 6) discovery of other circumstances depriving the candidate of the right to be elected as MP, in particular, in case a violation of the requirements of Parts five and ten of Article 154 of this Code has been established.

3. Errors and inaccuracies detected in documents submitted by the party for registration of MP candidates, unless they make understanding of the information provided therein difficult, shall not be a reason for refusing to register the MP candidates.

If the documents for registration submitted by the party do not contain information that must be specified in accordance with the requirements of this Code, the respective subject of submission of documents shall be notified immediately. Detected shortcomings in the submitted documents may be eliminated by submitting the updated or other documents for registration of the MP candidate (candidates) no later than the next day after receiving the aforementioned notification. If updated or other documents are not received within this period, the respective documents shall be deemed as not submitted.

4. A decision on refusal of registration of an MP candidate (MP candidates) shall contain a complete list of the grounds for refusal. No later than on the day following the day of adoption of such a decision, a copy of such decision shall be presented (sent) to an authorized representative of the respective party.

**Article 160. Cancellation of a Decision on Registration of an MP Candidate (MP Candidates)**

1. The Central Election Commission shall take a decision cancelling the registration of an individual MP candidate included in the party's nationwide or nationwide and regional electoral lists and regional electoral lists, excluding him or her from the respective electoral lists, in the case if:

- 1) no later than twenty-six days prior to the day of voting, the MP candidate has submitted in person a statement withdrawing from the election notarized pursuant to the procedure established by the Law of Ukraine "On Notaries".
- 2) no later than twenty-six days prior to the day of voting, the respective party has requested that the MP candidate's registration be cancelled based on a decision adopted in accordance with the party's charter, which shall be appended to such an address and shall be signed by the party's chair and affixed with the party's seal;
- 3) receipt of the information from the competent authority that confirms the fact of termination of an MP candidate's citizenship of Ukraine;
- 4) receipt of the information from the competent authority that confirms the fact of departure of an MP candidate abroad for permanent residence;
- 5) receipt from the court of a duly certified copy of a court decision declaring an MP candidate incapacitated;
- 6) entry into force of a court decision convicting the nominee of a deliberate crime;
- 7) inclusion of a candidate in the electoral lists of several parties on the basis of his or her statements for confirmation of consent to be nominated as a candidate from the respective parties;
- 8) discovery of circumstances depriving the nominee of the right to be elected.

In the event of receipt of applications provided for in clauses 1, 2 of this Part, the Central Election Commission shall adopt a decision cancelling the registration of the MP candidate, excluding him or her from the party's nationwide and regional electoral lists, within two days from the day of receipt of such applications, but no later than twenty-four days prior to day of voting.

In this case the sequence of MP candidates on the lists (ordinal numbers in the respective electoral lists) should not be changed.

In the event of receipt of applications provided for in clauses 1, 2 of this Part less than twenty-six days prior to the day of voting, the Central Election Commission shall not consider such applications and no decisions shall be taken thereon.

2. The Central Election Commission shall adopt a decision cancelling the registration of the MP candidate on the grounds specified in clauses 3-8 of Part one of this Article, no later than the third day following the day of receipt of the documents that establish the respective facts or occurrence of respective circumstances.

The Central Election Commission shall consider the issue of cancellation of the registration of an MP candidate in the presence of this MP candidate and an authorized representative of the party in the Central Election Commission. The aforementioned persons shall be notified of the time, when the issue of cancelling the registration of an MP candidate shall be considered, no later than on the day prior to the day of the issue consideration. In the event of absence of the aforementioned persons who have been duly notified of the time of the meeting for consideration of this issue, the Central Election Commission shall consider the issue of cancelling the registration of an MP candidate in absence of these persons.

3. The Central Election Commission shall present the party's representative in the Central Election Commission or an MP candidate with a copy of the decision on cancellation of the registration of an MP candidate (MP candidates) no later than the next day after its adoption.

4. In the event of death of an MP candidate, the Central Election Commission shall adopt a decision removing that MP candidate from the ballot, excluding him or her from the party's nationwide or nationwide and regional electoral lists.

5. A decision on cancellation of the registration of an MP candidate (MP candidates), or on an MP candidate's withdrawal from the election shall be published on the official website of the Central Election Commission no later than on the next day following its adoption.

## **Chapter XXIX. PECULIARITIES OF INFORMATION SUPPORT FOR ELECTIONS OF MPs**

### **Article 161. Special Information Support for Elections of MPs**

1. Special information support for the election of MPs shall deem informing the voters of the following:

- 1) registered MP candidates and their nominating subjects;
- 2) election programs of parties that are electoral subjects;
- 3) accounts of the electoral funds of parties that are electoral subjects, the maximum amount of a voluntary contribution and the manner in which a voluntary contribution shall be made;
- 4) cancellation of the registration (withdrawal from the election) of an MP candidate;
- 5) facts and events associated with the election process.

2. The information contained in the documents submitted to the Central Election Commission for the registration of the MP candidates shall be open. On the official website of the Central Election Commission, information shall be made public on each MP candidate's last name, first name (all first names), and patronymic name (if any), date, month, year and place of birth, citizenship with indication of the time of residence in the territory of Ukraine, information on educational background, position (occupation), place of employment, party membership, place of residence, existence or absence of criminal record, a statement on presence (absence) of arrears of child support in the amount exceeding the amount of respective payments for six months, from the date of presentation to him or her of an enforcement document, the electoral region, in which the MP candidate has been nominated, and the name of the party that nominated the MP candidate.

3. The information provided for in Parts one and two of this Article shall be also published as a set of data organized in a format that allows its automated processing by electronic means (a machine readable format) so that these data may be re-used (in the open data format).

4. Mass media organizations and information agencies shall be entitled to participate in the special information support for the election based on a request from the Central Election Commission; and as regards data specified in clause 5 of Part one of this Article, on their own initiative in accordance with the requirements of this Code.

### **Article 162. Information Posters of Parties that are Electoral Subjects**

1. The Central Election Commission shall, at the expense of the funds of the State Budget of Ukraine allocated for preparation and conduct of the election, provide for the production of information posters of each party that is an electoral subject.

2. The information posters of the party that is an electoral subject shall be produced for each electoral region. An information poster of the party that is an electoral subject produced for the respective electoral region must present the information on each MP candidate included in the respective regional electoral list, including his or her ordinal number in the regional electoral list, his or her last name, first name (all first names), patronymic name (if any), the day, month and year of birth, information on educational background, job position (occupation), place of employment, party membership, place of residence, as well as the photographs of all candidates included in the respective regional electoral list.



3. The form, size, and printing design of the information posters of the parties that are electoral subjects, as well as the procedure for their manufacturing and delivery to the precinct election commissions shall be established by the Central Election Commission.

Information posters shall be produced in accessible formats that allow voters with health problems (due to disability, temporary health disorder, age) to view them with the use of reasonable accommodation.

4. The Central Election Commission shall agree a text of the information poster with a representative of the party (that is an electoral subject) in the Central Election Commission for the respective electoral region.

5. The Central Election Commission shall provide for the production of information posters of the parties that are electoral subjects, on the basis of five copies of each poster for each election precinct, as well as for each district election commission.

6. Information posters of the parties that are electoral subjects shall be delivered to the respective precinct election commissions together with the ballot papers.

7. Information posters of the parties that are electoral subjects shall be used for voter information in the premises for voting, including on the day of voting, as well as for the voting at the place of voters' stay.

8. The responsibility for the storage of information posters of the parties that are electoral subjects shall be entrusted to the precinct election commissions.

#### **Article 163. Information Brochures of Parties that are Electoral Subjects**

1. The Central Election Commission shall, at the expense of the funds of the State Budget of Ukraine allocated for preparation and conduct of the election, provide for the production of information brochures for each party that is an electoral subject.

2. An information brochure of a party that is an electoral subject must present the election program of the party (having volume no more than 7800 printed characters) submitted thereby during the registration of MP candidates, as well as the nationwide and all regional electoral lists of the party, as well as the photographs of all candidates included in the regional electoral lists.

A nationwide electoral list, which is presented in the party's information brochure, shall contain the information on each MP candidate's ordinal number in the nationwide electoral list, his or her last name, first name (all first names), patronymic name (if any), as well as the electoral region, in the regional electoral list of which he or she has been included, as well as the ordinal number of the MP candidate in that list.

Regional electoral lists of MP candidates, which are presented in the information brochures of the party that is an electoral subject, shall contain the information on each MP candidate included in the respective regional electoral list, including the MP candidate's ordinal number in the regional electoral list, his or her last name, first name (all first names), patronymic name (if any), the day, month and year of birth, information on educational background, job position (occupation), place of employment, party membership, place of residence, as well as photographs of all candidates included in the respective regional electoral list.

3. The form, size, and printing design of the information brochures of the parties that are electoral subjects, as well as the procedure for their manufacturing and delivery to the precinct election commissions shall be established by the Central Election Commission.

Information posters shall be produced in accessible formats that allow voters with health problems (due to disability, temporary health disorder, age) to view them with the use of reasonable accommodation.

4. The Central Election Commission shall agree a text of the information brochure with a representative of the party that is an electoral subject in the Central Election Commission.

5. The Central Election Commission shall provide for the production of information brochures of the parties that are electoral subjects, on the basis of five copies of each brochure for each election precinct, as well as for each district election commission.

6. Information brochures of the parties that are electoral subjects shall be delivered to the respective precinct election commissions together with the ballot papers.

7. Information brochures of the parties that are electoral subjects shall be used for voter information in the premises for voting, including on the day of voting, as well as for the voting at the place of voters' stay.

8. The responsibility for the storage of information brochures of the parties that are electoral subjects shall be entrusted to the precinct election commissions.

**Article 164.** Making Changes to Information Posters and Information Brochures of Parties that are Electoral Subjects

1. If the Central Election Commission cancels the registration of an MP candidate, or in the case if an MP candidate withdraws from the election in the time period, during which the information posters and information brochures of the parties that are electoral subjects are produced, or after the production thereof, but in the time period, when the remaining time is insufficient to allow re-printing of information posters and information brochures of the parties that are electoral subjects, the Central Election Commission shall make a decision on making changes to an information poster and an information brochure of a party that is an electoral subject. The Central Election Commission shall immediately communicate such decision to the respective district election commissions, so that the precinct election commissions can make respective amendments.

Such amendments to the information posters and information brochures of the parties that are electoral subjects shall be made by the precinct election commission members using the "Withdrawn" stamp at the meetings of the precinct election commissions of all territorial districts within the respective electoral region, to the regional electoral list of MP candidates in which the respective MP candidate was included.

In this case, the election commission member appointed by the commission shall affix the "Withdrawn" stamp to the respective MP candidate's number and last name in each information poster of the respective party that is an electoral subject, as well as each information brochure of the party that is an electoral subject (such stamp shall be affixed in two places: in the nationwide electoral list and in the respective regional electoral list). The stamp shall be affixed in a horizontal position and shall not cover the other MP candidate's number and the last name.

It shall be prohibited to make amendments to the information posters and information brochures of the parties that are electoral subjects without a decision of the Central Election Commission.

Each voter shall be informed of amendments made to the information posters and information brochures of the parties that are electoral subjects at the time when the ballot paper is being issued to him or her.

The form of the "Withdrawn" stamp shall be approved by the Central Election Commission no later than twenty six days prior to the day of voting. District election commissions (regional or territorial representations of the Central Election Commission) shall provide for the production of such stamps no later than seven days prior to the day of voting or shall use the stamps produced earlier. The stamps "Withdrawn" during the election process shall be kept in custody of the district election commission (regional or territorial representations of the Central Election Commission).

A district election commission shall deliver the "Withdrawn" stamp to all precinct election commissions together with the respective decision of the Central Election Commission. The "Withdrawn" stamp shall be delivered to the precinct election commissions of out-of-country election precincts together with the information posters and information brochures of the parties that are electoral subjects.

2. If the information posters and information brochures of the parties that are electoral subjects are amended in the absence of a decision of the Central Election Commission, or if such amendments fail to comply with the decision of the Central Election Commission, the precinct election commission shall, at its meeting, withdraw and destroy such posters and/or brochures and write an act in two copies. The act shall state the number of the received information posters and/or the information brochures of a party that is an electoral subject, the number of withdrawn and destroyed information posters and/or information brochures, as well as the last names of the persons responsible for the spoiling. One copy of the act shall be immediately transferred to the district election commission, whereas the second copy shall be stored at the precinct election commission.

In this case, the district election commission shall provide the election precinct with the required number of the information posters and/or the information brochures of a party that is an electoral subject. If necessary, the district election commission may request the Central Election Commission to produce additional information posters and/or information brochures of a party that is an electoral subject.

3. It shall be prohibited to use, on the day of voting, the information posters and /or information brochures of a party that is an electoral subject, in which no amendments were made pursuant to the decision of the Central Election Commission, or in which amendments were made not in compliance with such a decision.

### **Chapter XXX. GUARANTEES OF ELECTION PROCESS ACTIVITIES FOR PARTIES, MP CANDIDATES AND OFFICIAL OBSERVERS**

**Article 165.** Guarantees of Election Process Activities for Parties, MP Candidates from Which Were Registered in the Nationwide Election District

1. A party that nominates MP candidates in the nationwide election district shall have the right to delegate one representative to the Central Election Commission (hereinafter, a party's representative in the Central Election Commission) with an advisory vote, who is authorized to represent the interests of the party in the Central Election Commission during the election process. A candidacy of a party's representative shall be approved by the party's central governing body.

2. A voter having the right to vote may be a party's representative to the Central Election Commission. None of the following persons may be a party's representative:

- 1) an election commission member;
- 2) an official of the state executive bodies, prosecutor's offices or courts; law enforcement authorities, other state bodies, bodies of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea or local self-government bodies;
- 3) a serviceman, police officer, employee of the Security Service of Ukraine, a person of the rank and file or senior staff of the State Penitentiary Service of Ukraine;
- 4) a person who is undergoing alternative (non-military) service;
- 5) a person who has a criminal record for committing a grave or especially grave crime or a crime against citizens' electoral rights or a corruption crime, which has not been lifted or expunged pursuant to the procedure established by law.

3. An application to register a party's authorized representative to the Central Election Commission signed by the party's chair and affixed with the party's seal, along with a copy of a decision of a party's central governing body on approval of a candidacy of the party's authorized representative to the Central Election Commission, may be filed with the Central Election Commission simultaneously with an application to register MP candidates from the party. An application to register a party's authorized representative to the Central Election Commission shall contain the following information: a party's authorized representative's last name, first name (all first names), patronymic name (if any); his or her citizenship; the day, month and year of birth, place of employment, job position (occupation), mailing address, telephone number and e-mail address, information on absence of a criminal record for committing a grave or especially grave crime or a crime against citizens' electoral rights or a corruption crime, which

has not been lifted or expunged pursuant to the procedure established by law. The application shall be appended with a photocopy of his or her passport of a citizen of Ukraine (photocopies of the first and second pages of a passport of a citizen of Ukraine in the form of a passport book or photocopies of the front and reverse sides of a passport of a citizen of Ukraine in the form of a card), or a photocopy of the first and second pages of his or her temporary certificate of citizen of Ukraine (for persons who have recently been granted Ukrainian citizenship).

In case technical errors and inaccuracies are found in the application to register party's authorized representative to the Central Election Commission - the resolution of the Central Election Commission on representative's registration shall contain information based on copies of passport documents.

4. No later than the third day following the receipt of the documents specified in Part three of this Article, the Central Election Commission shall register a party's authorized representative in the Central Election Commission with an advisory vote and shall issue an identification document to such representative. A form of such identification document shall be established by the Central Election Commission.

In case requirements established by Parts one - three of this Article are violated, the Central Election Commission shall refuse to register a party representative with the Central Election Commission.

5. A party that nominated MP candidates in the nationwide election district shall be entitled to have no more than five authorized persons in the nationwide election district and no more than two authorized persons in each territorial district (hereinafter, a party's authorized person). A party's authorized person shall represent the respective party and shall not be an independent electoral subject. A party's authorized person shall comply with requirements specified in Part two of this Article. The list of the party's authorized persons with the mandatory indication of the respective election district shall be approved by the central governing body of the party.

6. An application to register a party's authorized persons, in both paper and electronic form, signed by the party's chair and affixed with the party's seal, along with a copy of a decision of a party's central governing body on approval of a list of the party's authorized persons, shall be filed with the Central Election Commission at any time after the registration of MP candidates included in the party's electoral list. An application to register a party's authorized persons shall contain the following information: each authorized person's respective election district, last name, first name (all first names), patronymic name (if any); a party's authorized person's citizenship; day, month and year of birth, place of employment, job position (occupation), mailing address, telephone number and e-mail address, information on absence of a criminal record for committing a grave or especially grave crime or a crime against citizens' electoral rights or a corruption crime, which has not been lifted or expunged pursuant to the procedure established by law. The application shall be appended with a photocopy of his or her passport of a citizen of Ukraine (photocopies of the first and second pages of a passport of a citizen of Ukraine in the form of a passport book or photocopies of the front and reverse sides of a passport of a citizen of Ukraine in the form of a card), or a photocopy of the first and second pages of his or her temporary certificate of citizen of Ukraine (for persons who have recently been granted Ukrainian citizenship).

In case technical errors and inaccuracies are found in the application to register the party's authorized persons - the resolution of the Central Election Commission on their registration shall contain information based on copies of passport documents.

7. No later than the third day following the receipt of the documents specified in Part six of this Article, the Central Election Commission shall register a party's authorized persons and shall issue their identification documents to a party's representative in the Central Election Commission in a form established by the Central Election Commission.

In case the requirements established by Parts two, five, six of this Article are violated, the Central Election Commission shall refuse to register the party's authorized person.

8. A party's authorized representative in the Central Election Commission, a party's authorized person, in the time period from the day of his or her registration by the Central Election

Commission, until the termination of his or her powers, or the completion of the election process, shall be released from his or her employment-related or official duties, with suspension of salary for that period, upon agreeing with the owner of the enterprise, establishment, organization or a body authorized by the owner.

9. A party's authorized representative in the Central Election Commission, a party's authorized person shall be entitled to file a statement of resignation with the Central Election Commission at any time prior to the end of the election process.

10. A party's central governing body which adopted a decision on approval of the party's representative in the Central Election Commission, or the party's authorized person, may at any time prior to the end of the election process take a decision to recall the party's representative in the Central Election Commission, or a party's authorized person, and to approve another candidacy to replace the one that has been recalled, and submit this decision to the Central Election Commission.

Documents to register the party's representative in the Central Election Commission, the party's authorized person may be submitted to the Central Election Commission by means of electronic services in accordance with the procedure established by the Central Election Commission.

11. On the basis of the application filed in accordance with Parts nine or ten of this Article, the Central Election Commission shall adopt a decision to cancel the registration of a party's authorized representative in the Central Election Commission, or a party's authorized person, and to register another person as a party's authorized representative in the Central Election Commission, or a party's authorized person, no later than on the third day following its receipt, but no later than the day of voting, and on the day of voting, immediately. A copy of the decision shall immediately be issued to a party's authorized representative in the Central Election Commission.

12. The powers of the party's representative in the Central Election Commission and the party's authorized person shall be deemed terminated also from the moment the party loses the status of an electoral subject.

13. The party's representative in the Central Election Commission shall be entitled to:

- 1) be present at the meetings of the Central Election Commission during the discussion of issues pertaining to the election of MPs and take part in the discussion of such issues with the right of advisory vote; to receive prior to a meeting its agenda and related materials, to participate in the discussions, to present proposals concerning a decision of the Central Election Commission;
- 2) have access to the minutes of the meetings of the Central Election Commission and its decisions and receive copies thereof;
- 3) in the case of his or her absence from a meeting, have access to the documents that provided the basis for decisions taken at such meeting;
- 4) have access to protocols, telephone, fax, or other official messages received by the Central Election Commission from the district election commissions, in particular those concerning the results of voting in the nationwide and territorial election districts, and to obtain copies thereof;
- 5) exercise other rights specified by this Code for a party's authorized representative in the Central Election Commission.

14. A party's authorized person shall:

- 1) facilitate the participation of a party in the election process, in particular during the election campaigning;
- 2) represent a party's interests in the relations with the election commissions (except the Central Election Commission), state executive bodies, other state bodies, state bodies of the

Autonomous Republic of Crimea, local self-government bodies, voters, other electoral subjects in the territory of the respective election district;

- 3) be allowed to participate in the meetings of election commissions (except the Central Election Commission) with the right of advisory vote in the territory of the respective election district;
- 4) have the right to be present at the election precinct during the voting and at the meeting of the precinct election commission during the vote counting, subject to restrictions established by Part eight of Article 36 of this Code;
- 5) have the rights of the party's official observer, as specified by Part six of Article 167 of this Code;
- 6) have other rights provided for by this Code for a party's authorized person.

15. Restrictions established by Part seven of Article 167 of this Code, shall apply to a party's authorized person.

**Article 166. Guarantees of Election Process Activities for MP Candidates**

1. Unless an MP candidate is the President of Ukraine or an MP of Ukraine, he or she may not be denied the opportunity to take a leave of absence without pay from his or her place of employment and to not perform employment-related or official duties for the time period from his or her registration as an MP candidate until the end of the election process (or cancellation of his or her registration).

2. An MP candidate may not be dismissed from his or her position during the election process on the initiative of the owner of the enterprise, institution, organization, or a body authorized by the owner or the commander of the military unit (command). An MP candidate shall not be without his or her prior consent transferred to any other place of employment, sent on a business trip, or called up for military or alternative (non-military) service, training (test) or special assemblies of persons liable to call-up.

3. To ensure proper participation in the election process, representation and protection of his or her interests, an MP candidate included in the party's regional list may have no more than two agents in the respective electoral region. The agent must meet the requirements established in Part two of Article 165 of this Code.

Documents to register an agent may be submitted to the Central Election Commission using electronic services in accordance with the procedure established by the Central Election Commission.

4. The powers of agents extend to the respective electoral region.
5. An agent:
  - 1) shall assist the candidate in his or her participation in the election process, including during the election campaigning;
  - 2) shall represent candidate's interests in relations with election commissions (except for the Central Election Commission), state government bodies, other state bodies, bodies of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, local self-government bodies, voters, other subjects of the election process in the respective electoral region;
  - 3) may participate with the right of advisory vote in the meetings of election commissions (except for the Central Election Commission) on the territory of the respective electoral region;
  - 4) has the right to be present at the precinct during the voting and at the meeting of the precinct election commission during the counting of the votes, taking into account the restrictions established by this Code;
  - 5) has the rights of party's official observer provided for in Part six of Article 167 of this Code;

6) 6) has other rights of candidate's agent pursuant to this Code.

6. A candidate's agent is subject to the restrictions established by Part seven of Article 167 of this Code.

7. An application to register a candidate's agent (in both electronic and paper form) signed by an MP candidate shall be filed with the Central Election Commission at any time after the candidate's registration. If such an application is submitted to the Central Election Commission in another manner, on paper, the signature of the candidate shall be duly notarized pursuant to the procedure established by the Law of Ukraine "On Notaries". If such an application is submitted by e-mail, it shall be certified by a qualified electronic signature of the candidate. An application to register an agent of a candidate shall contain the following information: last name, first name (all first names), patronymic name (if available) of each agent, the respective election district; citizenship of an agent; day, month and year of birth; place of employment, job position (occupation), mailing address, telephone number and e-mail, information on absence of a criminal record for committing a grave or especially grave crime or a crime against citizens' electoral rights or a corruption crime, which has not been lifted or expunged pursuant to the procedure established by law. The application shall be appended with a photocopy of a passport of a citizen of Ukraine (photocopies of the first and second pages of a passport of a citizen of Ukraine in the form of a passport book or photocopies of the front and reverse sides of a passport of a citizen of Ukraine in the form of a card), or a photocopy of the first and second pages of temporary certificate of citizen of Ukraine (for persons who have recently been granted Ukrainian citizenship).

8. The Central Election Commission not later than on the third day from the day of receipt of the documents specified in Part seven of this Article, and in case the documents were submitted the day before and on the day of voting (on the day of repeat voting) – without delay, registers the candidate's agents and issues a certificate to the candidate, pursuant to the form established by the Central Election Commission.

In case technical errors and inaccuracies are found in the application to register the candidate's agents - the resolution of the Central Election Commission on their registration shall contain information based on copies of passport documents.

In case the requirements established by Parts three and seven of this Article were violated, the Central Election Commission shall refuse to register the candidate's agents.

9. Candidate's agent from the date of his or her registration by the Central Election Commission until the termination of his or her powers or the end of the election process, has the right to be dismissed from work or official duties without pay, in agreement with the owner of the enterprise, institution, organization or its authorized body.

10. In case the MP candidate's registration has been cancelled, the powers of the candidate's agents shall be deemed terminated from the date of the respective decision.

11. The candidate's agent has the right to address the Central Election Commission at any time before the end of the election process in order to resign his or her duties.

12. An MP candidate may at any time before the end of the election process revoke an agent and submit to the Central Election Commission candidacy of another person to replace the revoked one.

13. On the basis of an application submitted in accordance with Part eleven or twelfth of this Article, not later than on the third day from the date of its receipt, and if it was submitted on the day before and on election day – without delay, the Central Election Commission shall take the respective decision. A copy of the decision of the Central Election Commission shall be issued to the person who submitted the respective application, at his or her request, or shall be sent to his or her e-mail address.

**Article 167. Official Observers from Parties that Have Registered MP Candidates in the Nationwide Election District**

1. Official observers from parties that have registered MP candidates in the nationwide election district shall be registered by the district election commission upon submission of the party's

authorized person in the respective territorial or nationwide election district (authorized on the basis of a power of attorney issued by the party).

Official observers from parties in the out-of-country election district shall be registered by the Central Election Commission in accordance with the procedure specified by this Article.

2. An application for registration of official observers from the party shall contain each person's last name, first name (all first names), patronymic name (if available); the day, month and year of birth; citizenship; place of employment (occupation), job position, mailing address, telephone number and e-mail address, information on absence of a criminal record for committing a grave or especially grave crime or a crime against citizens' electoral rights or a corruption crime, which has not been lifted or expunged pursuant to the procedure established by the Law.

The application shall be appended with a photocopy of a passport of a citizen of Ukraine (photocopies of the first and second pages of a passport of a citizen of Ukraine in the form of a passport book or photocopies of the front and reverse sides of a passport of a citizen of Ukraine in the form of a card), or a photocopy of the first and second pages of a temporary certificate of citizen of Ukraine (for persons who have recently been granted Ukrainian citizenship).

In case technical errors and inaccuracies are found in the application for registration of the party's official observer - the resolution of the Central Election Commission on their registration shall contain information based on copies of passport documents.

3. An application for registration of official observers, signed by a party's authorized person in the respective territorial or nationwide election district (authorized on the basis of the power of attorney issued to a party's representative), shall be submitted to the respective district election commission, and with regard to official observers in an out-of-country district – to the Central Election Commission, no later than five days prior to the day of voting (in both paper and electronic form).

Documents for registration of party's official observers may be submitted to the Central Election Commission by means of electronic services in accordance with the procedure established by the Central Election Commission.

4. The district election commission, and with regard to official observers in an out-of-country district – to the Central Election Commission, shall register official observers from the party in the respective territorial (out-of-country) election district, produce and issue to them their identification documents in a form established by the Central Election Commission no later than the third day after the submission of the application.

5. The only ground upon which an application for registration of an official observer may be refused is failure to comply with requirements contained in the provisions of Parts one to three of this Article and Part three of Article 58 of this Code.

6. An official observer from a party shall be entitled to:

- 1) be present, with due observance of the requirements of this Code, at the meetings of district and precinct election commissions in the respective territorial election district;
- 2) be present at the meetings of MP candidates or parties' authorized persons with voters, at election campaign meetings, rallies;
- 3) be present at the election precincts during the voting, observe actions of the election commission members, in particular during the issuance of ballot papers to voters and vote counting without physically getting in the way of the election commission members;
- 4) make photographic, video and audio recordings, without violating the secrecy of voting;
- 5) be present during the voting at the place of voters' stay;
- 6) address, in accordance with the procedure established by this Code, the election commissions within the respective territorial district with an application or a complaint seeking elimination of violations of this Code if any have been discovered;



- 7) draw a statement of discovery of violation of the requirements of this Code that shall be signed by him or her and by no less than two voters certifying the fact of such violation, with indication of their last names, first names, patronymic name, place and address of residence, and file it with the respective election commission or a court;
  - 8) take necessary measures within the limits of legislation to stop illegal actions during the voting and vote counting at the election precinct;
  - 9) receive copies of the protocols as well as other documents specified by this Code;
  - 10) exercise other rights provided by this Code for official observers.
7. An official observer from a party may not:
- 1) interfere with the work of the election commission, perform actions violating the lawful course of the election process, or unlawfully prevent the election commission members from exercising their powers;
  - 2) fill out a ballot paper for a voter (in particular upon his or her request);
  - 3) be present during the filling out of a ballot paper by a voter in a polling booth (room) for secret voting or violate the secrecy of voting in any other way.

8. If an official observer from a party violates the requirements of Part seven of this Article, the election commission shall give him or her a warning. In the event of a repeat violation, or of a single instance of gross violation of the requirements of Part seven of this Article, the election commission may deprive him or her of the right to be present at its meeting in accordance with procedures provided for by Part 10 of Article 36 of this Code. An official observer may appeal such decision in a court.

9. A party's authorized person in the respective territorial or nationwide election district (authorized on the basis of the power of attorney issued to a party's representative) may recall an official observer by filing a written statement of termination of his or her authority with the respective district election commission (or with the Central Election Commission, as regards an official observer in an out-of-country election district), and present the documents required for registration of another person as an official observer in the manner prescribed by this Article.

10. An official observer from a party shall be entitled to file with the district election commission (or with the Central Election Commission, as regards an official observer in the out-of-country election district) a statement of resignation. Based on such application, the district election commission or the Central Election Commission shall adopt a decision cancelling the registration of the official observer from the party and issue or send a copy thereof, accordingly, to a party's authorized person in the respective territorial or nationwide election district.

11. In the event of cancellation of registration of all MP candidates included in the nationwide or respective regional electoral list of the party, powers of official observers from such a party in general, or in territorial election districts within respective electoral region, shall be considered terminated from the day of adoption of the decision on cancelling the registration of MP candidates.

## **Chapter XXXI. VOTING AND ESTABLISHING THE RESULTS OF AN ELECTION OF MPs OF UKRAINE**

### **Article 168. Ballot Papers**

1. Voting in the election of MPs shall be performed using ballot papers for the election of MPs of Ukraine (hereinafter, ballot papers).

2. The form, color, and text of the ballot papers for voting shall be approved by the Central Election Commission no later than twenty-four days prior to the day of voting.

The security features of a ballot paper shall be established by the Central Election Commission within the same time period.

A ballot paper must contain the name and the date of the election, the number and the name of the electoral region, the number of the territorial district or indication that the election district is an out-of-

country election district, the number of the election precinct, as well as places designated for the precinct election commission's seal.

The text of a ballot paper shall be printed in the official language and shall be placed on one sheet and on one side only.

3. The names of parties shall be listed on the ballot paper in the order determined by drawing lots, which shall be conducted by the Central Election Commission under the procedure established thereby, with participation of party's representatives to the Central Election Commission, MP candidates, party's authorized persons in the nationwide election district after the end of registration of MP candidates, but before approval of the form and text of the ballot paper.

4. The ballot paper shall contain the number of each party determined by drawing lots, the full name of the respective party, last names and initials of the first nine MP candidates entered in the nationwide electoral list, as well as ordinal numbers, last names and initials of all MP candidates included in the respective regional electoral list of the party.

The ballot paper for voting in an out-of-country district shall indicate the number of each party determined by drawing lots, the full name of the respective party, last names and initials of the first nine MP candidates included in the nationwide electoral list.

The ballot paper for voting in an out-of-country district does not contain information on the candidates included in the regional electoral list of the party.

3. An empty box shall be placed to the right from the full name of each party.

Under an ordinal number and the full name of the party, which has been assigned to the last place on the ballot, in accordance with the sequence of parties, determined pursuant to paragraph one of this Article, at a distance of no less than three centimeters from the name of such party, a text in capital letters stating "From the political party, for which I voted, I support an MP candidate" shall appear, with an empty rectangle placed next to it to the right, which contains the sign "No." with a free space for a voter to fill out the number of an MP candidate (except for the ballot papers for voting in an out-of-country district).

5. A ballot paper shall contain an explanation of the procedure for filling out the ballot paper by a voter during the voting.

6. A ballot paper shall have a counterfoil, separated by a tear-off line. The counterfoil shall contain the name and the date of the election, the number and the name of the electoral region, the number of the territorial district or an indication that the election district is an out-of-country election district, the number of the election precinct, as well as places designated for the number under which a voter was entered in the voter list for the election precinct, the signature of the voter receiving the ballot paper, and the last name, initials, and signature for the precinct election commission member issuing the ballot paper.

7. The ballot paper shall be a document of strict accountability. The Central Election Commission, regional and territorial representations of the Central Election Commission, district and precinct election commissions shall keep a precise record of ballot papers received and delivered in accordance with this Code.

8. The ballot papers shall be printed, as a rule, for each election precinct of each territorial district in an amount exceeding by 0.5 percent the number of voters included in the voter lists for the election precincts, with possible deviation from the aforementioned number resulting from the multiplicity of ballot papers being printed on a typing sheet. The ballot papers shall be printed for each election precinct of the out-of-country election district in an amount that shall be determined by the Central Election Commission based on the amount of voters included in the voter lists for the respective out-of-country election precinct, the amount of voters that received ballot papers at that particular election precinct in the last nationwide election and the average quantity of voters that received ballot papers in election precincts of the out-of-country election district in the last nationwide election.

If it is established that the number of voters at certain election precinct at the time of completion of the production of ballots is greater than the number of ballots produced, the Central Election Commission may, if possible, decide to order an additional number of ballots for such election precincts.

The third paragraph was repealed.

9. If the Central Election Commission decides to conduct an experiment or pilot project using innovative technologies in accordance with Part one of Article 18 of this Code, the Central Election Commission shall organize the manufacture of experimental ballot papers for such experiment or pilot project simultaneously with the actions provided for in Articles 169 and 170 of this Code.

An experimental ballot paper developed in accordance with the first paragraph of this Part shall:

- 1) differ in form and color from the ballot paper, the form of which is approved by the Central Election Commission in accordance with Part two of this Article;
- 2) at the top contain in capital letters an inscription: "EXPERIMENT" or "PILOT PROJECT";
- 3) under the information specified in paragraph 2 of this Part, contain the following text: "Completion of this ballot paper by a voter does not certify his or her expression of will, does not create legal consequences, cannot be used to establish the results of the election, as well be used to appeal against decisions, actions or inactions of participants in the election process."

#### **Article 169.** Procedure for Printing Ballot Papers

1. The Central Election Commission shall provide for the centralized production of ballot papers, pursuant to an agreement that shall be concluded between the Central Election Commission and a state-run printing enterprise, which produces and sells forms of strict reporting documents or other documents that require the use of special security features.

The agreement between the Central Election Commission and the respective enterprise shall be concluded using a negotiating procurement procedure, based on the production, technological and organizational capabilities of the enterprise to ensure timely printing and protection levels of the ballots.

2. The enterprise printing the ballot papers shall ensure strict correspondence between the number of ordered ballot papers and the number of printed ones, and the accounting and transfer thereof to the customer according to procedures established by the Central Election Commission.

3. Any technical waste material, defective printed ballot papers, as well as the typographic plates used, shall be destroyed according to the procedures and within the time limits defined by the agreement concluded for the production of ballot papers.

4. Control over the production of ballot papers by the printing enterprises and over the observance of the requirements regarding destruction of the printing forms, technical wastes, and defective printed matter shall be exercised by a supervisory commission created by the Central Election Commission based on submissions from the parties whose parliamentary factions are registered with the Apparatus of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine of the current convocation, as of the start of the election process, but no later than on the day of approval of the ballot paper form, color, text and establishing security features of a ballot paper.

5. The ballot papers shall be received by the Central Election Commission (regional and/or territorial representations of the Central Election Commission) in the printing enterprise's packaging on the basis of a receipt and delivery act in a form and manner approved by the Central Election Commission. Based on the receipt and delivery acts, summary information on the number of ballot papers that were printed for each territorial (out-of-country) election district shall be published on the official website of the Central Election Commission.

6. Subject to the consent of the Central Election Commission, ballot papers can be produced directly by the precinct election commission of a special election precinct created on a ship sailing, as of the day of voting, under the National Flag of Ukraine, or on Ukraine's polar station, their number exceeding by 0.5 percent the number of voters at the election precinct. Such consent shall be granted

no later than three days prior to the day of voting on the basis of an application filed by the respective district election commission, which shall contain the number of the election precinct created on the respective ship or Ukraine's polar station, as well as the time when the respective ship left the last port in the territory of Ukraine.

Information on the number of produced ballot papers shall be entered in the precinct commission's protocol on vote counting at the election precinct and be taken into account by the respective district election commission when compiling protocols on the results of vote counting in the respective territorial district, as well as by the Central Election Commission when compiling on the results of vote counting in the nationwide district within the out-of-country district.

7. If the Central Election Commission cancels the registration of all MP candidates of a party in the nationwide election district during or after the period of production of the ballot papers and the remaining time is insufficient to allow reprinting the ballot papers, the Central Election Commission shall adopt a decision on making amendments to the nationwide election district ballot papers. Such decision of the Central Election Commission shall be immediately communicated to the respective district election commissions, so that the precinct election commissions will make the appropriate amendments.

Such amendments to the ballot papers shall be made by the precinct election commission members using the "Withdrawn" stamp at a meeting of the precinct election commission.

It shall be prohibited to make amendments to the ballot paper without a decision of the Central Election Commission.

Each voter shall be informed of amendments made to a ballot paper at the time when the ballot paper is being issued to him or her.

8. The form of the stamp specified in Part seven of this Article shall be approved by the Central Election Commission no later than twenty six days prior to the day of voting. District election commissions (regional or territorial representations of the Central Election Commission) shall ensure the production of the aforementioned stamps no later than seven days prior to the day of voting, or use the stamps which have been made previously. The "Withdrawn" stamps shall be kept in custody of the district election commission (regional or territorial representations of the Central Election Commission).

A district election commission shall deliver the "Withdrawn" stamp to all precinct election commissions simultaneously with the respective decision of the Central Election Commission. The "Withdrawn" stamp shall be delivered to the precinct election commissions of out-of-country election precincts together with the ballot papers.

9. If ballot papers are amended in the absence of a decision of the Central Election Commission, or if such amendments fail to comply with the decision of the Central Election Commission, the precinct election commission shall, at its meeting, write an act in two copies, in the form and under the procedure specified by Part six of Article 37 of this Code. The act shall state the number of ballot papers received, the number of spoiled ballot papers, and the last names of the persons responsible for the spoiling. One copy of the act shall be immediately transferred to the district election commission, whereas the second copy shall be stored at the precinct election commission. The data contained in the aforementioned act shall be taken into consideration by the precinct election commission when drawing the vote counting protocols of the election precinct. The spoiled ballot papers shall be invalidated and packed separately, in different packages, under the procedure specified by Part six of Article 175 of this Code. The packages shall be marked as "Spoiled ballot papers". The packed spoiled ballot papers shall be kept in custody of the precinct election commission until the day of voting and then forwarded to the district election commission together with other election documents under the procedure stipulated by Article 178 of this Code.

During the calculation of votes, the spoiled ballot papers shall be counted as unused.

10. Persons responsible for the unlawful spoiling of ballot papers shall reimburse the cost of the damage under the procedure established by the Law.

**Article 170.** Procedure for Delivery of Ballot Papers to Election Commissions

1. A district election commission shall, at its meeting, accept the ballot papers, packaged by the printing enterprise, from a representative of the Central Election Commission (regional or territorial representation of the Central Election Commission) authorized by a decision of the Central Election Commission to hand over the ballot papers.

The district election commission shall draw a protocol in three copies recording the acceptance of the ballot papers. The aforementioned protocol shall be drawn according to the procedure specified by Part six of Article 37 of this Code and shall be signed by the authorized representative of the Central Election Commission (regional or territorial representation of the Central Election Commission) handing over the ballot papers. The first copy of the protocol shall be delivered to the Central Election Commission; the second copy shall be kept in custody of the district election commission; and the third copy shall be immediately posted in the premises of the district election commission for public review.

Should it be impossible to transfer the ballot papers from the Central Election Commission to the district election commission, the respective ballot papers shall be considered unused and shall be invalidated by the Central Election Commission by way of handing them over for destruction to the manufacturer in the presence of representatives of the Central Election Commission (regional or territorial representation of the Central Election Commission) and the control commission established by the Central Election Commission in accordance with Part four of Article 169 of this Code, and the respective act shall be drawn up thereof.

2. A district election commission shall ensure storage and safekeeping of ballot papers received from the Central Election Commission (regional or territorial representation of the Central Election Commission). Ballot papers shall be kept in the office of the district election commission in a safe (a metal case or a separate room), which shall be sealed with tape bearing the signatures of all members of the commission present at the meeting and having the commission seal affixed thereto. The safe (a metal case or a separate room) shall be continuously (until the transfer of the ballot papers to the precinct election commissions) guarded by a representative of the police.

3. A district election commission shall transfer the ballot papers to the precinct election commissions of the respective territorial district at a meeting of the district election commission no sooner than three days prior to the day of voting. The ballot papers shall be received by no less than three members of each precinct election commission.

4. A district election commission shall draw a protocol on the transfer of ballot papers to the precinct election commissions of the district under the procedure and in the form established by Part six of Article 37 of this Code. The protocol shall contain:

- 1) the number of the territorial district;
- 2) the number of ballot papers received from the district election commission;
- 3) the number of each election precinct in which its commission members receive the ballot papers;
- 4) the number of the ballot papers transferred to the election precinct;
- 5) last names and signatures of the precinct election commission members, who received ballot papers.

5. The protocol on the handover of the ballot papers to the precinct election commissions shall be completed in three copies. The copies of the protocol shall be numbered and shall have equal legal force. The first copy of the protocol shall be submitted to the Central Election Commission, the second copy shall be stored at the district election commission, and the third copy shall be immediately posted in the premises of the district election commission for public review.

6. An excerpt from the protocol prepared in accordance with the form approved by the Central Election Commission, signed by the chair and secretary of the district election commission and three members of the respective precinct election commission and affixed with the seal of the district election

commission, specifying the data related to the respective election precinct, shall be handed together with the ballot papers over to the representatives of each precinct election commission who received the ballot papers.

7. Ballot papers shall be delivered to the precinct election commissions of the out-of-country election precincts by the Central Election Commission through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, pursuant to the procedure specified by Central Election Commission. The Central Election Commission shall draw up a protocol, as specified in Part five of this Article, on delivery of the ballot papers to the election commissions of the out-of-country election precincts. The protocol shall be completed in two copies, one of which shall be stored at the Central Election Commission, while the other copy, together with excerpts from the protocols for each out-of-country election precinct, shall be submitted to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine; information included in the aforementioned protocol shall, no later than on the following day, be made public on the official website of the Central Election Commission.

8. Any member of the district election commission, an MP candidate, a party's authorized person, or official observer who was present during the delivery of the ballot papers shall be entitled, upon request, to familiarize themselves with the protocols specified in Parts one and five of this Article.

9. The precinct election commission members of regular and special election precincts shall transport the ballot papers received by them to the premises of the precinct election commission, accompanied by a representative of the police who shall be responsible for the safekeeping of the ballot papers.

10. Immediately after the arrival of the election commission members who received the ballot papers, the ballot papers shall be accepted by the precinct election commission at a meeting. The secretary of the commission shall open the packaging of the manufacturing enterprise and affix the precinct election commission's seal on the designated places of each ballot paper. Another member of the precinct election commission, appointed by a decision of the commission, shall count the ballot papers and check the accuracy of indication of the election district and the number of the territorial district and the election precinct on the ballot papers.

11. During the counting of the ballot papers, a member of the precinct election commission, appointed by a decision of the commission, shall count the number of ballot papers, while other members of the commission shall observe counting of the ballot papers. During the counting of the ballot papers, it shall be prohibited to divide the commission into groups to count separate parts of all ballot papers.

12. If a discrepancy is found between the number of ballot papers indicated in the excerpt from the protocol of the district election commission on the handover of the ballot papers, the precinct election commission shall produce an act, in three copies, on such discrepancies, which shall indicate the reason for the discrepancy as established by a decision of the precinct election commission. This act shall be completed in the form and in accordance with the procedure prescribed by Part six of Article 37 of this Code. One copy of the act shall be submitted to the district election commission, the second copy shall be stored at the precinct election commission, while the third copy shall be immediately posted in the premises of the precinct election commission for public review. If such discrepancies are detected, the number of the ballot papers received by the precinct election commission shall be deemed to be the number of the ballot papers established at the meeting of the precinct election commission and entered in the act on discrepancies and in the minutes of the meeting of the commission.

13. The ballot papers shall be stored in the premises of the precinct election commission in a safe (metal case) which shall be sealed at the same meeting of the commission with a tape signed by all persons present at the election commission's meeting and affixed with the election commission's seal, and shall be continuously (until the start of the preparatory meeting of the commission specified by Part three of Article 172 of this Code) guarded by a representative of the police.

14. If damage to the tape sealing the safe (metal case) or a discrepancy between the signatures or the seal on the tape and the authentic signatures or the seal is detected, the chair of the precinct election commission shall immediately notify the bodies of the National Police of Ukraine and the district

election commission. The chair of the commission shall then immediately open the safe (metal case) and remove all the ballot papers. The precinct election commission members shall check the ballot papers to determine whether the number of the territorial district and the number of the election precinct recorded on them is correct, and whether the precinct election commission's seal is affixed thereto; and, after that they shall re-count the ballot papers. The precinct election commission shall produce act(s) on the detected signs of opening of the safe (metal case) and on any discrepancy between the numbers of the ballot papers (if detected). The aforementioned acts shall be completed in the form and in accordance with the procedure prescribed by Part six of Article 37 of this Code. The number of the ballot papers in the safe (metal case) shall be also entered in the minutes of the election commission's meeting. In such case, the established number of ballot papers shall be deemed the number of ballot papers received by the precinct election commission.

15. Should it be impossible to transfer the ballot papers from the district election commission to the precinct election commission, the respective ballot papers shall be considered unused, and the respective act shall be drawn up thereof in a form established by the Central Election Commission. One copy of the act shall be submitted to the Central Election Commission, the second copy shall be stored at the respective district election commission. Such ballot papers shall be invalidated by cutting off the bottom right corner of the ballot papers. The invalidated unused ballot papers shall be packed, and the inscription "Unused ballot papers invalidated by district election commission" shall be made on the package, with indication of the number of the territorial district, as well as the number (numbers) of election precinct, number of packaged ballots, date and time of packaging; the package shall be signed by the district election commission members present and affixed with the commission's seal.

#### **Article 171.** Equipping Premises for Voting

1. In the premises for voting or directly in front of them, the precinct election commission shall necessarily place posters produced using the state budget resources, which shall provide explanation of the procedure of voting and liability for violation of the legislation on the election of MPs in a form established by the Central Election Commission.

2. The following materials shall be placed in the premises for voting at the election precinct in places accessible for voters:

- 1) information brochures of the parties that are electoral subjects;
- 2) information posters of each party that is an electoral subject in the respective electoral region.

Information posters of the parties shall be placed in accordance with the sequence of appearance of names of the parties on the ballot.

3. The materials specified in Parts one and two of this Article, shall be made public in the manner that make them accessible for the voters with health problems (due to disability, temporary health disorder, age).

#### **Article 172.** Preparation for Voting

1. The precinct election commission of a regular election precinct shall notify voters included in the voter list for the election precinct of the time and place of voting by sending personal invitations in accordance with Part two of Article 42 of this Code.

2. On the last day prior to the day of voting, each precinct election commission shall, at its meeting, assign duties to the members of the commission for the day of voting (except the chair and the secretary of the commission) relating to:

- 1) identification of the voter and his or her inclusion in the voter list;
- 2) handing the ballot paper over to the voter;
- 3) supervising the voters' entry into the booths for secret voting;

- 4) supervising the ballot boxes;
- 5) organizing voting at the places of voters' stay;
- 6) supervising the process of entering and exiting the premises for voting;
- 7) ensuring the voting for voters with health problems (due to disability, temporary health disorder, age) and for other low-mobility groups.

3. On the day of voting, the precinct election commission shall hold a preparatory meeting no sooner than 45 minutes prior to the start of voting. At the beginning of the meeting, all persons present shall examine the tape sealing the safe (metal case) where the ballot papers are stored.

4. The chair of the precinct election commission shall make each ballot box at the election precinct, one by one, available for individual examination by members of the precinct election commission, MP candidates present, authorized persons of parties, official observers, and mass media representatives. As soon as a ballot box has been examined, it shall be sealed or, if that impossible, affixed with the precinct election commission's seal; after that, a control sheet shall be deposited into the ballot box, with indication of the number of the territorial district, or indication that the election district is an out-of-country election district, the number of the election precinct, the time when the control sheet was deposited into the ballot box, and with the signatures of all precinct election commission members present, as well as of any MP candidates, parties' authorized persons, and official observers wishing to sign it. The signatures shall be affixed with the election commission's seal. As soon as the control sheet has been deposited into the ballot box, the chair of the election commission shall provide the next ballot box for examination, repeating the same procedure. After sealing or affixing the commission seal to the last ballot box, depositing a control sheet into it and placing the stationary (large) ballot boxes at the places assigned for them, the premises for voting shall be deemed to be ready for conducting the voting. Mobile (small) ballot boxes shall be placed in the premises for voting with their slots for putting in the ballot papers downwards, within plain view of the election commission members and other persons present in the premises for voting in accordance with the requirements of this Code.

5. If, during the examination of the tape sealing the safe (metal case) with the ballot papers, damage to the tape or a discrepancy between the signatures or a seal affixed to it and the [authentic] signatures and the seal specified in Part thirteen of Article 170 of this Code is detected, the precinct election commission shall perform the actions provided for by Part fourteen of Article 170 of this Code.

6. The chair of the precinct election commission shall open the safe (metal case) with the ballot papers and, based on the excerpt from the protocol of the district election commission on handover of the ballot papers to the precinct election commission, or on the act specified in Part twelve of Article 170 of this Code, shall announce the number of the ballot papers received by the precinct election commission. This number shall be entered by the secretary of the election commission in the respective vote counting protocol of the precinct election commission, as well as in the minutes of the meeting of the commission.

7. The chair of the precinct election commission shall hand over the necessary number of ballot papers to the precinct election commission members who will be responsible for delivering the ballot papers to voters in the premises for voting or who will organize voting at voters' place of stay. The handover of the ballot papers shall be registered in a special register in a form established by the Central Election Commission. The aforementioned members of the commission shall certify the receipt of the ballot papers by their signatures in the register and shall ensure their storage as well as adherence to the procedure for handing them over to the voters, as prescribed by this Code. No ballot paper shall be left in the safe.

8. The chair of the precinct election commission shall hand the sheets of the voter list over to the precinct election commission members who will be responsible for working with the voter list on the day of voting. The respective members of the commission shall ensure that they are stored and used in accordance with the procedures prescribed by this Code.



9. If the Central Election Commission decides to conduct an experiment or a pilot project using innovative technologies, preparation for voting within such an experiment or project shall be carried out in accordance with the procedure established by law.

**Article 173. Organization and Procedure of Voting**

1. Voting shall be held on the day of voting from 8:00 until 20:00 without any breaks. At out-of-country election precincts, voting shall be held according to the local time of the country where such precincts are established.

2. The precinct election commission shall be responsible for organizing the conduct of voting and ensuring appropriate order in the premises for voting, and for ensuring the secrecy of expressing the voters' will during the voting. If an offence is committed for which the legislation of Ukraine provides liability, the chair or deputy chair of the precinct election commission shall be entitled to invite into the premises for voting a representative of the police, who shall take such measures as are prescribed with respect to the perpetrator and then leave the premises for voting. In other cases, the presence of the police in the premises for voting shall be prohibited.

3. During the conduct of voting at an election precinct, two members of the precinct election commission shall provide a voter with the opportunity to vote: one member of the precinct election commission, upon presentation by the voter of one of the documents specified in Part one of Article 8 of this Code, and if the voter is included in the voter list for the respective election precinct, shall hand the voter list to the voter for his or her signature; the other member of the precinct election commission shall enter his or her last name and initials and put his or her signature in the designated place on the counterfoil of the ballot paper, as well as writing the number under which the voter is included in the voter list for the election precinct. The voter shall certify the receipt of the ballot paper by putting his or her signature on the voter list and on the designated place on the counterfoil of the ballot papers. After that, the member of the election commission shall detach the counterfoil from the ballot paper and hand one ballot paper over to the voter. The counterfoils of the ballot papers shall be stored by the member of the commission who handed over the ballot papers. Making any other marks on the ballot papers shall be prohibited.

4. A voter shall be allowed to stay in the premises for voting only for the time necessary for him or her to vote.

5. A voter shall fill out the ballot paper personally, in a booth for secret voting. The presence of other persons in the booth for secret voting, or photo and video recording during the filling out the ballot paper by the voter shall be prohibited. A voter who, due to health reasons (due to disability, temporary health disorder, age), is unable to fill out the ballot paper independently, may, with consent of the chair or other member of the precinct election commission, ask another voter for assistance, with the exception of a member of the election commission, an MP candidate, his or her agent, a party's authorized person, or an official observer.

6. A voter shall have no right to hand his or her ballot paper over to other persons. It shall be prohibited to receive the ballot papers from a person other than the member of the election commission in charge of handing over the ballot papers, as well as to encourage or force voters, by means of bribery, threats, or in any other manner, to hand their ballot papers over to other persons.

7. Having decided on the party, for which a voter votes, he or she shall, in the box next to the name of the party, enter a "plus" symbol ("+") or any other mark that makes clear the result of the expression of his or her will, whereas in the rectangle for entering the number of an MP candidate near the text "From the political party, for which I voted, I support an MP candidate" he or she shall enter the ordinal number of an MP candidate he or she supports, indicated in the regional list of the party that is provided on the information poster of this party.

8. If a voter has entered the non-existent ordinal number of an MP candidate in the respective rectangle for entering the number of an MP candidate next to the text "From the political party, for which I voted, I support an MP candidate", or if a voter has entered digits, which do not allow establishing clearly what ordinal number has been entered, or if he or she has entered no number

or no mark, however, at the same time he or she has made a mark next to a party's name, that makes clear the result of the expression of his or her will, it shall be deemed that a voter supports the entire regional list of MP candidates from the respective party without support of any individual candidate from that list.

9. Voters shall personally cast their completed ballot papers into the ballot box.

A voter who, due to health reasons (due to disability, temporary health disorder, age), is unable to cast the ballot paper into the ballot box independently may, with the consent of the chair or other member of the precinct election commission, ask another person to do that in his or her presence, except that he or she may not ask for assistance from a member of the election commission, an MP candidate, his or her agent, a party's authorized person, or an official observer.

10. If in the course of voting a ballot box has been damaged, the chair and no less than three members of the election commission representing different parties shall seal the box in a way that shall exclude the possibility of further casting in or taking out of ballot papers. Such ballot box shall be kept in the premises for voting within plain sight of the election commission members and other persons who have the right to be present at the election precinct during the voting in accordance with the requirements of this Code, and shall not be used until the end of voting.

11. If a voter makes a mistake when filling out the ballot paper, he or she shall have the right to immediately address the election commission member who handed over the ballot paper to him or her with a written request to hand over to him or her another ballot paper. The member of the election commission shall hand another ballot paper over to the voter in accordance with the procedure prescribed by Part three of this Article only in exchange for a spoiled ballot paper, which fact shall be noted in the voter list opposite to a voter's name and certified by the signature of the authorized member of the precinct election commission. A spoiled ballot paper shall be immediately invalidated as unused by the member of the commission who handed it over, and an act certifying this fact shall be drawn up. This act shall be signed by the two members of the precinct election commission who handed over the ballot paper and by the voter who spoiled the ballot paper, and shall be appended to the voter list. The invalidated ballot paper shall be kept by the member of election commission who handed over the ballot paper until the start of vote counting. During vote counting, such ballot paper shall be considered as unused and shall be packed together with the counterfoil into the package with unused ballot papers. Repeated handover of a ballot paper instead of a spoiled one shall not be allowed.

12. At 5 minutes to 20:00, the chair of the precinct election commission shall announce that the voting will end and the election precinct will be closed at 20:00. Voters who have come to the election precinct before 20:00 for voting shall have the right to vote. To ensure the exercise of those voters' right, one of the commission's members shall, on instructions from the chair of the precinct election commission, approach the entrance to the premises for voting and invite all voters who have not voted yet to come into the premises for voting, and shall close the door. As soon as the last voter leaves the premises for voting, the premises shall be locked, and only the election commission members and persons entitled by this Code to be present at the election commission's meeting shall be allowed to stay inside.

13. At an election precinct established on a ship which on the day of voting will be sailing under the National Flag of Ukraine, or at Ukraine's polar station, the precinct election commission shall be allowed to announce the end of voting prior to the term specified in Part one of this Article if all voters included in the voter list for the election precinct have taken part in the voting. The votes at such precinct shall be counted in accordance with the procedure established by this Code immediately after announcement of the end of voting.

14. During the day of voting, a district election commission shall provide for sending the data on a number of voters, which were issued ballot papers at an election precinct, to the Central Election Commission pursuant to the procedure established by the Central Election Commission.

15. Repealed.

16. In case the Central Election Commission decides to conduct an experiment or a pilot project using innovative technologies in accordance with Part one of Article 18 of this Code, the respective election commissions shall organize the voting procedure within the framework of such an experiment or pilot project simultaneously with the actions provided for in this Article, in compliance with the requirements of this Code.

Voters may participate in an experiment or pilot project using innovative technologies, only if they simultaneously vote in the manner prescribed by this Article.

Voters cannot be forced to participate in an experiment or pilot project using innovative technologies.

**Article 174.** Procedure for Organizing Voting at Voters' Place of Stay

1. Each precinct election commissions shall ensure that voters who are included in the voter list of the regular or special precinct and are incapable of moving independently because of health reasons (due to disability, temporary health disorder, age) are able to vote at the place of their stay.

2. On the last day before the day of voting, each precinct election commission shall create, at its meeting, an excerpt from the voter list, in a form established by the Central Election Commission, for the purpose of organizing voting by those who are incapable of moving independently, at the place of their stay.

As soon as this excerpt has been created, it shall be immediately posted in the premises of the precinct election commission for public review.

3. The following voters may be included in the excerpt from the voter list:

- 1) without a decision of the commission, a voter specially marked in the voter list as permanently incapable of moving independently, unless such voter notifies the precinct election commission, in writing or in person, by 12:00 noon on the last Saturday prior to the day of voting of his or her wish to vote in the premises for voting
- 2) upon a decision of the commission, a voter being temporarily incapable of moving independently, which decision must be based on his or her application and certificate of his or her health issued by a medical institution.

4. When entering a voter in the excerpt from the voter list for voting at places of voters' stay, the secretary of the precinct election commission shall make an entry "votes at place of residence" in the column "Voter's signature" of the voter list of the election precinct.

5. A voter being temporarily incapable of moving independently shall file, by mail or through a third person, a handwritten application in his or her own handwriting requesting that he or she be provided with an opportunity to vote at the place of his or her stay, with indication of the voter's place of stay. Such application shall be submitted, along with a certificate of the voter's health issued by a medical institution, to the precinct election commission no later than 20:00 of the last Friday prior to the day of voting.

6. It shall be the responsibility of a voter to file the application provided for by Part five of this Article to ensure compliance with the requirements relating to the voting procedure stipulated by this Code.

7. At special election precincts established in health care establishments, voting at the place of voters' stay shall be conducted on the basis of a voter's application, in his or her own handwriting, with a request to be provided with the opportunity to vote at his or her place of stay, in view of his or her need to be confined to bed.

8. An application by a voter to vote at the place of his or her stay shall be registered by the precinct election commission in a separate register, indicating the day and time of the receipt of the application, and also the last name, first name, patronymic name, and address of the voter's place of residence (place of stay).

9. Voting at voters' place of stay shall be organized by no less than three members of the precinct election commission appointed by a decision of the election commission specified in Part two of Article 172 of this Code. Such election commission members shall be representatives of different political parties.

10. Voting at voters' place of stay shall be organized in such a way that the precinct election commission members involved in organizing such voting will be able to return to the premises for voting no later than one hour prior to the end of voting.

11. The chair of a precinct election commission shall announce the departure of the precinct election commission members who are conducting voting at voters' place of stay in the precinct. The chair of the precinct election commission shall provide the appointed election commission members with the excerpt from the voter list created in compliance with Part two of this Article. Simultaneously, the election commission members shall be provided with one copy of each party's information brochures and information posters for the respective electoral region, and with a sealed mobile ballot box into which the chair of the commission shall deposit a control sheet. The control sheet shall contain the following information: the ballot box number; the time at which the appointed election commission members departed (in hours and minutes); the numbers of ballot papers received by them; and the last names of the appointed election commission members which received the ballot papers. The control sheet shall be signed by all the election commission members present, whose signatures shall be certified by the seal of the commission and, upon request, by MP candidates, their agents, the party's authorized persons, or official observers.

12. MP candidates, party's authorized persons, and official observers have the right to be present during the conduct of voting at voters' place of stay.

13. A voter or his or her family members may not refuse entry to any of the commission members appointed to conduct voting at voters' place of stay, or to any official observers, MP candidates, party's authorized persons, that have the right to be present during the voting. In the event that the aforementioned persons are denied entry into the voter's place of stay, the voter in question shall not be provided with the opportunity to vote at his or her place of stay.

14. In the event of organizing voting at a voter's place of stay, a member of the precinct election commission shall, based on the excerpt from the voter list, issue to the voter, provided that the latter presents one of the documents specified in Parts two and three of Article 8 of this Code, a ballot paper for voting. When issuing the ballot paper, the precinct election commission member shall enter his or her last name and initials and put his or her signature in the designated place on the counterfoil of the ballot paper, as well as indicating the number of the voter in the voter list.

The voter shall put his or her signature on the counterfoils of the ballot papers and in the excerpt from the voter list.

The member of the election commission shall detach the counterfoil from the ballot paper that shall be handed over to a voter, and hand one ballot paper over to the voter. The counterfoil of the ballot paper shall be stored by the member of the commission who handed over the ballot paper.

Another member of the election commission shall present to a voter copies of each party's information brochures and information posters for the respective electoral region.

The voter shall fill out the ballot paper in accordance with the procedure specified by Parts seven and eight of Article 173 of this Code, using, if necessary, information brochures and information posters of the parties that are electoral subjects, and shall cast the ballot paper into the mobile ballot box. A voter's family member or a person caring for him or her shall be entitled to be present during the voter's voting, as well as to help him or her fill out the ballot paper and to cast it into the ballot box if the voter is unable to perform such actions due to health reasons (due to disability, temporary health disorder, age). After the voting, the voter shall return to the election commission members the copies of the information brochures and information posters of the parties received by him or her.

15. Members of the precinct election commission shall be entitled to verify the fact of a voter's temporary inability to move independently in accordance with the procedure specified by the Central Election Commission.

16. If a voter included in the excerpt from the voter list for voting at voters' place of stay arrives at the premises for voting after the precinct election commission members have departed to conduct voting at voters' place of stay, that voter may not be issued ballot papers for voting until the return of the commission members in charge of organizing voting at voters' place of stay and until it has been determined that the voter has not already voted at the place of his or her residence.

17. After a voter has voted at his or her place of stay, the precinct election commission member who issued the ballot paper to the voter shall put the mark "voted at place of residence" next to the voter's name, enter his or her own last name, and put his or her signature.

18. The excerpt from the voter list used for voting at voters' place of stay shall be appended to the voter list and be deemed to be an integral part thereof. The voter list shall be appended with voters' written applications, certificates from medical institutions, and copies of the respective decisions by the precinct election commission.

19. The provisions of this Article shall not apply to out-of-country election precincts.

20. In case the Central Election Commission decides to conduct an experiment or a pilot project using innovative technologies in accordance with Part one of Article 18 of this Code, the respective election commissions shall organize the voting procedure within the framework of such an experiment or pilot project simultaneously with the actions provided for in this Article, in compliance with the requirements of this Code.

Voters may participate in an experiment or pilot project using innovative technologies, only if they simultaneously vote in the manner prescribed by this Article.

Voters cannot be forced to participate in an experiment or pilot project using innovative technologies.

#### **Article 175.** Procedure for Vote Counting at an Election Precinct

1. The final meeting of a precinct election commission shall take place immediately after the end of voting at the election precinct, and shall be held in the same premises where the voting was held. The final meeting of a precinct election commission shall continue without interruption and shall end when the vote counting protocols of the election precinct have been drawn up and signed.

2. When the election of the MPs occurs simultaneously with local elections or a referendum, the counting of votes cast in local elections or a referendum shall take place after the vote counting protocols for the election of MPs at the election precinct have been drafted and signed pursuant to the established procedure at the same meeting of the precinct election commission.

The packages with the protocols and other election documents relating to the election of MPs shall remain in the premises where the meeting is being held, within plain view of the precinct election commission members and other persons present at the commission meeting. Packages with the election documents shall be transported to the district election commission, pursuant to the procedure established by Article 178 of this Code, immediately after the respective protocols on all other elections have been signed.

3. At its final meeting, a precinct election commission shall, by its decision, assign the keeping of the minutes to the deputy chair of the precinct election commission or to some other member of the precinct election commission. At that meeting, the secretary of the precinct election commission shall enter data in the protocol on vote counting at the election precinct.

4. In the event if during the conduct of the voting, a precinct election commission received addresses relating to violations that occurred during the conduct of the voting at an election precinct, a precinct election commission shall consider them at the beginning of its meeting, prior to the vote counting at the election precinct.

5. Vote counting at an election precinct shall be conducted openly and transparently, exclusively by members of the precinct election commission. Vote counting at the election precinct shall be performed in accordance with the sequence specified in the provisions of this Article and in the manner prescribed by the Central Election Commission.

6. A precinct election commission shall pack the processed election documents in paper packages. A package with election documents shall be sealed, and an inscription shall be made on a package, with indication of the number and type of the packaged documents, as well as the number of the territorial district, or indication that the election district is an out-of-country election district, the number of an election precinct, the number of packaged election documents, the date and time of packaging, as well as signed by the precinct election commission members present and affixed with the commission's seal.

7. Each member of the precinct election commission, responsible for the work with the voter lists, shall count and put on each sheet of the voter lists received by him or her the following information (separately for each sheet of the voter lists):

- 1) the number of voters included in the voter list at the election precinct (as of the end of voting);
- 2) the number of voters who received ballot papers (based on the voters' signatures and marks "voted at the place of residence" in the voter list).

8. A voter list at the election precinct, after the end of voting, in the event if any additions have been made thereto, shall be closed by crossing out empty fields in the voter lists so as to make the addition of additional voters to the voter list impossible, and shall be signed by the chair and secretary of the precinct election commission and affixed with the commission's seal.

9. A precinct election commission shall, on the basis of a voter list (comparing the voter list and an excerpt from the voter list), establish the number of voters at the election precinct. This number shall be announced and entered by the secretary of the election commission (the secretary of the meeting) in the protocol on vote counting at an election precinct.

10. A precinct election commission shall count unused ballot papers. A number of such ballot papers shall be announced and entered by the secretary of the commission in the protocol on the vote counting at the election precinct. The unused ballot papers shall be invalidated by cutting off the bottom right corner of the ballot papers. The invalidated unused ballot papers, together with the ballot papers spoiled, while the voters were filling them out, and returned to the precinct election commission members who issued them, shall be packed. The inscription "Unused ballot papers" shall be made on the packages, with indication of the number of the territorial district, or indication that the election district is an out-of-country election district, as well as the number of election precinct, number of packaged ballots, date and time of packaging; the package shall be signed by the precinct election commission members present and affixed with the precinct election commission's seal.

11. A precinct election commission shall count the number of voters who received ballot papers, based on the voters' signatures in the voter list and marks "voted at the place of stay" in the voter list. That number shall be announced.

12. A precinct election commission shall sum up the number of the counterfoils of the ballot papers with signatures of voters and election commission members who issued them. The number of such counterfoils shall be announced.

13. If there is no mismatch between the number of counterfoils specified in Part twelve of this Article, and the number indicated in Part eleven of this Article, the secretary of the election commission shall announce this number and enter this number in the protocol on vote counting at the election precinct as the number of voters who received ballot papers at the election precinct.

If there is a discrepancy between the number of counterfoils specified in Part twelve of this Article, and the number specified in Part eleven of this Article, the precinct election commission shall write an act thereon, stating the reason for such discrepancy established by the commission's decision, which

shall be signed by the precinct election commission members present. The signatures shall be affixed with the election commission's seal. The aforementioned act may be signed by the candidates present, party's authorized representatives, and official observers. After that, the election commission shall take a decision establishing the number of voters who received the ballot papers. That number shall be announced and entered in the vote counting protocols of the election precinct.

14. The voter list, along with the excerpt from the voter list created pursuant to Parts two and three of Article 174 of this Code; the applications of voters based on which the excerpt was compiled; court decisions on making changes to the voter list; notifications from the State Voter Register maintenance body shall be packed in one package. The inscription "Voter List" shall be made on the package, with indication of the number of the territorial district, or indication that the election district is an out-of-country election district, as well as the number of election precinct, date and time of packaging; the package shall be signed by the precinct election commission members present and affixed with the precinct election commission's seal.

15. The counterfoils of the issued ballot papers shall be packed. The inscription "Counterfoils of ballot papers" shall be made on the packages, with indication of the number of the territorial district or indication that the election district is an out-of-country election district, as well as the number of the election precinct, the number of packed counterfoils, the date and time of packaging; the package shall be signed by the precinct election commission members present and affixed with the commission's seal.

16. The precinct election commission shall check if the number of unused ballots and the number of voters that received ballot papers are equal to the number of ballot papers received by the precinct election commission. In the event of a discrepancy between those numbers, the precinct election commission shall draw up an act thereon, stating the reason for such discrepancy established by the commission's decision, which shall be signed by the precinct election commission members present. The aforementioned act may be signed by MP candidates, party's authorized persons, or official observers present. The signatures shall be affixed with the commission's seal.

17. The precinct election commission shall check the integrity of the sealing tape or seal on each ballot box.

18. If the precinct election commission discovers damage to the tape or seal, or any other damage that indicates that the integrity of ballot box has been violated, the precinct election commission shall write an act thereon, stating the nature of the discovered damage, which shall be signed by the precinct election commission members present. The signatures shall be affixed with the commission's seal. The aforementioned act may be signed by MP candidates, party's authorized persons, or official observers present.

19. The precinct election commission shall open the ballot boxes one by one. The first ballot boxes to be opened shall be the mobile ones that were used for voting outside the voting premises; and the last ballot boxes to be opened shall be the ones with damaged seals or sealing tape or with other damage revealed during the voting (if there are any such boxes).

20. When an undamaged ballot box is opened, its contents shall be emptied on the table at which the precinct election commission members are sitting. The presence of a control sheet in the ballot box (or, in case of a mobile ballot box, of the control sheets) shall also be checked.

21. The ballot papers from a damaged ballot box shall be taken out one by one without mixing them. The precinct election commission shall count the numbers of ballot papers contained in such ballot box, and check the presence of a control sheet, which shall be taken out of the ballot box last.

22. If there is no control sheet in the ballot box, the precinct election commission shall draw up an act on the absence of the control sheet in the ballot box in accordance with the procedure specified by Part six of Article 37 of this Code, in which the number of ballot papers contained in the ballot box shall be indicated. The aforementioned ballot papers shall not be subject to counting during the establishment of the total number of voters who took part in the voting and in the vote counting.

23. If there are more ballot papers in the mobile ballot box than the number of voters included in the excerpt from the voter list in the election precinct, the precinct election commission shall

draw up an act in accordance with the procedure specified by Part six of Article 37 of this Code on such a discrepancy, in which the number of ballot papers contained in this ballot box shall be indicated. The aforementioned ballot papers shall not be subject to counting during the establishment of the total number of voters who took part in the voting and in the vote counting.

24. If the members of the commission have doubts as to the authenticity of a control sheet, or in other doubtful situations, the precinct election commission shall adopt, by voting, a decision recognizing the ballot papers contained in the ballot box as ones that shall not be subject to counting during the establishment of the total number of voters who took part in the voting and in the vote counting.

25. If the numbers of the territorial district or the election precinct indicated on the ballot paper do not correspond to the numbers of the territorial district or the election precinct, at which the vote counting is being performed, the ballot paper shall not be subject to counting during the establishment of the total number of voters who took part in the voting and in the vote counting.

26. The ballot papers that are not to be counted when establishing the total number of voters who took part in the voting and when counting votes, shall be packed in a separate package. The inscription "Ballot papers not subject to counting" shall be made on the package, with indication of the number of the territorial district or indication that the election district is an out-of-country election district, as well as the number of the election precinct, the number of packed ballot papers, the date and time of packaging; the package shall be signed by the precinct election commission members present and affixed with the commission's seal.

27. The election commission shall count the total number of the ballot papers, except for ballot papers not subject to counting. When counting ballot papers, a member of the precinct election commission, appointed by a decision of the commission, shall count the ballot papers aloud. All items found in the ballot boxes other than the ballot papers of the approved form shall be placed separately and not counted. In case of doubt as to whether an item is a ballot paper, the precinct election commission shall adopt a decision thereon by voting. Each member of the election commission shall have the right to personally examine such items. The counting of ballot papers shall be suspended while such items are being examined. Any items that are not deemed to be ballot papers shall be packed in one package. Control sheets shall be also deemed as such items. The inscription "Items" shall be made on the package, with indication of the number of the territorial district or indication that the election district is an out-of-country election district, as well as the number of the election precinct, the number of packed ballot papers, the date and time of packaging; the package shall be signed by the precinct election commission members present and affixed with the commission's seal. The number established as a result of the above shall be considered the number of voters that took part in the voting. The secretary of the election commission shall announce this number and enter it into the protocol on vote counting at the election precinct.

28. The ballot papers shall be put on the places marked with special plates bearing, on both sides, the last names and initials of candidates or the inscription "Invalid ballot papers". When sorting out the ballot papers, a precinct election commission member selected by the commission shall show each ballot paper to all the election commission members, announcing the result of the expression of the voter's will. If the election commission members have doubts as to the content of a ballot paper, the election commission shall resolve the doubts by voting. Each member of the election commission shall have the right to personally examine the ballot paper. For the time of examination of the ballot paper, the work with the other ballot papers shall be suspended.

29. A ballot paper shall be deemed invalid if:

- 1) it bears no seal of the respective precinct election commission;
- 2) it has not been amended as required by Part seven of Article 169 of this Code, or it has been amended without a decision by the Central Election Commission or amended in a way that fails to comply with the decision of the Central Election Commission;
- 3) if marks have been placed next to full names of several parties;



- 4) no mark has been placed next to the full name of the party;
- 5) the counterfoil of the ballot paper has not been separated therefrom;
- 6) it is impossible to identify the result of the expression of the voter's will with regard to his or her support of the electoral list of a certain party for any other reason.

If any members of the election commission have doubts about the validity of a ballot paper in the case provided for by clause six of this Part, the precinct election commission shall resolve the doubts by voting. Each member of the election commission shall be allowed to personally examine the ballot paper in question. During the examination of the ballot paper, the counting of other ballot papers shall be suspended.

30. Invalid ballot papers shall be counted separately. The secretary of the election commission shall announce this number and enter it into the protocol on vote counting at the election precinct. The invalid ballot papers shall be packed together. The inscription "Invalid ballot papers" shall be made on the package, with indication of the number of the territorial district or indication that the election district is an out-of-country election district, as well as the number of the election precinct, the number of packed ballot papers, the date and time of packaging; the package shall be signed by the precinct election commission members present and affixed with the commission's seal.

31. The precinct election commission of regular or special election precinct shall count the number of votes cast for regional electoral lists, and the precinct election commission of the out-of-country precinct – the number of votes cast for nationwide electoral list of the party in an out-of-country district. During the vote counting each member of the commission shall be allowed to examine or recount the respective ballot papers. The results of counting votes of voters who received regional electoral lists of each party (who supported the nationwide electoral list of the party in an out-of-country district) and all parties at the election precinct, shall be announced and entered, respectively, in the protocol on vote counting at the election precinct by the secretary of the election commission.

32. When counting votes at an election precinct, the precinct election commission shall check whether the number of voters who took part in the voting at the precinct is equal to the sum of the numbers of invalid ballot papers at the election precinct and ballot papers with votes cast for regional electoral lists of all political parties (who supported the nationwide electoral list of all parties in an out-of-country district). In case of discrepancy of these data, the precinct election commission shall draw up an act, stating the reason for such discrepancy established by the commission's decision, which shall be signed by the precinct election commission members present. The signatures shall be affixed with the election commission's seal. The aforementioned act may be signed by the MP candidates present, party's authorized persons, and official observers.

The provisions of Parts thirty-three to thirty-eight of this Article shall not apply when counting the votes at an out-of-country precincts.

At an out-of-country precinct, ballots with the votes of voters who supported the party's national electoral list in an out-of-country precinct shall be packed in a package. The package shall have the inscription that the election precinct is an out-of-country one, stating the number of the out-of-country precinct, the name of the party, the number of packed ballots, the date and time of packing, signed by the present members of the precinct commission, and affixed with the commission's seal.

33. A precinct election commission shall, one by one, process the ballot papers with votes of the voters who supported the regional electoral list of the respective political party, in order to establish the number of votes cast in support of each MP candidate included in such electoral list. With this purpose, the ballot papers with votes of the voters who supported the regional electoral list of the respective political party shall be put in places marked by special plates containing, on both sides, the ordinal numbers of MP candidate in accordance with the regional electoral list of MP candidates from this party, as well the inscription "Supported the entire list".

34. A precinct election commission shall count the number of voters who supported each of the MP candidates included in the regional electoral list of the respective party, as well as the number of votes of voters who supported the entire regional electoral list of MP candidates from

the respective party, without supporting an individual candidate from that list. During the vote counting, each member of the precinct election commission shall be entitled to check or re-count the respective ballot papers.

If the election commission members have doubts as to the content of a ballot paper, the election commission shall resolve the doubts by voting. Before the voting, each member of the election commission shall have the right to personally examine the ballot paper. For the time of examination of the ballot paper, the work with the other ballot papers shall be suspended. The results of the voting shall be recorded in the minutes of the precinct election commission meeting.

35. The results of counting votes in the form of the number of votes of voters who supported each individual candidate included in the regional electoral list of the respective party, and the number of votes of voters who supported the entire regional electoral list of the respective party without supporting an individual candidate shall be announced by the chair of the election commission and entered by the secretary of the election commission in the protocol of the vote counting at the election precinct.

36. After the work with the ballot papers with votes of voters who supported the regional electoral list of the respective party, a precinct election commission shall be obliged to check whether the number of the votes of voters who supported the regional electoral list of this party is equal to the sum of the number of voters who supported each of the MP candidates included in the regional electoral list of this party and the number of votes of voters who supported the entire regional electoral list of this party, without supporting a particular MP candidate. In the case of a discrepancy of these data, a precinct election commission may re-count the ballot papers. If the specified discrepancy is confirmed, a precinct election commission shall draw up an act thereon in a form established by the Central Election Commission, stating the reason for such discrepancy, established by a decision of the precinct election commission.

37. Ballot papers with the votes cast for each of the MP candidates included in the regional electoral list of each party shall be packed into packages. The following information shall be indicated on the package: the number of the territorial district, the number of election precinct, the name of the party, the last name of an MP candidate and his or her ordinal number in the regional electoral list of the party, the number of packaged ballot papers, the date and time of packaging; the package shall be signed by the precinct election commission members present and affixed with the commission's seal.

38. Ballot papers with the votes cast for the entire regional electoral list from the party, without supporting a particular MP candidate shall be packed into the package. The following information shall be indicated on the package: the number of the territorial district, the number of election precinct, the name of the respective party, the number of packaged ballot papers, the date and time of packaging; the package shall be signed by the precinct election commission members present and affixed with the commission's seal.

39. Packages with ballot papers specified in Parts 37 and 38 of this Article, containing the votes of voters who supported the regional electoral list (nationwide electoral list in an out-of-country district) of each party shall be packed in one paper package. The following information shall be indicated on each package: the number of the territorial district or indication that this election district is an out-of-country election district, the number of election precinct, the name of the respective party, the number of packaged ballot papers, the date and time of packaging; the package shall be signed by the precinct election commission members present and affixed with the commission's seal.

**Article 176.** Protocols of Precinct Election Commission on Vote Counting at the Election Precinct

1. At its meeting, a precinct election commission shall draw up a protocol on vote counting at the election precinct in a form, which the Central Election Commission shall establish no later than twenty-two days prior to the day of voting.

It shall be prohibited to draw up a protocol on vote counting at the election precinct not on the blank precinct election commission protocols provided for in this Part, except the cases provided for by this Code, as well making any amendments thereto without a decision of the respective commission.

The Central Election Commission shall provide for the printing of 50 copies of blank precinct election commission protocols on in-precinct vote counting for each election precinct, in accordance with the procedure specified by Part 17 of Article 36 of this Code.

The procedure for drawing up and the requirements to the protocols of the precinct election commission on the counting of votes at the election precinct shall be established by the Central Election Commission not later than seventy days before the election day.

2. The protocol of a precinct election commission on vote counting at a regular, special election precinct shall contain the following data, entered in numbers:

- 1) the number of ballot papers received by the precinct election commission or produced thereby upon consent of the Central Election Commission;
- 2) the number of unused ballot papers invalidated by the precinct election commission;
- 3) the number of voters included in the voter list for the election precinct (at the end of the voting);
- 4) the number of voters who received ballot papers;
- 5) the number of ballot papers that are not subject to counting;
- 6) the number of voters who took part in the voting at the election precinct;
- 7) the number of ballot papers declared invalid;
- 8) the total number of votes of voters who supported regional electoral lists of MP candidates of all parties;
- 9) the number of votes of voters who supported regional electoral lists of MP candidates from each party;
- 10) the number of votes of voters who supported each MP candidate included in the regional electoral list of MP candidates from each party;
- 11) the number of votes of voters who supported the entire regional list of MP candidates from each party without supporting an individual candidate from that list.

The protocol of the precinct election commission on the counting of votes at an out-of-country precinct, shall contain the following information in numbers:

- 1) the number of ballot papers received by the precinct election commission;
- 2) the number of unused ballot papers invalidated by the precinct election commission;
- 3) the number of voters included in the voter list at the election precinct (at the end of the voting);
- 4) the number of voters who received ballot papers;
- 5) the number of ballot papers that are not subject to counting;
- 6) the number of voters who took part in the voting at the election precinct;
- 7) the number of ballot papers declared invalid;
- 8) the total number of votes of voters who supported the nationwide electoral lists of all parties;
- 9) the number of votes of voters who supported the nationwide electoral lists of each party.

3. The protocol on vote counting at the election precinct shall be drawn up by the precinct election commission in four copies. The copies of the protocols shall be numbered and shall have equal legal force.

4. The protocols of the precinct election commission on vote counting at the election precinct shall specify the date and time (hours and minutes) of their signing by the precinct election commission members. Each copy of the protocols shall be signed by the chair, deputy chair, secretary and other members of the precinct election commission present at the election commission's meeting. If a member of the commission disagrees with the vote counting results entered in a protocol, that member shall sign the protocol with a note "With dissenting opinion". A written dissenting opinion shall be attached to the protocol of the precinct election commission on vote counting at the election precinct. Failure or refusal of individual members of the precinct election commission to sign a vote counting protocol at the election precinct shall entail no legal consequences for the validity of the protocol. In the case of absence of the signature of the precinct election commission member in a vote counting protocol at the election precinct, the reasons for the absence of the signature shall be indicated next to his or her last name. Such protocol shall be signed by the precinct election commission members and affixed with the precinct election commission's seal only after having been fully completed.

5. It shall be prohibited to fill out the protocols of the precinct election commission on vote counting at the election precinct by pencil, or to make any changes thereto without the respective commission decision.

6. If after the signing of the protocols of the precinct election commission on vote counting at the election precinct in the respective election district, the precinct election commission discovers inaccuracies (a slip of the pen or an erroneous number), it shall at the same meeting consider the issue of introducing changes to the protocol by completing a new protocol; such protocol shall be marked "Corrected." The ballot papers shall not be re-counted. A protocol marked "Corrected" shall be completed in the number of copies specified in Part three of this Article.

7. The first and the second copies of the protocols of the precinct election commission on vote counting at the election precinct and, if available, the respective copies of each protocol with the mark "Corrected" shall be packed into packages with special security features. The inscription "Protocol on vote counting" shall be made on the package, with indication of the number of the territorial district, the number of the election precinct, the date and time of packaging; the package shall be signed by the precinct election commission members present at the election commission's meeting, and affixed with the election commission's seal. The third copy of the protocol of the precinct election commission on vote counting at the election precinct shall remain with the secretary of the precinct election commission, while the fourth copy of the aforementioned protocol shall be immediately placed in the premises of the precinct election commission for public review.

8. The precinct election commission members, MP candidates, party's authorized persons, official observers who were present during the vote counting at the election precinct shall have the right to immediately receive upon their request copies of the protocols on vote counting at the election precinct, certified by the chair and the secretary of the precinct election commission and affixed with the election commission's seal; no more than one copy of each protocol for each member of the election commission, MP candidate, a party's authorized person and for each official observer.

9. The precinct election commission shall prepare an act, of a form approved by the Central Election Commission, recording the handover of copies of the protocols of the precinct election commission on vote counting. The act shall contain a list of persons who received copies of the respective protocol, the date and time of the receipt of such copies, and the signatures of such persons. The act shall be signed by the chair and the secretary of the precinct election commission and affixed with the precinct election commission's seal. The act shall be packed in the package together with the first and second copies of the protocol of the precinct election commission on vote counting at the election precinct.

10. After the end of the election commission's meeting, the packages with the protocols of the precinct election commission on vote counting at the election precinct, the ballot papers, counterfoils and items, voter lists, and also written dissenting opinions of the election commission members (if any), acts, applications, complaints, and decisions adopted by the election commission, shall be delivered to the district election commission.

11. In case of use of the automated information-analytical system by the precinct election commission, the secretary of the commission or the responsible person determined by the decision of the precinct election commission shall enter into the automated information-analytical system the information necessary for drawing up the protocol on counting of votes, and shall ensure their verification by means of this system.

If the protocol is filled in correctly, the responsible person must:

- 1) print out four copies of the protocol on the counting of votes at the precinct and hand them over to the chair, deputy chair, secretary and other members of the precinct election commission for signing and affixing of the precinct election commission's seal. Information on the counting of votes shall be immediately provided to the MP candidates, their agents, authorized persons of parties, official observers present at the meeting who have the right to sign the first copies of the protocol;
- 2) after signing the protocol on the counting of votes by all members of the commission present at the meeting, send it to the district election commission and the Central Election Commission by means of an automated information-analytical system.

Copies of the protocol on the counting of votes at the precinct may be made using an automated information-analytical system and shall be, while certified by the secretary of the precinct election commission and affixed with commission's seal, provided to members of the precinct election commission, MP candidates, their agents, authorized persons of parties, official observers present at the counting of votes at the precinct, at their request, in accordance with Part eight of this Article.

**Article 177.** Declaration by a Precinct Election Commission of the Invalidity of Voting at the Election Precinct

1. A precinct election commission shall be entitled to declare the voting in an election precinct invalid if it establishes that there have been violations of the requirements of this Code that make it impossible to determine the true results of expression of the voters' will, only under the following circumstances:

- 1) discovery of cases of illegal voting (casting of a ballot paper into the ballot box by other persons instead of the voter (except in the cases specified by Part nine of Article 173 of this Code), voting by persons who have no right to vote; voting by persons who are not included in the voter list for the election precinct or who have been included in the voter list without legal grounds; multiple voting by the same person) in a number that exceeds by five percent the number of voters who received ballot papers at the election precinct;
- 2) destruction of or damage to a ballot box (ballot boxes) that makes it impossible to establish the content of the ballot papers, if the number of such ballot papers exceeds by five percent the number of voters who received ballot papers at the election precinct;
- 3) discovery in the ballot boxes of ballot papers in a number that exceeds by more than ten percent the number of voters who received ballot papers at the election precinct.

2. If the circumstances provided for by Part one of this Article are discovered, the precinct election commission shall in each case write an act thereon. Such act shall be the ground for consideration by the precinct election commission of whether to declare the voting at the election precinct in the respective territorial district invalid.

3. Should a decision be made on declaring the voting at the election precinct invalid, all ballot papers found in the ballot boxes at the election precinct, shall not be subject to counting. In this case, the protocol of the precinct election commission on vote counting at the election precinct shall contain only the data specified in clauses one through five of Part two of Article 176 of this Code. In other places a dash shall be inserted. The protocol of the precinct election commission on vote counting shall be completed by the precinct election commission in accordance with the procedure prescribed by Article 176 of this Code.

4. If a precinct election commission takes a decision declaring voting at the election precinct to be invalid, the ballot papers shall be packed. The inscription "The ballot papers" shall be made on the

package, with indication of the number of the territorial district, the number of the election precinct, the number of the packed ballot papers, the date and time of packaging; the package shall be signed by the precinct election commission members, and affixed with the election commission's seal.

5. A decision of a precinct election commission declaring voting at the election precinct to be invalid, and the act on the basis of which such decision was adopted, shall be attached to the protocol of the precinct election commission on vote counting at the election precinct.

**Article 178.** Procedure for Transportation and Delivery of Election Documents to District Election Commission or to the Central Election Commission (as regards the Out-Of-Country Election District)

1. The election documents specified in Part ten of Article 176 of this Code shall be transported by the chair or the deputy chair of the precinct election commission and two other members of this election commission representing two other parties, in support of the regional lists of which the highest number of votes were cast at the election precinct, who shall be accompanied by a representative of the police, or by representatives of the Security Service of Ukraine, if necessary, upon request of the Central Election Commission. Other members of the precinct election commission, MP candidates, and official observers may, if they choose, accompany the transportation of the election documents. Other persons shall be prohibited from accompanying the transportation of the election documents. Unpacking the packages with the ballot papers and other election documents during transportation shall be prohibited.

If simultaneously with the election of MPs other elections are held, the election documents related to such elections shall be transported to the respective election commission by members of the precinct election commission who will not participate in transporting the election documents related to the election of MPs to the district election commission.

The secretary of the precinct election commission, as well as other members of the commission not accompanying the election documents during their transportation to the district election commission, shall stay in the premises of the precinct election commission until they are notified of the acceptance by the district election commission of the protocols of the precinct election commission on vote counting at the election precinct. During the transportation of the election documents, the precinct election commission's seal and blank protocols of the precinct election commissions on vote counting at the election precinct, unless they were used for drawing up the protocols with the mark "Corrected" prior to the dispatch of those protocols together with the election documents to the district election commission, shall be kept in the safe (metal case) in the premises of the precinct election commission.

2. The protocol on vote counting at the election precinct and other documents of the precinct election commission shall be handed over to the respective district election commission at its meeting.

3. The contents of the protocol on vote counting at an out-of-country election precinct, upon its signing by the precinct election commission members, shall be immediately sent by the precinct election commission via technical means of communication to the Central Election Commission (through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine), followed by mandatory delivery of the first and second copies of the protocol on vote counting at the election precinct, in the manner prescribed by the Central Election Commission. The protocol shall be appended with other documents specified in Part ten of Article 176 of this Code.

4. The contents of the protocol on vote counting at a special election precinct established on a ship sailing, as of the day of voting, under the National Flag of Ukraine, or at Ukraine's polar station, upon its signing by the precinct election commission members, shall be immediately sent by the precinct election commission via technical means of communication to the respective district election commission, followed by mandatory delivery of the first and second copies of the protocol on vote counting at the election precinct, in the manner prescribed by the Central Election Commission. The protocol shall be appended with other documents specified in Part ten of Article 176 of this Code.

**Article 179.** Procedure for Receipt and Consideration of Documents of Precinct Election Commissions by District Election Commission

1. Immediately after the end of voting, a district election commission shall convene a meeting that shall continue without a break until the results of the voting in the territorial election district are established. During this period of time, the members of the district election commission shall not be engaged in any activities other than participation in the election commission's meeting.

2. From the moment when the voting ended, and till the beginning of receipt by the district election commission of protocols on vote counting at election precincts, the district election commission shall send the current information on vote counting at election precincts of the territorial district (hereinafter referred to as the information on vote counting) to the Central Election Commission via an automated information analysis system.

3. The meeting of the district election commission specified in Part one of this Article shall be officially recorded in the minutes of continuous meeting that shall be signed by the chair or the meeting chairperson, as well as the secretary of the election commission or the member of the election commission that performed the duties of the secretary at the said meeting. The protocol shall be appended with written dissenting opinions (if available) of members of the election commission who took part in the meeting and who disagree with the decision adopted by the district election commission.

4. At the meeting of the district election commission specified in Part one of this Article, the chair of the district election commission shall receive the sealed packages with the protocols of the precinct election commissions on vote counting; unpack them and announce the content of the protocols of the precinct election commissions on vote counting at the respective election precincts; and also receive the sealed packages with the other election documents specified by Part ten of Article 176 of this Code. The time of the receipt by the district election commission of the protocols of the precinct election commission on vote counting, the list of the received election documents, and the data entered into the protocol on vote counting at the election precinct shall be recorded in the minutes of the meeting of the district election commission.

5. Immediately after the announcement by the chair of the district election commission (or the commission meeting chairperson) of the contents of the protocol at the meeting of the district election commission, the commission member authorized by the commission decision shall announce the data of the protocol and respective acts (if any) for the system administrator who shall enter those data in the data base of the automated information analysis system to verify by means of this system the correctness of the data contained in the protocol.

If the protocol is filled out correctly, the system administrator shall:

- 1) print out the information on vote counting relating to the respective election precinct, sign it and hand it over for signing by the chair, deputy chair and secretary of the district election commission (or the commission meeting chairperson), as well as the election commission members. The information on vote counting shall be immediately provided to the members of the respective precinct election commission, MP candidates, party's authorized persons, and official observers. The aforementioned information shall be stored in the district election commission until the termination of its powers and shall be transferred thereby to the local archival institution together with other election documents;
- 2) using the automated information analysis system, transfer the information on vote counting to the Central Election Commission.

The Central Election Commission shall immediately publish the aforementioned information on its official website.

6. When receiving the precinct election commission documents, the district election commission shall examine the completeness of the documents and the integrity of all packages containing election documents. During this checking, each member of the commission shall have the right to examine each package containing election documents.

7. Based on the results of consideration of the precinct election commission documents and complaints concerning violations of the requirements of this Code during the conduct of voting and

vote counting at the election precinct, as well as during the transportation of the election documents to the district election commission that had been received by the district election commission prior to the time period of the receipt of the precinct election commission documents, the district election commission shall adopt one of the following decisions:

- 1) to include the data contained in the protocols on vote counting at the election precinct, when establishing the results of voting in the territorial district;
- 2) to oblige the precinct election commission to correct the revealed defects by drawing up a protocol marked "Corrected";
- 3) to conduct a re-count of votes at the election precinct in accordance with procedures provided for by this Code.

8. A decision provided for by Part seven of this Article shall be adopted by voting of all members of the district election commission, by an absolute majority of the votes of all members of the commission, and shall be recorded in the minutes of the meeting of the district election commission.

9. If any corrections, mistakes, or inaccuracies are discovered in the protocols of the precinct election commission on vote counting at the election precinct, which can be eliminated without re-counting the votes, the district election commission shall adopt a decision specified in clause two of Part seven of this Article (if the content of such corrections, mistakes and inaccuracies cannot be ascertained without drawing up a protocol marked "Corrected"), or shall consider an issue about making changes to the aforementioned data with the purpose to eliminate the detected drawbacks without the re-count of votes.

As a result of such consideration, the district election commission shall make a decision documented in the minutes of the commission meeting, requiring the precinct election commission to introduce changes to the protocol on vote counting at the election precinct, to accept the said protocol with changes made and to include the data contained in the said protocol with changes made, when establishing the results of voting in the territorial district.

Such a decision documented in the minutes of the commission shall be appended to the minutes of the meeting of the precinct election commission.

10. A precinct election commission shall be obliged, within the time limit established by the district election commission, to consider an issue about introducing changes to the protocol on vote counting without the re-count of ballot papers. The protocol with the mark "Corrected" shall be drawn up pursuant to this Code in the manner in which the protocol of the precinct election commission on the counting of votes at the precinct, which needs to be updated, was drawn up, be transported and handed over to the district election commission in the manner prescribed by Article 178 of this Code. The time of the receipt by the district election commission of the protocol of the precinct election commission with the mark "Corrected" and data entered therein shall be recorded in the minutes of the meeting of the district election commission.

11. If there are applications or complaints, supported by acts duly drawn up by MP candidates, party's authorized persons, official observers, or voters relating to violations of the requirements of this Code during the conduct of the voting and/or vote counting at the election precinct that raise doubts about the vote counting results at such election precinct, the district election commission may adopt a decision on re-counting of votes at the election precinct.

12. If there is an act or an application in writing submitted by persons specified in Part one of Article 178 of this Code, on violation of the requirements of this Code during the transportation of the protocol on vote counting at the election precinct, as well as other documents, to the district election commission, the district election commission may, or shall be obliged, in case if there are clear signs that the packages with the election documents have been interfered with, to adopt a decision ordering a re-count of votes at such election precinct.



A decision of a district election commission ordering to conduct a re-count of votes in case if the violation of integrity of the packages with packed documents is revealed, following the acceptance of election documents from the precinct election packed commission, shall not be allowed

13. The protocols of a precinct election commission on vote counting at the election precinct as well as sealed packages with other election documents of the precinct election commissions shall be stored at the premises where the meeting of the district election commission is being held until the votes at the election precinct have been re-counted by the district election commission.

14. The votes of the voters at the election precinct shall be re-counted by the district election commission after consideration and receipt of protocols and other documents from all precinct election commissions. All members of the precinct election commission shall have the right to be present during re-counting of votes at the election precinct by the district election commission; moreover, MP candidates, their agents, party's authorized persons, and official observers may be also present there.

15. Based on the results of the re-count of votes at the election precinct, a district election commission shall draw up a protocol on re-count of votes at the respective election precinct in a form established by the Central Election Commission.

After the district election commission has drawn up a protocol on re-counting of votes at the election precinct, the information contained in the respective protocol shall be transferred to the Central Election Commission in accordance with the same procedure as the information on the vote counting.

16. The protocol on the re-counting of votes at the respective election precinct shall be drawn up by the district election commission in four copies. The copies of the protocols shall be numbered and shall have equal legal force. All copies of the protocols shall be signed by the chair, deputy chair, secretary and other members of the district election commission present at the commission meeting and by the precinct election commission members who took part in the re-counting of votes at the respective election precinct. All copies of the protocols shall be affixed with the seal of the district election commission. The data contained in the protocol shall be announced. MP candidates, their agents, party's authorized persons, official observers who were present during the re-counting of votes, shall have the right to sign the first copy of the protocol. If a member of the commission disagrees with the information entered in a protocol, that member shall be obliged to set out in writing his or her dissenting opinion, which shall be attached to the protocol.

Failure or refusal of some members of the election commission to sign a vote counting protocol at the election precinct shall entail no legal consequences for the validity of the protocol.

17. A district election commission may adopt a decision declaring the voting at the election precinct invalid, only if circumstances specified in Part one of Article 177 of this Code are discovered during the re-counting of votes at the respective election precinct.

18. Should a decision be made during the re-counting of votes on declaring the voting at the election precinct invalid, all ballot papers that were used for voting at the respective election precinct shall not be subject to counting. In this case, the protocol of the district election commission on re-counting votes at this election precinct shall be drawn up in accordance with the procedure specified by Parts 14 and 15 of this Article, and shall contain only the information provided for in clauses one through five of Part two of Article 176 of this Code. In other places a dash shall be inserted.

19. The first copy of the protocol of the district election commission on the re-counting of votes at the respective election precinct, together with the respective protocol of the precinct election commission on vote counting at the election precinct, and the decision of the district election commission declaring the voting at the election precinct to be invalid, shall be attached, respectively, to the protocol of the district election commission on the voting results in the respective territorial election district. The second copy of the protocol of the district election commission on re-counting of votes at the respective election precinct shall be kept by the secretary of the district election commission; the third copy of the protocol shall be delivered to the respective precinct election commission; the fourth copy shall be immediately placed in the premises of the district election commission for public review. The information contained in the protocol of the district election commission on the re-

counting of votes at the respective election precinct shall be announced.

20. The election commission members, MP candidates (their agents), party's authorized persons, or official observers who were present during the re-counting of votes at the election precinct shall have the right to immediately receive upon their request copies of the protocol on re-counting votes of voters at the respective election precinct, certified by the chair and the secretary of the district election commission and affixed with the election commission's seal; no more than one copy of the protocol for each member of the election commission, MP candidate (his or her agent), a party's authorized person and for each official observer.

21. The information on the voting results in the territorial district shall be formed and transmitted to the Central Election Commission by means of the automated information analysis system only after the information on the vote counting with regard to all election precincts in the territorial district has been transmitted to the Central Election Commission via means of this system.

#### **Article 180. Tabulation of Voting Results in the Territorial District**

1. After the receipt and consideration of the precinct election commission vote counting protocols, including those marked "Corrected", based on the precinct election commission vote counting protocols and messages about the contents of such protocols of the precinct election commissions transmitted via technical means of communication from special election precincts established on ships sailing, as of the day of voting, under the National Flag of Ukraine, or at Ukraine's polar station, and, in case of vote re-counting, the protocol of the district election commission on re-counting the votes at the respective election precinct, the district election commission shall determine:

- 1) the number of ballot papers received by the district election commission;
- 2) the number of unused ballot papers invalidated by the district election commission;
- 3) the number of ballot papers received by the precinct election commissions in the territorial election district and produced thereby upon consent of the Central Election Commission;
- 4) the number of unused ballot papers invalidated by precinct election commissions in the territorial district;
- 5) the total number of voters included in the voter lists at the election precincts in the territorial district;
- 6) the number of voters who received ballot papers within the territorial district;
- 7) the number of ballot papers that were not subject to counting at the election precincts within the territorial district;
- 8) the number of voters who took part in the voting within the territorial district;
- 9) the number of ballot papers declared invalid;
- 10) the total number of votes of voters who supported regional electoral lists of MP candidates of all parties, within the territorial district;
- 11) the number of votes of voters who supported regional electoral lists of MP candidates from each party, within the territorial district;
- 12) the number of votes of voters who supported each MP candidate included in the regional electoral list of MP candidates from each party, within the territorial district;
- 13) the number of votes of voters who supported the entire regional list of MP candidates from each party, without supporting an individual candidate from that list, within the territorial district.

2. The data on the voting results within the territorial district shall be entered in numbers in the protocol of the district election commission on the voting results within the territorial district. The data specified in clauses 3 - 13 of Part one of this Article shall be entered into the protocol for each election precinct within the territorial district, and the total for the territorial district.

3. The voting result protocol within the territorial district shall be compiled by the district election commission in three copies. The copies of the protocol shall be numbered and shall have equal legal force.

4. It shall be prohibited to fill out the voting result protocol in the territorial district by pencil, or to make changes thereto without the respective decision of the district election commission, as well as to sign it and affix the seal of the district election commission thereto prior to the protocol has been completed.

5. The voting result protocol in the territorial district shall be signed by the chair, deputy chair, secretary and other members of the district election commission present at the election commission's meeting. The aforementioned protocol shall be affixed with the seal of the district election commission. If a member of the commission disagrees with the information entered in a protocol, that member shall be obliged to set out in writing his or her dissenting opinion, which shall be attached to the protocol.

Failure or refusal of some members of the election commission to sign a vote counting protocol shall entail no legal consequences for the validity of the protocol.

The protocol shall specify the date and time (hour and minutes) of the signing thereof by the members of the district election commission. If a commission member has not signed the protocol, the reasons for the absence of his or her signature shall be indicated next to his or her last name. MP candidates, party's authorized persons, and official observers who were present during the tabulation of the voting results in the territorial district shall be entitled to sign the first copy of the protocol.

If after signing the said protocol, but before transporting it to the Central Election Commission, the district election commission discovers inaccuracies therein (a slip of the pen or an erroneous number), it shall at the same meeting consider introducing changes to the protocol by drawing up a new protocol, which shall be marked "Corrected." A protocol marked "Corrected" shall be completed and signed in accordance with the procedure and in the number of copies prescribed by this Article.

6. The district election commission shall transport to the Central Election Commission the first copy of the protocol of the district election commission on the voting results within the territorial district, and, if any changes were made to the protocol, the protocol in which inaccuracies were discovered (slips of the pen or erroneous numbers), the respective protocols and acts of the precinct election commissions, decisions adopted on the basis of such acts; the protocols of the district election commission on re-counting of votes (if available) at the respective election precinct within the territorial district; written dissenting opinions of members of the district election commission; applications and complaints together with any decisions adopted by the district election commission as a result of consideration thereof. The second copy of the protocol shall be stored at the district election commission and the third copy shall be immediately placed in the premises of the district election commission for public review.

7. The district election commission shall be obliged to establish the results of voting in the territorial district no later than the seventh day of the day of voting, regardless of the number of election precincts in the respective election district at which the voting was declared invalid. The voting in the territorial district may not be declared invalid. The protocols on the voting results in the territorial election district, after signing thereof, shall be transported to the Central Election Commission

8. The district election commission shall be obliged to establish the results of voting in the territorial district regardless of the number of election precincts in the respective district, in which the voting has been organized and conducted on the day of voting, in accordance with the requirements of this Code.

9. If the voting at all election precincts of the election district on the day of voting has not been organized and conducted in accordance with the requirements of this Code, the district election commission shall consider that the voting within the respective territorial district as not having taken place.

10. The documents specified in Part six of this Article shall be transported by the chair or the deputy chair of the district election commission as well as by two other members of the election commission representing different parties, who shall be accompanied by a representative of the police, or by representatives of the Security Service of Ukraine, if necessary, upon request of the Central Election Commission. Other members of the district election commission, MP candidates, party's authorized persons, and official observers may, if they choose, accompany the transportation of the election documents. Other persons shall be prohibited from accompanying the transportation of the election documents

11. Upon his or her request, an MP candidate, a party's authorized person or an official observer shall immediately receive a copy of the protocol of the district election commission on the results of the voting in the territorial district (including the one with the mark "Corrected"), one copy of the protocol for each party and one copy of the protocol for an official observer (a group of observers) from each nongovernmental organization, foreign state or an international organization. The aforementioned copies shall be certified on each page by signatures of the chair and the secretary of the district election commission and affixed with the election commission's seal.

**Article 181. Tabulation of Voting Results in the Out-of-Country Election District**

1. The Central Election Commission shall, at its meeting, consider and announce protocols of the precinct election commissions on the vote counting at the out-of-country election precincts, received by the Commission, or messages about the contents of the respective protocols of vote counting, transmitted via technical means of communication in accordance with the Part three of Article 178 of this Code. The aforementioned data shall be immediately made public by the Central Election Commission on its official website.

2. The Central Election Commission shall, after the receipt and consideration of the protocols of the precinct election commissions on the vote counting at the out-of-country election precincts, at the same meeting, based on the aforementioned protocols and the notifications about the contents thereof, which have been transmitted using the technical means of communication, establish the following information:

- 1) the number of ballot papers for voting in an out-of-country district received by the Central Election Commission;
- 2) the number of unused ballot papers for voting in an out-of-country district invalidated by the Central Election Commission;
- 3) the number of ballot papers for voting in an out-of-country district received by precinct election commissions of an out-of-country district;
- 4) the number of unused ballot papers for voting in an out-of-country district invalidated by precinct election commissions of an out-of-country district;
- 5) number of voters included in voter lists at election precincts of a an out-of-country district;
- 6) the number of voters who received ballot papers within an out-of-country district;
- 7) the number of ballot papers for voting in an out-of-country district, which are not subject to counting, discovered at a precinct of an out-of-country district;
- 8) the number of voters who participated in the voting within the out-of-country district;
- 9) the number of ballot papers for voting in an out-of-country districts which were declared invalid;
- 10) the total number of votes by voters who supported the nationwide electoral lists of all parties within the out of country-district;
- 11) the number of votes by voters who supported the nationwide electoral lists of each party within the out of country-district;

3. The information on the voting results within the out-of-country election district shall be announced at the meeting of the Central Election Commission and entered in numbers in the

protocols of the Central Election Commission on the voting results within the out-of-country election district.

4. The protocol specified in Part three of this Article shall be drawn up in accordance with the procedure specified by Article 180 of this Code.

5. The protocol specified in Part three of this Article shall be drawn up in two copies. The protocol shall be signed by the Chair, Deputy Chairs, Secretary and other members of the Central Election Commission present at the meeting of the commission, and affixed by the seal of the Central Election Commission. The protocol shall specify the date and time (hours and minutes) of its signing by the members of the Central Election Commission. If a member of the commission disagrees with the vote counting results entered in a protocol of the Central Election Commission, that member of Central Election Commission shall sign the protocol with a note "With dissenting opinion". A written dissenting opinion shall be attached to the protocol on vote counting. Failure or refusal of some members of the Central Election Commission to sign a vote counting protocol shall entail no legal consequences for the validity of the protocol. In the case of absence of the signature of the member of the Central Election Commission in a protocol, the reasons for the absence of the signature shall be indicated next to his or her last name. MP candidates, party's representatives to the Central Election Commission that were present during the establishing the voting results within the out-of-country election district shall be entitled to sign the first copy of the protocol. The contents of the protocol shall be immediately made public using the official website of the Central Election Commission.

6. Upon his or her request, a party's representative to the Central Election Commission shall immediately receive a copy of the protocol (including the one marked "Corrected") of the Central Election Commission on the voting results within the out-of-country election district. The said copies shall be certified at each page by signatures of the Chair and the Secretary of the Central Election Commission and affixed with the seal of the Central Election Commission.

7. The Central Election Commission shall be obliged to establish the results of voting within the out-of-country election district regardless of the number of out-of-country election precincts at which the voting was declared invalid or such that was not organized and conducted in accordance with the requirements of this Code.

8. The voting in the out-of-country election district may not be declared invalid.

#### **Article 182.** Establishing the Results of Election of MPs of Ukraine

1. At its meeting, the Central Election Commission shall, no later than the fifteenth day of the day of voting, based on the protocols of the district election commissions on the voting results (including those marked "Corrected"), and the protocol of the Central Election Commission on the voting results within the out-of-country election district (including those marked "Corrected"), establish the results of the election of MPs by drawing up the protocol thereon.

The Central Election Commission shall be obliged to establish the results of the election of MPs regardless of the number of election precincts, territorial districts, in which (within which) the voting has not been organized and held in accordance with the requirements of this Code.

The Central Election Commission may extend, but no more than by one day, the indicated time period, if necessary, for the district election commission to provide a protocol with the mark "Corrected".

Should a district election commission fail to draw up, or fail to draw up properly, a protocol on the voting results (including the one with the mark "Corrected"), within the time limit established by this Code, or should it fail to deliver it to the Central Election Commission, the Central Election Commission shall exercise powers of the district election commission with regard to establishing the voting results in the respective territorial district. In this case, the Central Election Commission shall demand from the district election commission to provide the election documents specified in Part ten of Article 176 of this Code and ensure the transportation thereof, and may also require other documents.

The following data shall be entered into the protocol on the results of the election of MPs, in numbers:

- 1) the number of ballot papers printed upon order of the Central Election Commission;
- 2) the number of ballot papers received by the district election commissions;
- 3) the number of unused ballot papers invalidated by the district election commissions;
- 4) the number of ballot papers received by the precinct election commissions and produced thereby upon consent of the Central Election Commission;
- 5) the number of the unused ballot papers invalidated by the precinct election commissions;
- 6) the number of voters included in the voter lists for election precincts;
- 7) the number of voters who received ballot papers;
- 8) the number of ballot papers at the election precincts that were not subject to counting;
- 9) the number of voters who took part in the voting;
- 10) the number of ballot papers declared invalid;
- 11) the total number of votes of voters who supported regional electoral lists of MP candidates of all parties, in each electoral region;
- 12) the number of votes of voters who supported regional electoral lists of MP candidates from each party, in each electoral region;
- 13) the percentage of the votes of voters, who supported regional electoral lists of MP candidates from each party in each election district, in relation to the total number of votes of voters who supported the regional electoral lists of MP candidates from all parties in the respective electoral region;
- 14) the number of votes of voters who supported each MP candidate included in the regional electoral list of MP candidates from each party in each electoral region;
- 15) the number of votes of voters who supported the entire regional list of MP candidates from each party, without supporting an individual candidate from that list, in each electoral region;
  - a) the total number of votes by voters who supported the nationwide electoral lists from all parties in an out-of-country district;
  - b) the number of votes by voters who supported the nationwide electoral lists of each party in an out-of-country district;
- 16) the total number of votes of voters who supported the entire electoral lists of MP candidates of each party within the nationwide district;
- 17) the percent of the total number of votes of voters who supported the entire electoral lists of MP candidates of each party, in relation to the total number of votes of voters who supported the entire regional electoral lists of MP candidates from all parties within the nationwide district.
- 18) the percent of the total number of votes by voters who supported all electoral lists of MP candidates of each party within the nationwide district, in relation to the total number of votes by voters who supported all electoral lists of MP candidates of all parties within the nationwide district.

The information provided for in Articles 183-186 of this Code shall also be entered in numbers in the protocol on the results of MP elections.

2. The protocol shall be signed by the Chair, Deputy Chairs, the Secretary and other members of the Central Election Commission, who are present at the meeting of the Central Election

Commission, and affixed with the seal of the Central Election Commission. The protocol shall specify the date and time (hours and minutes) of their signing by the members of the Central Election Commission. If a member of the Central Election Commission disagrees with the established results of the election entered into the protocol of the Central Election Commission, that member shall sign the protocol with a note "With dissenting opinion". A written dissenting opinion of an individual member of the Central Election Commission shall be attached to the protocol on the results of the election of MPs. In the case of absence of the signature of the member of the Central Election Commission in the protocol, the reasons for the absence of the member of the Central Election Commission at its meeting shall be indicated next to his or her last name. MP candidates, party's representatives in the Central Election Commission who were present during the establishing the results of the election of MPs shall be entitled to sign the first copy of the protocol. The contents of the protocol shall be immediately published on the official website of the Central Election Commission.

3. Based on the data specified in clause 18 of Part one of this Article, the Central Election Commission shall determine the parties that shall be entitled to participate in distribution of MP seats. The right to participate in distribution of MP seats shall be granted to parties in support of the electoral lists within the nationwide district (regional electoral lists and nationwide electoral list in an out-of-country district) of which no less than five percent of the votes of voters were cast, from the total number of votes of voters who supported the electoral lists of MP candidates from all parties within the nationwide district.

**Article 183.** Electoral Quota

1. Repealed

2. The Central Election Commission shall establish the total number of votes of voters cast in support of the electoral lists of parties which shall be entitled to participate in distribution of MP seats, within the nationwide district, on the basis of the information specified in clause 16 of Part one of Article 182 of this Code.

3. Repealed.

4. The Central Election Commission shall establish the number of votes of voters necessary to obtain one MP mandate (hereinafter, the electoral quota). The electoral quota shall be calculated as an integer of the result of division of the total number of votes of voters cast in support of the electoral lists of parties that shall be entitled to participate in distribution of MP seats established in accordance with Part two of this Article, by the number of MP seats that is calculated by way of subtracting from the quantitative composition of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine established by the Constitution of Ukraine of the total number of MP seats, which all the parties are entitled to receive in accordance with Part one of Article 186 of this Code.

5. The electoral quota shall be entered in numbers in the protocol on the results of the election of MPs.

**Article 184.** Establishing the Number of MP Seats Received by the Regional Electoral Lists of MP Candidates from Parties

1. In each electoral region MP seats shall be distributed among regional electoral lists of MP candidates from parties indicated in Part three of Article 182 of this Code, in proportion to the number of votes of voters cast in support of the respective regional electoral list, in the number established in accordance with Parts two, three and four of this Article.

2. In order to determine the number of MP seats obtained by the regional electoral list of MP candidates from a party, the number of votes of voters cast in the electoral region in support of the respective regional electoral list, shall be divided by the electoral quota determined in accordance with Part four of Article 183 of this Code. An integer of the received quotient shall deem a number of MP seats to be granted to MP candidates included in the respective regional electoral list from this party.

3. The Central Election Commission shall establish the number of votes of voters cast in

support of the regional electoral list of the respective party which remained unused during the distribution of MP seats in this electoral region (hereinafter, the number of unused votes of voters cast in the electoral region in support of the electoral list of the party), by way of subtracting from the number of votes of voters cast in support of the respective regional electoral list of the product of the electoral quota multiplied by the number of MP seats received by MP candidates included in the respective regional electoral list from this party.

4. The Central Election Commission shall sum up the number of MP seats received by MP candidates included in the regional electoral lists of all parties in the respective electoral region, by establishing the total number of MP seats distributed in the respective electoral region.

5. The Central Election Commission shall sum up the number of unused votes of voters cast in the respective electoral region in support of the electoral list of each party, entitled to participate in distribution of MP seats, and shall establish the total number of unused votes of voters cast in support of the regional electoral lists of each party.

6. The Central Election Commission shall enter, in numbers, in the protocol on results of the election of MPs the following information:

- 1) the number of MP seats obtained by MP candidates included in each regional electoral list of each party, indicated in Part three of Article 182 of this Code;
- 2) the total number of MP seats distributed in the respective electoral region;
- 3) the number of unused votes of voters cast in each electoral region in support of the electoral list of each party specified in Part three of Article 182 of this Code;
- 4) the total number of unused votes of voters cast in support of all the regional electoral list of all parties that participate in distribution of MP seats.

**Article 185.** Establishing MPs of Ukraine Elected in the Election district

1. The Central Election Commission shall establish the order of MP candidates in the regional electoral list of each party, established on the basis of due consideration of the results of voting by voters in the respective electoral region, in accordance with Part two of this Article.

2. MP candidates, who received the number of votes of voters that is equal or exceeds 25 percent of the amount of the electoral quota, shall be placed at the beginning of the regional electoral list of the respective party in the descending order of the number of votes of voters, who supported the respective MP candidate. When two MP candidates received the equal number of votes, the MP candidate placed higher in the regional electoral list of MP candidates from a party shall take the higher place. Following the MP candidates, who received the number of votes of voters that is equal to, or exceeds 25 percent of the amount of the electoral quota, other MP candidates shall be placed in the regional electoral list in the order determined by the party when nominating candidates.

3. The Central Election Commission shall include the regional electoral lists of MP candidates from each party in each electoral region, in the order of MP candidates established in accordance with Part two of this Article, in the protocol on the results of the election of MPs, as well as the mark on being elected.

4. The MPs elected from the party in the respective election district shall deem MP candidates in the number that corresponds to the number of MP seats received by MP candidates included in the regional electoral list of this party, in the same order as they appear in the regional electoral list of this party determined in accordance with Part two of this Article.

In case the regional electoral list is exhausted, the right to obtain the mandate shall be passed over to the nationwide electoral list of this party.

5. The Central Election Commission shall specify, in the protocol on the results of the election of MPs with regard to all MPs elected in the electoral regions, the following information:



- 1) last name, first name (all first names), patronymic name (if any);
- 2) year of birth;
- 3) educational background;
- 4) job position (occupation), place of work;
- 5) party membership;
- 6) place of residence;
- 7) electoral region, in which an MP is elected;
- 8) name of the party, from which an MP was elected.

**Article 186.** Establishing the Number of MPs and Determining MPs of Ukraine Elected in the Nationwide election district

1. A party that received no less than five percent of votes of voters shall be guaranteed to receive nine MP seats, which shall be distributed in the order of priority, in accordance with the nationwide electoral list approved by the party.

2. The Central Election Commission shall establish the number of MP seats to be distributed in the nationwide election district by way of subtracting from the number of MP seats equal to the quantitative composition of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine determined by the Constitution of Ukraine, the number of seats obtained by regional electoral lists of parties entitled to participate in the distribution of seats, and the total number of mandated guaranteed to each party in accordance with Part one of this Article.

3. Repealed

4. In order to determine the number of MP seats received by the nationwide electoral list of each party, entitled to participate in the distribution of MP mandated, the sum of the number of votes cast for the nationwide electoral list of each party in an out-of-country district, and the number of undistributed votes of each party in all districts shall be divided by the electoral quota determined in accordance with Part four of Article 183 of this Code. An integer of the received quotient shall deem a number of MP seats to be granted to MP candidates included in the respective nationwide electoral list from this party. Fractional reminders up to four decimal places shall be taken into consideration, when distributing the remaining MP seats in accordance with Part five of this Article.

5. The parties, whose nationwide electoral lists have larger fractional reminders, as a result of the division performed in accordance with Part four of this Article, shall receive one additional MP mandate each, starting from the nationwide electoral list of MP candidates of the party, which has obtained the larger fractional remainder. If two or more electoral lists of parties' MP candidates have equal fractional reminders, the first to receive an additional MP mandate shall be the electoral list of the party, the MP candidates of which received the higher number of votes of voters in the nationwide election district.

The distribution of MP seats shall deem terminated after the total number of MP seats established in accordance with Part two of this Article has been exhausted.

6. The MPs elected from the party shall deem MP candidates included in the nationwide electoral list of this party in the number that corresponds to the number of MP seats determined in accordance with Part one, four and five of this Article, in the same order as they appear in the nationwide electoral list of this party. In this case, the MP candidates that shall be deemed elected in the respective electoral regions shall not be taken into account when distributing MP seats in the nationwide election district.

The provisions of this Part shall also apply in the event of exhaustion of the respective regional electoral list in accordance with Part four of Article 185 of this Code.

7. The Central Election Commission shall enter the following information in the protocol of results of the election of MPs, in numbers:

- 1) the number of MP seats to be distributed in the nationwide election district;
- 2) the total number of unused votes of voters cast in the nationwide election district in support of the electoral list of MP candidates from each party, which takes part in the distribution of MP seats;
- 3) the number of MP seats received by MP candidates, included in the general electoral list of candidates from each party, which takes part in the distribution of MP seats.

8. The Central Election Commission shall indicate the following information in the protocol of results of the election of MPs as regards each MP elected in the nationwide election district:

- 1) last name, first name (all first names), patronymic name (if any);
- 2) year of birth;
- 3) educational background;
- 4) job position (occupation), place of employment;
- 5) place of residence;
- 6) party membership;
- 7) nationwide election district, in which an MP was elected;
- 8) the name of the party, from which an MP was elected.

In the regional electoral lists, it shall be necessary to put a mark as regards MPs elected in the nationwide election district, on them being elected in this district.

**Article 187.** Official Promulgation of Results of the Election of MPs of Ukraine

1. The Central Election Commission shall, no later than the fifth day of the day of establishing the results of the election, promulgate the results of the election of MPs in the newspapers Holos Ukraine and Uriadovyy Courier, as well as publish them on its official website. A list of elected MPs shall be published with indication, in the alphabetic order, of their last names, first names (all first names), patronymic name (if any), year of birth, educational background, job position (occupation), place of employment, party membership, place of residence, electoral region or the nationwide district, in which an MP has been elected, and the name of the party, from which an MP has been elected.

2. The official promulgation by the Central Election Commission of the results of the election of MPs shall be a ground for dismissal of a person from a job (position) incompatible with an MP mandate, and for adoption of a decision on termination of another representative mandate held by a person elected as an MP.

**Article 188.** Registration of the Elected MPs of Ukraine

1. To be registered as an MP of Ukraine, a person elected as an MP shall submit to the Central Election Commission, no later than on the twentieth day after the official promulgation of the MP election results, a document certifying the person's dismissal from any employment (position) incompatible with the mandate of an MP and/or a copy of a registered application filed with the respective council for invalidation of any other representative mandate.

2. If a person elected as an MP provides the Central Election Commission with a reasonable excuse for not complying with the requirements of Part one of this Article, then the Central Election Commission may adopt a decision either accepting the excuse as valid and establishing a different deadline for complying with the aforementioned requirements or refusing to accept the excuse.

3. Upon receipt of the documents specified in Part one of this Article, the Central Election Commission shall, no later than on the fifth day, adopt a decision to register the elected person as an MP of Ukraine.

4. If a person elected as an MP fails to comply with the requirements of Part one of this Article before the deadlines specified in Parts one and two of this Article, the Central Election Commission shall adopt a decision recognizing this person as the one refusing to accept the mandate of MP, and shall adopt a decision recognizing the next MP candidate in the respective regional or nationwide electoral list of the respective party to have been elected as an MP.

5. Should the respective regional electoral list be exhausted, the right to obtain the mandate shall be passed over to the nationwide electoral list of this party. Should the nationwide electoral list of the party be exhausted, the right to obtain the mandate shall remain vacant.

6. The Central Election Commission shall issue a temporary certificate of an MP of Ukraine, in a standard form established by the Commission, to a person registered as an MP of Ukraine, no later than on the seventh day from the day of that person's registration.

7. The Central Election Commission's decision to register an MP of Ukraine and the temporary certificate of an MP of Ukraine shall provide grounds for the elected person to take the Oath of an MP of Ukraine.

#### **Article 189.** Ukraine Certificate and Badge of an MP of Ukraine

1. No later than on the seventh day after the taking of the Oath by an MP of Ukraine, the Central Election Commission shall issue to the MP a certificate of an MP of Ukraine and a badge, both in a standard form established by the Central Election Commission.

#### **Article 190.** Replacing MPs of Ukraine Whose Powers Have Been Terminated Early

1. Should powers of an MP of Ukraine be terminated early, on the grounds and in the manner prescribed by the Constitution of Ukraine and the laws of Ukraine, the next MP candidate in the respective regional or nationwide electoral list of MP candidates from this party shall be deemed elected MP, by the decision of the Central Election Commission adopted thereof, in the manner prescribed by Part five of Article 188 of this Code.

2. The Central Election Commission shall register a person specified in Part one of this Article as an MP of Ukraine, and shall issue him or her a temporary certificate of an MP of Ukraine, in the manner prescribed by Article 188 of this Code.

#### **Article 191.** Peculiarities of Preparation and Conduct of the Extraordinary Elections of MPs of Ukraine

1. Funds for preparation and conduct of extraordinary elections of MPs provided for in the State Budget of Ukraine shall be transferred by the specially authorized central executive body for the implementation of state policy in the area of treasury management of the budget funds to the Central Election Commission within three days from the day of publication of the Decree of the President of Ukraine on early termination of powers of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine.

## **BOOK FOUR. LOCAL ELECTIONS**

### **Chapter XXXII. GENERAL PROVISIONS FOR LOCAL ELECTIONS**

#### **Article 192.** Basic Principles of Local Elections

1. Elections of members of the village, settlement and city councils (for cities with less than 10,000 voters), or city rayon councils shall be held in accordance with the system of relative majority in multi-member election districts, which are created in the territory of the respective territorial community. No less than two and no more than four council members shall be elected in each of the election districts.

2. The elections of members of the Verkhovna Rada of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, as well as the elections of members of the oblast, rayon, rayon in city, city, village, settlement

councils (of territorial communities with 10,000 or more voters), shall be held based on the system of proportional representation by using open electoral lists of candidates for local council members (hereinafter, electoral lists) in multi-member election districts, into which the unified multi-member election district shall be divided, which coincides with the territory, respectively, of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, an oblast, rayon, rayon in city, city, village or settlement in accordance with the administrative-territorial structure or the territory of a city, village or settlement territorial community.

3. The election of a village, settlement or city mayor (cities with less than 75,000 voters) shall be held based on the relative majority plurality electoral system in a single village, settlement or city election district, which coincides with the territory, respectively, of a village, settlement or city, in accordance with the administrative-territorial structure, or the territory of a village, settlement or city territorial community.

4. The election of a city mayor (cities with 75,000 or more voters) shall be held based on the absolute majority plurality electoral system in a single city election district, which coincides with the territory of a city, in accordance with the administrative-territorial structure, or with the territory of a city territorial community.

5. The electoral system, under which elections of members of city, village or settlement council or city mayor are held, is determined based on the number of voters who have the right to vote in the respective local elections as of the first day of the month preceding the month in which the election process of the respective local election begins.

Information on the number of voters entitled to vote in elections of members of city, village or settlement council and/or mayor, as well as on the electoral system under which the respective elections are to be held in accordance with parts one to four of this article shall be published by the Central Election Commission on its official website no later than five days before the day of the election process of the respective ordinary, extraordinary, or first elections of members of the city, village or settlement council and/or mayor.

The electoral system under which the elections of members of the city, village, settlement council and/or mayor are conducted, previously determined in accordance with this part, may not be changed due to a change in the number of voters eligible to vote in the respective local elections before the appointment of the next ordinary or extraordinary elections in such city, village or settlement or the respective territorial community.

6. Supplementary elections of members of village and settlement councils shall be held according to the relative majority plurality system in the multi-member election districts, into which the territory of a territorial community that has joined another village or settlement territorial community is divided.

#### **Article 193.** Right to Be a Candidate in the Local Election

1. A citizen of Ukraine who has the right to vote in accordance with Article 70 of the Constitution of Ukraine may be elected a local council member or a village, settlement or city mayor.

2. A citizen of Ukraine, who has a criminal record for committing a grave or especially grave crime or a crime against citizens' electoral rights or a corruption crime, unless this criminal record has been lifted or expunged pursuant to the procedure established by the Law, may not be elected a local council member or a village, settlement or city mayor.

#### **Article 194.** Types of Local Elections and the Procedure for Their Calling

1. Local elections may be ordinary, extraordinary, repeat, by-, supplementary or first.

2. Ordinary local elections shall be called in connection with the expiry of the term of office of local councils, village and settlement mayors elected in the previous ordinary local elections.

Ordinary local elections are held simultaneously throughout Ukraine on the last Sunday of October of the fifth year of the term of office of the councils and mayors elected in the previous ordinary local elections.

Ordinary elections of rayon in city councils (in case they are created) shall be held simultaneously with other ordinary elections on the entire territory of Ukraine within the time limits and in accordance with the provisions of this Code.

The decision to call ordinary elections of members of oblast, rayon, city, rayon in city, village or settlement councils and village, settlement or city mayors shall be made by the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine.

The decision to call ordinary elections of members of the Verkhovna Rada of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea shall be made by the Verkhovna Rada of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea in accordance with the Constitution of Ukraine.

3. Extraordinary local elections shall be called by the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine in case of early termination of powers of the Verkhovna Rada of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, a oblast, rayon, city, rayon in city, village or settlement council or village, settlement or city mayor, as well as in other cases provided by law. Such a decision shall be made by the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine no later than within ninety days from the date of the early termination of the powers of the Verkhovna Rada of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, the respective local council or the village, settlement or city mayor.

The second paragraph was repealed.

4. Repeat local elections shall be appointed by the territorial election commission in case the respective local elections are deemed as not having taken place, in accordance with the procedure established by this Code.

The grounds for deeming local elections as not having taken place and calling repeat elections are defined in Article 280 of this Code.

5. By-elections of members (a member) of a village, settlement or city council (of a territorial community with up to 10,000 voters) shall be called in the respective multi-member election district in connection with the early termination of the powers of a member of the respective council elected in that election district. When calling the elections, the territorial election commission shall determine the number of seats that will be distributed in such elections in the multi-member election district.

6. Supplementary elections of members of village and settlement councils from a territorial community that has joined another territorial community shall be appointed by the Central Election Commission in accordance with the procedure established by this Code.

Members of village and settlement councils elected during supplementary elections shall exercise their powers until the election of a new composition of the respective council at the next ordinary or extraordinary local elections in accordance with the procedure established by the Constitution of Ukraine, this Code, and the laws of Ukraine.

7. First elections of members of village, settlement or city councils or village, settlement or city mayors shall be appointed by the Central Election Commission upon the respective request of the authorized body.

First elections of members of oblast and rayon councils shall be appointed by the Central Election Commission upon the respective request of the authorized body on the basis of the decision on the formation of oblast and rayon councils.

First elections of members of rayon in city councils (in case they are created) are appointed by the corresponding city council on the basis of the decision on the formation of city rayon councils.

8. In the year of an ordinary local elections, by-elections shall not be called and shall not be held, and the first local elections shall be called and held together with the ordinary local elections.

9. The Central Executive Body, which ensures the formation and implementation of state regional policy, state policy in the field of local self-government development, the territorial organization of power and the administrative-territorial structure, shall provide the Central Election Commission no later than one hundred and ten days before the day of voting information according to a form established by the Commission regarding the list of local councils with an indication of the administrative-territorial units which are a part of them, in each oblast of Ukraine, as well as in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea.

**Article 195.** Time lines for Calling Local Elections and Announcement of the Election Process

1. Ordinary local elections shall be called no later than ninety days prior to the day of voting, whereas extraordinary local elections shall be called no later than sixty days prior to the day of voting.

The election process shall commence fifty days prior to the day of ordinary or extraordinary local elections.

2. Repeat local elections shall be called on the last Sunday of the sixty-day time period from the day of the adoption of the decision on their calling, whereas the election process shall commence fifty days prior to the day of the repeat local elections.

The decision on calling repeat elections shall be made by the territorial election commission no later than within ten days from the date of occurrence of the circumstances provided for by this Code for the appointment of such election or from the date of termination of the circumstances that became the basis for termination of the electoral process of the respective local elections.

3. By-elections of members (a member) of a village, settlement or city council (of a territorial community with up to 10,000 voters) in a multi-member district shall be called subject to the provisions of Article 5 of this Code for the upcoming last Sunday of March or the last Sunday of October (except for the year of an ordinary local elections), and the election process shall commence fifty days prior to the day of the by-elections.

The decision to call by-elections of members (a member) of a village, settlement or city council (of a territorial community with up to 10,000 voters) shall be made by the territorial election commission no later than within ten days from the date of receipt of the notice of early termination of powers of a member of the council elected in the respective election district by the respective local election commission but not later than sixty days prior to the day of the upcoming by-elections determined in accordance with the provisions of Article 5 of this Code.

4. A supplementary election shall be called no later than seventy days prior to the day of voting, whereas the election process shall commence fifty days prior to the day of voting in the supplementary election in accordance with the provisions of Article 5 of this Code.

5. First local elections shall be called no later than seventy days prior to the day of voting, whereas the election process shall commence fifty days prior to the day of voting in the first local elections.

6. Local elections (repeat voting in local elections) shall be called for a Sunday.

7. A body which, in accordance with Article 194 of this Code has adopted a decision on the calling of a repeat election, a by-election or first local elections shall no later than the third day of the day of adoption thereof make the decision public in a manner determined by it, and shall as well as notify the Central Election Commission thereof within the same time period.

8. The Central Election Commission shall, by way of adopting the respective decision, announce the commencement of the election process in ordinary local elections, first elections of local council members or village, settlement or city mayor or supplementary elections of members of village or settlement councils, whereas a territorial election commission shall at its meeting announce the commencement of the election process in extraordinary, repeat or by- local elections, about which a record is made in the minutes of the commission meeting. The adoption by the respective election commission of a decision on the commencement of the election process in the respective type of local elections shall be deemed its official announcement. The decision of the

respective election commission on the announcement of the commencement of an election process of the respective type of local elections shall be published no later than three days following the day after the adoption thereof in a manner determined by it.

The official announcement through the adoption of a decision on the commencement of an election process shall be made by the Central Election Commission no later than five days prior to the day of the commencement of the election process in local elections, or by a territorial election commission – no later than five days of the day of the adoption of a decision on the calling of extraordinary or by-local elections, or – in the event a territorial election commission calls repeat local elections – simultaneously with its adoption of such decision.

The third paragraph was repealed.

9. In the event a territorial election commission fails to comply with the requirements of this Code (inaction of an election commission) as regards calling repeat or by- local elections, such elections may be called by the Central Election Commission within five days from the day when the inaction of the respective territorial election commission was established. In the event of inaction of a territorial election commission, a decision on the commencement of an election process may be made by the Central Election Commission.

**Article 196.** The Election Process of Local Elections

1. The election process of local elections shall include the following stages:
  - 1) establishing election districts;
  - 2) establishing precinct election commissions;
  - 3) compiling voter lists, their verification and update;
  - 4) nomination and registration of candidates;
  - 5) conduct of election campaigning;
  - 6) voting on the day of elections;
  - 7) vote counting, establishing the voting results and the results of local elections.
2. In the cases provided for by this Code, the election process shall also include the following stages:
  - 1) repeat voting;
  - 2) vote counting, establishing the results of repeat voting and the results of local elections.
3. The election process shall terminate fifteen days after the official promulgation of the results of the local elections, in accordance with the procedure specified by this Code.
4. All local elections, except for ordinary, may be held simultaneously with the election of the President of Ukraine, the elections of MPs of Ukraine or a referendum.

**Article 197.** Determination of the Total Composition of the Verkhovna Rada of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and Local Councils

1. The total composition (the number of members) of the Verkhovna Rada of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea shall be determined by the Constitution of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea.
2. The total composition (the number of members) of a village, settlement or city, or a rayon in city, rayon or oblast council shall be determined in accordance with Parts three and four of this Article depending on a number of voters that belong to territorial communities of the villages, settlements or cities, or reside in the territory of a city rayon, rayon or oblast.
3. The total composition (number of members) of a local council according to the number of voters shall be as follows:
  - 1) up to 10,000 voters – 22 members;

- 2) from 10,000 to 30,000 voters – 26 members;
- 3) from 30,000 to 50,000 voters – 34 members;
- 4) from 50,000 to 100,000 voters – 38 members;
- 5) from 100,000 to 250,000 voters – 42 members;
- 6) from 250,000 to 500,000 voters – 54 members;
- 7) from 500,000 to one million voters – 64 members;
- 8) from one million to two million voters – 84 members;
- 9) over two million voters – 120 members.

4. In the event, if the number of members provided for by Part three of this Article for a rayon council are less than the number of village, settlement or city (in cities of rayon subordination) councils, the territorial communities of which are located within the respective rayon, the total composition of such rayon council shall be equal to the number of the respective village, settlement or city (in cities of rayon subordination) councils.

5. The total composition of a village or settlement council of a territorial community shall be increased beyond the number specified in Part three of this Article as a result of holding supplementary elections of members of the village or settlement council by a number of members that shall be determined as the ratio of the number of voters in the territorial communities that have joined to the sum of the number of voters of the territorial community, to which they join, and of the number of voters of the territorial communities that have joined, multiplied by the total composition of the council determined in Part three of this Article, but no less than by two members for each territorial community that has joined.

### **Chapter XXXIII. TERRITORIAL ORGANIZATION OF LOCAL ELECTIONS**

**Article 198.** Territorial Organization of Elections of Members of the Verkhovna Rada of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea

1. The system of territorial organization of the elections of its members consists of:

- 1) a single republican multi-member election district;
- 2) territorial election districts;
- 3) election precincts.

2. The single republican multi-member election district includes the respective territory of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea.

3. Territorial election districts in the election of members of the Verkhovna Rada of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea shall be established by the Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea no later than on the second day of the election process, in compliance with the principle of contiguous boundaries (adjacency of territories) of such districts. The Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea shall, in the same decision, assign numbers to the territorial election districts.

4. The approximate number of territorial election districts specified in Part three of this Article shall be determined as a quotient obtained as a result of the division of the quantitative composition of the Verkhovna Rada of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea by 10. When establishing multi-member election districts, the deviation from their approximate average number shall be no more than two districts. The territory of a rayon or a city of republican subordination shall not be divided between two districts. More than one multi-member election district may be formed in the territory of a city of republican subordination in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea.

5. The Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea shall publish a decision on establishing territorial election districts together with an indication of the number of each such



district in the regional print mass media no later than on the second day following the establishment thereof.

**Article 199.** Territorial Organization of Elections of Members of Village, Settlement and City Councils (of Territorial Communities with less than 10,000 Voters).

1. The system of territorial organization of elections of members of village, settlement or city councils (of territorial communities with less than 10,000 voters) councils consists of:

- 1) multi-member election districts;
- 2) election precincts.

2. In order to elect members of village, settlement and city councils (of territorial communities with less than 10,000 voters), the territory of the respective community shall be divided into multi-member election districts. The approximate average number of such multi-member election districts shall be determined as a quotient obtained as a result of the division of the quantitative composition of the respective council by three. When establishing multi-member election districts, the deviation from their approximate average number may not be more than one district.

3. Multi-member election districts shall include approximately the same number of voters in relation to the seats that are distributed to such election districts. The deviation of the number of voters in a multi-member election district established within the territory of a village, settlement or city may, if possible, not exceed 15 percent of the approximate average number of voters in the district. The approximate average number of voters in the district shall be determined as a quotient obtained as a result of the division of the total number of voters established in accordance with the data of the State Voter Register by the number of multi-member election districts.

4. Multi-member election districts in the elections of village, settlement or city council (of territorial communities with less than 10,000 voters) shall be formed by the territorial election commission in the respective election no later than the second day of the election process, in compliance with the principle of contiguous boundaries (adjacency of territories) of such districts.

5. When establishing multi-member election districts, the territorial election commission in the respective election shall determine the territory of each district. Each district shall be assigned an ordinal number.

6. Boundaries of a multi-member election district shall not cross the boundaries of regular election precincts.

7. When establishing multi-member election districts, the territorial election commission shall establish the number of seats that will have to be distributed to each such district, based on the principle of equality of the vote of voters that shall allow, if possible, for a deviation from an approximate average number of voters per mandate of no more than 15 percent. The approximate average number of voters per seat shall be determined as a quotient obtained as a result of the division of the total number of voters established in accordance with the data of the State Voter Register by the total composition of the respective local council.

8. A list of the established multi-member election districts shall be published no later than on the following day after the adoption of the decision on the establishment thereof in the manner determined by the territorial election commission, in accordance with the requirements of this code.

9. The approximate average number of voters in multi-member districts formed for the election of members of the village, settlement or city councils (of territorial communities with up to 10,000 voters) is determined by the territorial election commission on the basis of State Voter Register data on the number of eligible voters in the respective local elections submitted by the State Voter Register maintenance body to the territorial election commission no later than five days prior to the day of the commencement of the election process of the respective local elections.

The number of voters eligible to vote in the respective local elections shall be determined as of the first day of the month preceding the month in which the election process of the respective local elections commences.

**Article 200.** Territorial Organization of the Elections of the Village, Settlement and City Mayor

1. The system of territorial organization of the election of a mayor of village, settlement or city consists of:

- 1) A unified single-member village, settlement or city election district, which shall cover the entire territory of the respective territorial community;
- 2) election precincts.

2. The unified single-member city district for election of city mayor in cities with rayon division shall be divided in territorial election districts, the boundaries of which shall coincide with the rayon in city boundaries. A decision on the establishment of such election districts shall not be made.

3. A decision on establishing a unified village, settlement or city election district shall not be made.

**Article 201.** Territorial Organization of Elections of Members of Oblast, Rayon, Rayon in City, City, Village and Settlement Councils (of Territorial Communities with 10,000 or More Voters)

1. The system of territorial organization of elections of members of oblast, rayon, rayon in city, city, village and settlement councils (of territorial communities with 10,000 or more voters) consists of:

- 1) a unified multi-member election district;
- 2) territorial election districts;
- 3) election precincts.

2. A unified multi-member election district shall include the territory of the respective oblast, rayon, rayon in city, city, village or settlement.

3. Territorial election districts in elections of members of oblast, rayon, rayon in city councils as well as city, village or settlement councils (of territorial communities with 10,000 or more voters) shall be established by the respective oblast, rayon, rayon in city, city, village or settlement election commission no later than on the second day of the election process, in compliance with the principle of contiguous boundaries (adjacency of territories) of such districts. When making the above decision, the respective election commission shall assign numbers to the multi-member election districts.

4. The approximate number of territorial districts, specified in Part three of this Article, shall be established as a quotient obtained as a result of the division of the total composition of the respective council by 10. When establishing such districts, the deviation from their approximate average number must not be more than two districts.

5. When forming territorial election districts for the elections of members of the city council of a city with a rayon division, territorial election districts shall be formed, if possible, within the limits of the respective rayons in city.

The boundaries of a territorial election district formed in a city with a rayon division may not include parts of territories of different rayons in city.

More than one territorial district may be formed within the boundaries of a city rayon.

The boundaries of a territorial district for the election of members of the city council of a city with a rayon division may include several adjacent rayons in city.

6. In the formation of territorial election districts for the election of members of the oblast council, such election districts shall be formed, if possible, within the respective rayons and cities of oblast significance that are part of the oblast.

Such election districts may not consist of parts of territories of different rayons and cities of oblast significance, or of a rayon and a part of a city, or of a part of a rayon and a city of oblast significance, except for cases when territorial election districts are formed within an amalgamated territorial community, which includes the territorial communities of adjacent rayons or an adjacent rayon and city of oblast significance. More than one territorial election district may be formed on the territory of a city of oblast significance and a rayon.

The boundaries of a territorial district for the election of members of an oblast council may include several adjacent rayons and cities of oblast significance.

7. The respective election commission shall publish the decision on the formation of multi-member election districts together with an indication of the number of each such district no later than on the day following the establishment thereof, in accordance with the requirements of this Code.

## **Chapter XXXIV. ELECTION COMMISSIONS IN LOCAL ELECTIONS**

### **Article 202. System of Election Commissions in Local Elections**

1. Preparation for and conduct of the local elections shall be carried out by a system of election commissions consisting of the following:

- 1) the Central Election Commission, which shall be the highest-level election commission for all election commissions in all local elections;
- 2) territorial election commissions:
  - a) the Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea;
  - b) oblast election commissions;
  - c) rayon election commissions;
  - d) city election commissions;
  - e) rayon in city election commissions (in cities with rayon division);
  - f) settlement and village election commissions;
1. precinct election commissions.

Rayon in city election commissions in cities with rayon division, in which city rayon councils are not been formed, shall be formed to ensure the exercise of powers provided for in this Code in the respective election district in the elections of local council and city mayors.

[According to fourth paragraph of point 6 of section II of the Law of Ukraine of 16.07.2020 reg. nr. 805-IX, paragraph 11 of Part 1 of Article 202 is not applied in the establishment of rayon in city territorial election commissions in cities with rayon division with 2 million persons or more].

2. The powers of election commissions to prepare and conduct local elections shall extend to:

- 1) the Central Election Commission – in the entire territory of Ukraine;
- 2) a territorial election commission – in the territory of the respective election district or part of an election district within the administrative-territorial unit with respect to the corresponding local elections;
- 3) a precinct election commission – in the territory of the respective election precinct with respect to each local election held within its territory.

3. Decisions of the Central Election Commission adopted within its powers shall be binding for all subjects of the election process, including territorial and precinct election commissions, as well as state executive bodies, state bodies of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, and local self-

government bodies, their civil servants and officials, public associations, enterprises, institutions, and organizations.

4. The powers of a territorial election commission of a territorial community, which has joined another territorial community, shall be deemed terminated from the moment of the adoption by a village or settlement council of a decision to join another territorial community. The powers with respect to the conduct of supplementary election shall be exercised by the territorial election commission, formed in the territory of the territorial community, which is being joined by a territorial community.

**Article 203.** Procedure for Establishing Territorial Election Commissions

1. Territorial election commissions shall be formed upon submissions of local party organizations registered in accordance with the procedure established by the Law, consisting of no less than nine and no more than eighteen persons.

2. The following subjects may appoint nominees to territorial election commissions:

- 1) a local organization of a party, the establishment of a parliamentary faction of which was announced at the first ordinary session of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine of the current convocation;
- 2) a local organization of a political party that has concluded an agreement on political cooperation in the respective local elections with an MP group, the formation of which was announced at the session of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine no later than January 1 of the year in which the elections take place.

One MP group, the formation of which was announced at the session of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine no later than January 1 of the year in which the elections take place, may conclude only one agreement on political cooperation in the respective local elections with only one political party.

The agreement shall be signed by the chair (chairs) of the MP group, the formation of which was announced at the session of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine no later than January 1 of the year in which the elections take place, and by the head of the political party with which it was concluded.

The chair (chairs) of the MP group, the formation of which was announced at the session of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine not later than January 1 of the year in which the elections take place, shall inform the Verkhovna Rada Secretariat on the conclusion of the respective agreement, no later than ninety-five days before the day of voting day by a letter to which a copy of the political agreement is appended.

The Secretariat of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine shall notify the Central Election Commission of the conclusion of the respective agreement no later than ninety-one days prior to the day of voting and shall send a copy of the political agreement;

- 3) a local party organization registered pursuant to the Law in the respective administrative-territorial unit.

3. Nominating subjects specified in clause one of Part two of this Article may nominate no more than two nominees to the respective territorial election commission. Nominating subjects specified in clauses two and three of Part two of this Article may nominate no more than one nominee to the respective territorial election commission.

A territorial election commission shall necessarily include nominees (no more than two persons nominated to each territorial election commission) from each nominating subject specified in clause one of Part two of this Article.

A territorial election commission shall necessarily include nominees (no more than one person nominated to each territorial election commission) from each nominating subject specified in clause two of Part two of this Article.

Nominees from local party organizations – no more than one nominee from a local party organization of one political party specified in clause three of Part two of this Article, shall be included into territorial election commissions in accordance with the results of drawing lots which is conducted by the election commission that form the composition of the respective territorial election commission, pursuant to a procedure established by Central Election Commission prior to the formation of the commission.

Persons nominated to a territorial election commission may be rejected only on the grounds of their noncompliance with the requirements of Article 34 of this Code, violation of the requirements set forth in Parts two-eleven of this Article, or as a result of the application of the mechanism of drawing lots specified by this Part.

A decision to reject nominees based on the results of the lottery shall not be adopted.

4. The Central Election Commission shall establish the oblast, rayon (except for rayons of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea), city (cities of oblast subordination and cities of Kyiv and Sevastopol), and city rayon (in the cities of Kyiv and Sevastopol) election commissions no later than seventy-five days prior to the day of voting. Candidates for membership in the respective territorial election commissions may be submitted by an oblast, rayon, city, city rayon in the cities of Kyiv, Sevastopol (or, in case of their absence in the structure of the respective political party – by the Kyiv and Sevastopol city) organizations of political parties specified in part two of this article, and in case of their absence in the structure of the respective political party – by the oblast organization of this political party in accordance with the existing administrative-territorial structure. Such submissions shall be filed no earlier than ninety days prior to the day of voting and no later than eighty days prior to the day of voting.

5. The Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea shall establish rayon (in rayons of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea) and city (in cities of republican subordination in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea) election commissions, no later than seventy-five days prior to the day of voting. Submissions of nominations to the respective territorial election commissions may be made by the rayon (in rayons of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea) and the city (in cities of republican subordination in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea) political party organizations specified in Part two of this Article. Such submissions shall be filed no later than eighty days prior to the day of voting.

6. Rayon election commissions shall establish village and settlement election commissions in the respective rayon no later than sixty days prior to the day of voting. Submissions of nominations to the respective territorial election commissions may be made by rayon organizations of the political parties specified in Part two of this Article and, in case of their absence in the structure of the respective political party, – by the oblast organization of this political party in accordance with the existing administrative-territorial structure. Such submissions shall be filed no later than sixty-five days prior to the day of voting.

7. City election commissions (in cities with rayon division, except for the cities of Kyiv and Sevastopol) shall establish rayon in city election commissions no later than sixty days prior to the day of voting. Submissions of nominations to the respective territorial election commissions may be made by city organizations of the political parties specified in Part two of this Article and in case of their absence in the structure of the respective political part – by the oblast or, in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, republican organization of this political party in accordance with the existing administrative-territorial structure. Such submissions shall be filed no later than sixty-five days prior to the day of voting.

8. The composition of the Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea shall be approved by the Verkhovna Rada of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea no later than eighty-five days prior to the day of voting, in accordance with the procedure specified by Parts one through three, nine through sixteen of this Article.

Submissions of nominations to the Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea shall be filed with the Verkhovna Rada of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea no later than eighty-five days prior to the day of voting.

9. Submissions of nominations to the territorial election commission shall be filed in a form established by the Central Election Commission, in both paper and electronic form.

Submission of nominations to territorial election commission shall be filed with the respective election commission and shall be signed by a chair of a local party organization and affixed with the seal of the local party organization, or the seal of a higher-level party organization, or the seal of this political party.

Nominations to the territorial election commission may be submitted to the respective election commission by means of electronic services in accordance with the procedure established by the Central Election Commission.

Submissions of nominations shall be appended with: a photocopy of each nominee's passport of a citizen of Ukraine (photocopies of the first and second pages of a passport of a citizen of Ukraine in the form of a passport book, or a photocopy of the front and reverse sides of a passport of a citizen of Ukraine in the form of a card), or a photocopy of the first and second pages of a person's temporary certificate of a citizen of Ukraine (for persons who have recently been granted Ukrainian citizenship).

Statements of the persons nominated to a territorial election commission, expressing their consent to participate in the work of an election commission on behalf of the respective nominating subject, their consent to carry out the official functions as chair, deputy chair or secretary of an election commission, and their non-consent to participate in the work of an election commission on behalf of other nominating subjects in the respective elections shall be submitted by the respective nominating subjects before they file the submission to the respective election commission on the nomination of members to the composition of the territorial election commission.

If the respective election commission identifies simultaneous submissions of the same nominee to a territorial election commission from different subjects of nomination, the election commission shall request the respective subjects of submission or the nominee proposed to the territorial election commission to clarify the information and submit a statement of consent to participate in the work of the territorial election commission from the respective subject of submission. If the consent of a person to participate in the work of the territorial election commission from the respective subject of submission is not confirmed, the respective election commission shall reject the nomination of such person.

10. Nomination submissions to territorial election commissions shall include the following information on each nominee:

- 1) last name, first name (all first names), patronymic name (if any) of a person;
- 2) day, month and year of birth;
- 3) citizenship;
- 4) educational background;
- 5) confirmation of his or her command the state language;
- 6) place of employment (occupation) and occupied position;
- 7) place of residence (address of residence) as well as contact telephone numbers;
- 8) election commission experience;
- 9) information on whether the nominee has no criminal record for committing a grave or especially grave crime or a crime against citizens' electoral rights or a corruption crime, which has not been lifted or expunged pursuant to the procedure established by law.

11. Technical errors or inaccuracies contained in a submission shall not constitute a reason for the rejection of nominees.

In the event if technical errors and inaccuracies are discovered in the surname, name or patronymic name, or the date of birth indicated in the submission – then the information in the resolution on the formation of the territorial election commission shall be indicated on the basis of the copies of the passport documents.

12. Citizens of Ukraine complying with the requirements of Article 34 of this Code may be members of a territorial election commission. Should circumstances appear or become known which shall deprive a person of the right to be a member of the election commission, the powers of such election commission members may be terminated early by the election commission, which established the respective territorial election commission.

13. The election commissions specified in Parts four to eight of this Article shall, simultaneously with the establishment of the territorial election commission, appoint the chair, deputy chair and the secretary of such election commission.

14. The chair, deputy chair, and the secretary of the territorial election commission shall be representatives of different nominating subjects, specified in Part two of this Article.

15. A decision establishing a territorial election commission shall be made public by the election commission that established it in the manner prescribed by such election commission no later than the next day following the day when such decision was adopted. A decision on replacement of members in the composition of a territorial election commission shall be made public pursuant to the procedure and within the time period prescribed by this Part, but no later than on the last day prior to the day of voting.

16. In the event if no submissions of nomination to territorial election commissions were filed within the time period prescribed by this Article, or if submissions of nominations to territorial election commissions were filed containing less than nine persons, a composition of the territorial election commission shall be formed within the time period specified in Part four to eight of this Article, upon submission of the chair of the respective election commission on the basis of proposals from the members of the respective commission.

#### **Article 204.** Procedure for Establishing a Precinct Election Commission

1. A precinct election commission shall be established by the respective city or rayon in city, village or settlement territorial election commission no later than fifteen days prior to the day of voting, consisting of a chair, deputy chair, a secretary and other members of the commission.

The right to nominate candidates to precinct election commissions shall be granted to:

- 1) local organizations of political parties, the establishment of parliamentary factions of which was announced at the first ordinary session of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine of the current convocation;
- 2) a local organization of a political party that has concluded an agreement on political cooperation in the respective local elections with an MP group, the formation of which was announced at the session of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine no later than January 1 of the year in which the elections take place.

One MP group, the formation of which was announced at a session of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine no later than January 1 of the year in which the elections take place, may conclude only one agreement on political cooperation in the respective local elections with only one political party.

The agreement shall be signed by the chair (chairs) of the MP group, the formation of which was announced at the session of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine not later than January 1 of the year in which the elections take place, and by the head of the political party with which it was concluded.

The chair (chairs) of the MP group, the formation of which was announced at a session of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine not later than January 1 of the year in which the elections take place, shall inform the Verkhovna Rada Secretariat on the conclusion of the respective agreement, not later than ninety-five days before the voting day by letter to which is attached a copy of the political agreement.

The Secretariat of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine shall notify the Central Election Commission of the conclusion of the respective agreement no later than ninety-one days prior to the day of voting by letter to which a copy of the political agreement is attached;

- 3) local organizations of political parties, which have registered candidates for members of Verkhovna Rada of Autonomous Republic of Crimea or oblast, rayon, rayon in city, city, village or settlement councils (of territorial communities with 10,000 or more voters);
- 4) candidates for village, settlement or city councils (of territorial communities with less than 10,000 voters);
- 5) candidates for village, settlement or city mayor.

When establishing a precinct election commission, the respective territorial election commission shall determine the persons to be included in the respective precinct election commission from among nominees submitted by the nominating subjects indicated in clause three to five of this paragraph, by way of drawing lots, which shall be conducted in accordance with the procedure specified by Central Election Commission, no later than on the eighth day following the expiry of the time period for submission of nominations to such a commission.

As regards nominees submitted by local organizations of political parties, the establishment of parliamentary factions of which was announced at the first ordinary session of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine of the current convocation, drawing lots shall not be conducted. Nominees from such nominating subjects shall be included in each precinct election commission (no more than two persons in the composition of each precinct election commission), on the condition that submissions were filed and found to be in compliance with the requirements established by this Code.

As regards nominees submitted by local organizations of political parties specified in clause two of this paragraph, drawing lots shall not be conducted. Nominees from such nominating subjects shall be included in each precinct election commission (no more than one person in the composition of each precinct election commission), on the condition that submissions were filed and found to be in compliance with the requirements established by this Code.

If two or more local organizations of one political party simultaneously file submissions of candidacies to the same precinct commission, then the nominees from the local organization of the political party that is of higher level than other party organizations must be included into the composition of such commission.

Candidates nominated to a precinct election commission may be rejected only on the grounds of their non-compliance with the requirements of Article 34 of this Code, violation of the requirements of this part and part four of this article by a decision of the territorial election commission or by the results of the drawing lots specified by this Part.

A decision to reject nominees based on the results of the lottery shall not be adopted.

2. Citizens of Ukraine complying with the requirements of Article 34 of this Code may be members of a precinct election commission.

3. A precinct election shall be formed with the following number of members:

- 1) for small election precincts – 10-14 members;
- 2) for medium-sized election precincts – 12-16 persons;
- 3) for large election precincts – 14-18 members.

At election precincts in which the number of voters does not exceed two hundred persons, a precinct election commission may consist of a chair, a secretary and two to four other members.

4. A local organization of a political party, the formation of a deputy faction of which was announced at the first ordinary session of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine of the current convocation, and in case of its absence in the structure of the respective political party – the oblast or, in the



Autonomous Republic of Crimea, republican organization of this political party, shall submit to the respective territorial election commission nominations for members of the precinct election commissions (no more than two persons to each precinct election commission).

A local organization of a political party that has concluded an agreement on political cooperation in the respective local elections with an MP group, the formation of which was announced at a session of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine no later than January 1 of the year in which the local elections take place, a local organization of a party from which candidates are registered for the elections of the Verkhovna Rada of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, oblast, rayon, rayon in city, as well as village, settlement or city councils (of a territorial community with 10,000 or more voters), and in case of their absence in the structure of the respective political party – an oblast or, in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, a republican organization of this political party in accordance with the existing administrative-territorial structure, shall submit to the respective territorial election commission nominations for members of the precinct election commissions (no more than one person to each precinct election commission).

A submission shall be signed by the chair of the local party organization and affixed with the seal of the respective local party organization, or the seal of a higher-level organization of the political party, or the seal of the political party.

A candidate in the multi-member election district in the elections of a village, settlement or city council (of territorial communities with less than 10,000 voters) or a candidate for village, settlement or city mayor shall file with the territorial election commission a submission of nominations to the respective precinct election commissions (no more than one person to each precinct election commission), which shall be signed by him or her.

The aforementioned nomination submissions to precinct election commissions shall be filed no later than twenty-four days prior to the day of voting, in a form established by the Central Election Commission.

Nominations of members of a precinct election commission may be submitted to the respective election commission by means of electronic services in accordance with the procedure established by the Central Election Commission.

Submissions of nominations to precinct election commissions shall include the information provided for by Part eleven of Article 203 of this Code.

Submissions of nominations shall be appended with: a photocopy of each nominee's passport of a citizen of Ukraine (photocopies of the first and second pages of a passport of a citizen of Ukraine in the form of a passport book, or a photocopy of the front and reverse sides of a passport of a citizen of Ukraine in the form of a card), or a photocopy of the first and second pages of a person's temporary certificate of a citizen of Ukraine (for persons who have recently been granted Ukrainian citizenship).

Statements of the persons nominated to a precinct election commission, expressing their consent to participate in the work of an election commission on behalf of the respective nominating subject, their consent to carry out the official functions as chair, deputy chair or secretary of an election commission, and their non-consent to participate in the work of an election commission on behalf of other nominating subjects in the respective elections shall be submitted by the respective nominating subjects before they file the submission to the territorial election commission on the nomination of members to the composition of precinct election commissions.

If the respective election commission identifies simultaneous submission of the same nominee to a precinct election commission from different subjects of nomination, the territorial election commission shall apply to the respective subjects of submission or the candidate proposed to the precinct election commission to clarify the information and submit an application for consent to participation in the work of a precinct election commission from the respective subject of submission. If the consent of a person to participate in the work of a precinct election commission from the respective subject of submission is not confirmed, the territorial election commission shall reject the nomination of such person.

5. Technical errors or inaccuracies contained in a submission shall not constitute a reason for the rejection of nominees.

In the event if technical errors and inaccuracies are discovered in the surname, name or patronymic name, or the date of birth indicated in the submission – then the information in the resolution on the formation of the territorial election commission shall be indicated on the basis of the copies of the passport documents.

6. The chair, the deputy chair, and the secretary of the precinct election commission shall be representatives of different nominating subjects, specified in Part one of this Article.

7. The decision on establishing a precinct election commission shall be made public by the territorial election commission that established it in the manner prescribed by this territorial election commission no later than the next day following the day when the precinct election commission was established. A decision on replacement of members in the composition of a precinct election commission shall be made public pursuant to the procedure and within the time period prescribed by this Part, but no later than on the last day prior to the day of voting.

8. In the event if no submissions of nominations to a precinct election commission were filed within the time period prescribed by Part four of this Article, or if submissions of nominations to a precinct election commission were filed containing fewer persons than established by Part three of this Article (respectively, less than 10 persons for small election precincts; less than 12 persons for medium-sized election precincts; less than 14 persons for large election precincts; and less than four persons for elections precincts with a number of voters less than 200 persons), a precinct election commission shall be established within the time period specified in Part one of this Article by the respective territorial election commission upon submission of the chair of this territorial election commission, having necessarily included in the election commission the nominees for membership from the nominating subjects specified in Part one of this Article.

If necessary, in order to ensure the proper preparation for and conduct of the election by precinct election commissions, including on the day of voting, a territorial election commission may, at any time prior to the day of voting, increase the composition of a precinct election commission to the maximum number specified by Part three of this Article upon submission of the chair of the respective territorial election commission in accordance with proposals submitted by the members of this commission.

9. Should local elections be held concurrently with the election of the President of Ukraine, precinct election commissions shall not be formed; their powers shall be exercised by the respective precinct election commissions in the election of the President of Ukraine formed at regular election precincts and special election precincts established in inpatient healthcare establishments.

Should the local elections be held concurrently with the election of MPs of Ukraine, precinct election commissions shall not be formed; their powers shall be exercised by respective precinct election commissions in the elections of MPs of Ukraine formed at regular election precincts and special election precincts established in inpatient healthcare establishments.

Should the local election be held concurrently with an all-Ukrainian referendum, precinct election commissions shall not be formed; their powers shall be exercised by the respective referendum precinct commissions.

#### **Article 205.** Powers of the Central Election Commission Related to Preparation for and Conduct of Local Elections

1. In addition to the powers provided for by the Law of Ukraine “On the Central Election Commission,” the Central Election Commission shall:

- 1) appoint first elections of local council members and village, settlement or city mayors in accordance with the procedure established by the Law;
- 2) appoint supplementary elections to a village or settlement council of a territorial community for council members of the territorial community, which has joined it, in

accordance with the procedure established by the Law of Ukraine “On Voluntary Amalgamation of Territorial Communities”;

- a) issues explanations on the application of this Code, which are obligatory for all subjects of the election process, institutions, enterprises, organizations, as well as state executive bodies, state bodies of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and local self-government bodies, their civil servants and officials;
- 3) establish standards for and list of equipment and inventory of the premises of the election commission and the premises for voting, as well as the types of services or works that can be provided to election commissions;
- 4) establish (approve) the forms of election documents and approve samples of seals and stamps;
- 5) may at its own initiative, in the event a territorial election commission adopts an unlawful decision, or in the event of its inaction, cancel such decision and/or adopt the respective decision (on the day of voting (day of repeat voting) such issues shall be considered immediately);
- 6) may, in case the respective territorial election commission fails to comply with the requirements of this Code as regards the establishment of the results of the respective local elections and/or the registration of elected local council members or village, settlement or city mayors, in accordance with the procedure and within the time period specified by this Code, establish the results of such local elections and/or adopt a decision on the registration of the respective persons. The procedure for transportation of election documents from the respective territorial election commission to the Central Election Commission shall be established by the Central Election Commission;
- 7) may, in the event it has been established that it is impossible to provide for the preparation and conduct of local elections in accordance with the provisions of this Code in certain territories, adopt a decision on the impossibility to hold an election to the respective local self-government bodies;
- 8) approve the form of information brochures and information posters of party organizations that are electoral subjects, as well as the form and the text of posters explaining the procedure of voting and liability for violations of the electoral legislation;
- 9) approve the form and color of the ballot papers;
- 10) exercise other powers provided for by this Code or by other Laws of Ukraine.

**Article 206. Powers of Territorial Election Commissions Related to Preparation for and Conduct of Local Elections**

1. A territorial election commission, during the time period of exercise of its powers, shall ensure the preparation for and conduct of the local election, within the scope of its powers and in accordance with the procedure specified by this Code and laws of Ukraine.

2. The respective territorial election commission, which establishes the results of elections of members to the Verkhovna Rada of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, an oblast, rayon, city, rayon in city, village or settlement council and of elections of a village, settlement or city mayor shall:

- 1) ensure the preparation for and conduct of the respective local elections;
- 2) form territorial and multi-member election districts in accordance with this Code, and establish their boundaries and uniform numbering, and determines the number of seats to be distributed in multi-member districts;

- 3) provide legal, organizational, methodological and technical support to the election commissions, as regards their activity relating to the election of the respective council or mayor; organize training for their members on the matters related to the election process organization;
- 4) registers candidates for local councils, candidates for the position of village, settlement or city mayor, their agents, representatives, authorized persons of party organizations that are subjects of the respective election process and issues them certificates;
- 5) consider issues as regards cancellation of a decision on registration of candidates in the cases stipulated for by this Code;
- 6) inform the population about registered candidates for local councils in the respective districts and candidates for the position of village, settlement or city mayor;
- 7) approve the text of ballot papers in the respective local elections, provide for the production of ballot papers and delivery thereof to the respective territorial and/or precinct election commissions;
- 8) decide on matters pertaining to the use of funds for the conduct of the respective local elections and secures their intended use;
- 9) facilitate the organization of meetings of candidates for local councils and candidates for the position of village, settlement or city mayor with voters;
- 10) ensure the production of forms of protocols and other election documentation, and a territorial election commission, which forms precinct election commissions – also seals and stamps, and deliver them to the respective precinct election commissions, unless the Central Election Commission establishes another procedure for their production;
- 11) listen to the information from the respective territorial or precinct election commissions, local executive bodies and local self-government bodies as regards issues related to preparation and conduct of the respective local elections;
- 12) exercise control with the provision of voter lists by precinct election commissions for public review and update;
- 13) register official observers from candidates, local organizations of parties that are subjects of the election process of the respective local elections, and from nongovernmental organizations;
- 14) exercise control over the use of resources of electoral funds of the electoral subjects during the respective local elections;
- 15) exercise control of compliance with the procedure of election campaigning specified by this Code;
- 16) recognize voting at an election precinct invalid based on the results of the recounting of votes at the election precinct in the cases and in accordance with the procedure provided for by this Code;
- 17) establish the results of the local council members and village, settlement or city mayors in a manner specified by the Code; exercise the official promulgation of the results of the respective local elections;
- 18) register elected council members and elected village, settlement or city mayors;
- 19) organize the conduct of repeat voting and repeat local elections in the cases provided for by this Code;
- 20) consider addresses, applications and complaints concerning preparation for and conduct of the respective local elections and take decisions on them;

- 21) ensure the delivery of election and other documents for storage to the respective state archival institution in accordance with the procedure approved by the Central Election Commission;
- 22) exercise control within the respective administrative-territorial unit over the compliance with and uniform application of the legislation on local elections in the part concerning the respective local elections; convene if necessary on its own initiative a meeting of a precinct election commission
- 23) exercise other powers provided for by this Code and other laws of Ukraine.

3. The territorial election commission, which in accordance with part one of Article 255 of this Code establishes the results of the voting in the respective local elections during the preparation and conduct of such elections shall exercise the powers provided for in paragraphs 3, 11, 12, 15, 16, 20-22 of part two of this article, shall submit ballot papers to precinct election commissions, draw up a protocol on the results of the voting in the respective local elections and transport it together with other election documentation to the election commission, which establishes the results of such elections:

- 1) A village, settlement or city election commission draws up a protocol on the results of the voting in the respective elections of members of the Verkhovna Rada of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea or the oblast council in the territorial election districts or in a part of a territorial election district formed within the respective village, settlement or city (or within the respective territorial community) and transfers it to the Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea or the respective oblast election commission;
- 2) A rayon in city election commission draws up and submits to the city election commission:
  - a) the protocol on the results of the voting in the elections of members of the city council in the territorial election district or its part (in a city territorial community with 10,000 or more voters) or in multi-member election districts (in a city territorial community with up to 10,000 voters);
  - b) the protocol on results of voting in the election of the mayor;
- 3) the village, settlement or city election commission draws up and submits to the rayon election commission a protocol on the results of the voting in the elections of members of the respective rayon council in the territorial election district, part of the territorial election district formed within the village, settlement or city (or respective territorial community), and transmits the established results to the respective rayon election commission.

4. The Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea an oblast, rayon, city, rayon in city (in cities in which rayon in city councils were established), settlement or village election commissions shall inform the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine, the Central Election Commission or the respective local councils about the elected members of the councils and the village, settlement and city mayors.

#### **Article 207. Powers of a Precinct Election Commission**

1. A precinct election commission during the time period it exercises its powers shall ensure the preparation for and conduct of local elections, within the scope of their powers and in accordance with the procedure prescribed by this Code and Laws of Ukraine.

2. A precinct election commission shall:

- 1) monitor compliance with and uniform application of the legislation on local elections within the territory of the respective election precinct;
- 2) receive the voter list from the State Voter Register maintenance body, or compile a voter list in the cases specified by this Code, provide the voter list for public review, and amend it in the cases specified by this Code;

- 3) ensure the possibility of voter access to the information on candidates for local council registered in the respective multi-member election district and for village, settlement or city mayor, as well as to decisions published or made public in another manner by the Central Election Commission and the respective territorial election commission, as well as to its own decisions and notifications;
- 4) deliver or send to each voter a personal invitation received from the State Voter Register maintenance body indicating the date of voting in local elections, the address of the voting premises and the time of the commencement and end of voting;
- 5) ensure preparation of the voting premises and the ballot boxes;
- 6) organize voting at the election precinct;
- 7) conduct the counting of votes cast at the election precinct;
- 8) compile the protocols on the counting of votes cast by voters at the election precinct;
- 9) invalidate the results of voting at the election precinct in the cases provided for by this Code;
- 10) consider applications concerning preparation for local elections and the organization of voting at the election precinct and adopt decisions on them within the scope of its powers;
- 11) exercise other powers provided for by this Code and other laws of Ukraine.

The powers of a precinct election commission shall commence from the moment when the majority of the composition of the precinct election commission determined at its formation takes the oath at a meeting of this commission.

The powers of the precinct election commission shall be terminated five days after the day of the official announcement of the results of the local elections. The precinct election commission shall terminate its activity simultaneously with the termination of its powers.

**Article 208.** Termination of Powers of an Election Commission or a Member of an Election Commission

1. The powers of a member of a territorial election commission shall be terminated from the moment of establishment of a new territorial election commission, in accordance with the procedure specified by this Code.

2. The powers of a precinct election commission member shall be terminated simultaneously with the termination of the powers of the precinct election commission.

3. The powers of all members of a territorial or precinct election commission may be terminated, in accordance with the procedure established by the Law, before the expiry of their ordinary term by a decision of the election commission that formed (established) the respective territorial or precinct election commission, by a decision of the higher-level commission in the respective local election or by a decision of a court in cases of one-time gross violation or a systematic violation by the commission of the Constitution of Ukraine, this Code, or other Laws of Ukraine, or failure to implement a decision of a higher-level election commission.

4. The powers of an individual member of the respective territorial or precinct election commission may be terminated before the expiry of its ordinary term on the grounds of:

- 1) a statement of the resignation of the member of the commission. Such a statement shall be submitted to the subject nominating the respective member to the election commission for it to be handed over to the respective election commission, or for filing a submission for the replacement of the election commission member;
- 2) the filing of a submission seeking replacement of a member of the election commission by the subject nominating the member to the election commission;
- 3) termination of his or her Ukrainian citizenship;

- 4) his or her departure for the period up to the day of voting inclusive outside the boundaries of the respective administrative-territorial unit, which results in the impossibility to perform the duties of a commission member;
- 5) his or her registration as a candidate for a local council member, a candidate for village, settlement or city mayor, a candidate to the Verkhovna Rada of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, an MP candidate, or a candidate for President of Ukraine;
- 6) his or her registration as an agent of a candidate for local council, or a candidate for village, settlement or city mayor, an MP candidate, a candidate for President of Ukraine, a party's representative to the Central Election Commission, a party's authorized person, a local party organization's representative to a territorial election commission, a local party organization's authorized person, an authorized person of a referendum process subject, an initiative group's representative to the Central Election Commission, or an official observer, if the election process of the aforementioned elections or referendum is conducted simultaneously with the election process of local elections;
- 7) his or her refusal to take the oath of a commission member;
- 8) violation of the oath of a commission member in the form of a systematic failure to perform his or her duties ascertained by at least two decisions thereon adopted by the election commission of which he or she is a member;
- 9) systematic failure to perform his or her duties or one-time gross violation by him or her of the Laws of Ukraine on local elections ascertained by a court decision or by a decision of the higher-level election commission, which formed (established the composition of) the respective election commission; two or more incidents of his or her failure to attend an election commission meeting without good reason, or his or her failure to attend an election commission's meeting on the day of voting;
- 10) if a decision of a court comes into legal force, whereby he or she was found guilty of committing a grave or especially grave crime or a crime against citizens' electoral rights or a corruption crime;
- 11) his or her appointment to another election commission at any level responsible for preparation and conduct of the local election, the election of MPs of Ukraine, the election of the President of Ukraine or a referendum commission, if the election process of the aforementioned election or a referendum is conducted simultaneously with the election process of the local election;
- 12) he or she by a court is declared incapacitated or a missing person;
- 13) discovery of circumstances that deprive a person of the right to be a member of an election commission;
- 14) his or her death, or he or she is being declared dead.

Should any of the grounds provided for by clauses 1 to 6, 8 to 14 of Part four of this Article appear, the powers of a member of an election commission shall be terminated from the moment a decision is made on early termination of his or her powers by the election commission that formed the election commission, of which he or she is a member; and as regards the grounds provided for by clause 7 of Part four of this Article, from the moment he or she refused to put his or her signature under the text of an oath at an election commission's meeting, or in the event of his or her failure to attend the first two meetings, of which he or she was duly notified, of the election commission, of which he or she is a member.

The Central Election Commission or the respective territorial election commission shall be immediately notified of the early termination of powers due to the refusal to take the oath of powers of a commission member, to make a decision on changes in the composition of the respective election commission.

A submission seeking to replace a member of an election commission shall be filed by the subject nominating the member to the election commission, in both paper and electronic form, with the respective election commission in accordance with the form approved by the Central Election Commission. The documents provided for in part nine of Article 203, part four of Article 204 of this Code, shall be attached to the submission.

This submission during the election process, as well as in the period from the formation of the territorial election commissions to the beginning of the election process of the next local elections is subject to mandatory consideration within five days, but not later than the last day before election day, and outside the election process – within a month from the date of receipt.

The request to replace a member of the election commission may be submitted by electronic services in accordance with the procedure established by the Central Election Commission.

The twenty-first paragraph was deleted.

5. An election commission that adopts a decision on early termination of the powers of all the members of an election commission, or of a member of an election commission, shall no later than on the following day notify the subject that nominated the person(s) to the election commission of the termination. Such nominating subjects shall be entitled to file, no later than on the following day upon receipt of such notification, a submission with new nominations with the respective election commission.

If within the time period specified by this Part of this Article no submission has been filed to nominate members of an election commission, and/or if the number of nominees to the election commission does not allow establishing the commission in compliance with the minimum limits specified in Part one of Article 203 or Part three of Article 204 of this Code, the respective election commission shall form the composition of the commission based on a submission of the chair of this commission, in accordance with the proposals of members of this commission to bring the composition of such election commission in compliance with the minimum requirements for a commission's composition (no less than the minimum limit), with mandatory consideration of the submitted nominations to this election commission, except for those that shall be rejected on the grounds established by this Code.

In the case of early termination of powers of an individual member of the election commission on the grounds provided for in clauses 7, 9 of Part four of this Article, or in connection with early termination of powers of all members of the election commission, he or she may not be re-nominated to the election commission and shall be rejected.

In case of early termination of powers of the entire election commission, the respective election commission shall approve the new composition of the election commission in accordance with the procedure established by this Code no later than the third day from the day of termination of the powers of the commission, but no later than on the last day before election day.

6. A decision on early termination of powers of an election commission member in connection with the nominating subject filing a submission on his or her replacement shall be adopted simultaneously with the decision appointing the replacement member of the respective election commission nominated by the same subject to the respective position in the election commission that was occupied by the member of the election commission whose powers was terminated early.

7. If a chair, deputy chair or the secretary of an election commission repeatedly fails to perform his or her duties, the respective election commission shall be entitled to make a submission to the election commission that established it with a motivated request that he or she be replaced, provided that such submission is supported by at least two-thirds of all the members of the commission. Such submission shall be signed by the chair, deputy chair of the election commission, or a person presiding at the respective meeting of the election commission, and shall be affixed with the election commission's seal. The submission shall be appended with no less than two decisions of the election commission that ascertain the failure of the chair, deputy chair or the secretary of this commission to



perform his or her duties, as well as an abstract from the minutes of the respective meeting of the election commission that considered the issue about filing such a submission.

The chair, deputy chair or secretary of the election commission may personally submit a handwritten application for resignation (without termination of membership in the commission) to the election commission that formed the respective election commission.

The specified submission or application during the election process, as well as in the period from the formation of territorial election commissions to the commencement of the election process of the next ordinary, extraordinary or first local elections shall be considered within five days from receipt, but no later than on the last the day before election day, and outside the election process – within a month. The decision to replace a chair, deputy chair or secretary of the election commission shall not be grounds for termination of the powers of the said persons as members of the respective election commission.

8. In case of early termination of powers of the chair, deputy chair or secretary of the election commission, the decision to include another member of the respective election commission from the same subject of submission (in case of receipt of the respective submission) shall be made with the simultaneous appointment of this person to the respective position previously held by a member of the commission, whose powers were terminated prematurely.

In case of early termination of powers of the chair, deputy chair or secretary of the election commission and failure of the subject to submit other candidates for replacement by the subject from which the respective person was included in the election commission no later than the next day after receiving the notice of grounds for termination their powers, but no later than on the last day before the day of voting, another member of this commission shall be appointed to the respective position of the chair, deputy chair or secretary of the election commission.

9. If there are grounds for early termination of the powers of the entire election commission, an individual member of the election commission who has indications that members (individual members) of this commission committed a criminal or administrative offense shall notify law enforcement agencies for verification and response in accordance with the law.

## **Chapter XXXV. FINANCIAL, MATERIAL AND TECHNICAL SUPPORT FOR PREPARATION AND CONDUCT OF LOCAL ELECTIONS**

### **Article 209. Financing the Local Election**

1. Budgetary expenditures relating to preparation and conduct of local elections shall be covered at the expense of funds of the State Budget provided for the Central Election Commission performing the leadership role and administering the elections and referendums, as well as funds of the respective local budget received as a targeted subvention from the State Budget of Ukraine, funds of the respective local budgets (hereinafter, funds of the budget allocated for preparation and conduct of the local election) as well as the own election funds of party organizations that have nominated electoral lists of candidates for members of local councils, candidates for local councils and/or candidates for the position of village, settlement or city mayor.

Expenditures relating to the preparation and conduct of ordinary, extraordinary, supplementary and first elections of members of councils or village, settlement or city mayors shall be covered at the expense of the funds of the State Budget provided for the Central Election Commission performing the leadership role and administering the elections and referendums; the funds of the respective local budget shall be received as the targeted subvention from the State Budget of Ukraine.

All other types of local elections shall be held at the expense of the respective local budgets.

2. A party organization that nominated an electoral list, candidates in multi-member election districts, candidates for the position of village, settlement or city mayor may, for financing their own election campaign, create the party organization's own electoral fund that shall be formed in accordance with procedures provided for by this Code.

## **Article 210. Financial Support for Preparation and Conduct of Local Elections**

1. Financing of the preparation for and conduct of ordinary and first local elections, as well as extraordinary and supplementary elections of local councils and village, settlement or city mayors, at the expense of funds of the respective local budget received as the targeted subvention from the State Budget of Ukraine, shall be provided by the territorial election commission which shall be the administrator of such funds, in accordance with an estimate of revenues and expenditures approved thereby, which shall include, in particular, expenditures relating to the lease (rent) of the respective premises, for the remuneration of commission members and persons involved in the work of the election commission, expenditures related to ensuring the exercise of the powers of election commissions, within the funds provided for the preparation and conduct of local elections in the State Budget of Ukraine.

The financing of the Central Election Commission as regards the preparation and conduct of the local elections shall be provided at the expense of funds of the State Budget.

The financing of the production by the State Voter Register maintenance bodies of voter lists and personal invitations for voters during the conduct of ordinary, extraordinary, supplementary and first elections of local councils or village, settlement or city mayors shall be provided at the expense of funds of the respective local budget received as the targeted subvention from the State Budget of Ukraine, in accordance with the procedure specified by the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine upon submission of the Central Election Commission.

When holding all other types of local elections, the financing of the production by the State Voter Register maintenance bodies of voter lists and personal invitations for voters shall be provided at the expense of funds of the respective local budgets, in accordance with the procedure specified by the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine upon submission of the Central Election Commission.

2. The Law “On the State Budget of Ukraine” shall provide, separately, for a targeted subvention from the State Budget to local budgets for preparation and conduct of ordinary, extraordinary, supplementary and first local elections.

3. The distribution of subventions from the State Budget to local budgets for preparation and conduct of an ordinary local election shall be performed by the Central Election Commission in coordination with the central executive body implementing the state financial policy.

4. The Central Election Commission shall distribute subventions from the State Budget to local budgets for preparation and conduct of extraordinary, supplementary and first local elections in coordination with the central executive body implementing the state financial policy on the basis of the Resolution adopted by the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine on calling extraordinary local election, as well as on the decisions adopted in the prescribed manner on calling first and supplementary local elections.

The territorial election commission shall within the average expenditure amounts approved by the Central Election Commission prepare an estimate of expenditures for preparation and conduct of extraordinary, supplementary and first local elections, with due consideration of the expenditures of precinct election commissions.

5. The Central Election Commission shall approve the average expenditure amounts of a territorial and precinct election commission for the preparation and conduct of local elections.

6. Within five days from the day of its establishment, the territorial election commission shall prepare, on the basis of the average expenditure amounts, a unified budget of revenues and expenditures for preparation and conduct of an ordinary local election which shall include its own expenditures, as well as the expenditures to cover the needs of the precinct election commissions.

7. Election commissions shall be financed in accordance with the procedure established by the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine. The funds for preparation and conduct of local elections shall be transferred to the Central Election Commission no later than the day of commencement of the

election process, and to territorial election commissions, immediately after the approval of a unified budget of revenues and expenditures for preparation and conduct of ordinary local elections.

8. Within one week of the day of the official promulgation of the local election results, each territorial election commission shall return any funds which have not been spent by the territorial election commission on the preparation for and conduct of the elections, in accordance with the procedure established by the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine.

9. Within ten days of the day of the official promulgation of the local election results, each territorial election commission shall draw up and submit to the respective local council a financial report on the receipt and use of the funds of the respective local budget received as a targeted subvention from the State Budget of Ukraine.

10. The control over purposeful use of the funds of the respective local budget received as a targeted subvention from the State Budget of Ukraine shall be exercised by the central executive body for the implementation of the state financial control, as well as the Accounting Chamber.

11. The Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine shall, before the end of the financial year, pay the accounts payable of a territorial election commission, in the time period after its financial report has been prepared and submitted, in the event the financing of the local election has not been completed, within funds of the respective local budget received as a targeted subvention from the State Budget of Ukraine.

#### **Article 211.** Material and Technical Support for Preparation and Conduct of Local Elections

1. State executive bodies, state bodies of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and local self-government bodies, civil servants and officials, within the scope of their powers, shall assist the election commissions in the exercise of their powers, in particular:

- 1) provide the election commissions with the necessary premises and notify the election commission which forms (establishes) the respective election commission about the location (address) thereof, no later than one day prior to the formation (establishment) thereof, and to ensure the security of the premises;
- 2) ensure the security of ballot papers and other election documents;
- 3) provide them, in accordance with the standards and list of equipment approved by the Central Election Commission, with transport vehicles and means of communication (and paying for the services related to their installation and connection), fittings, furniture and powers appliances, which must be returned after termination of powers of the election commissions.

The cost of these services is paid at the tariffs in force at the time of the elections.

The amount of rent of the non-state property is set by the lease agreement.

The procedure for payment or reimbursement of the aforementioned services shall be approved by the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine.

The bodies of the National Police of Ukraine shall be obliged, upon the request of a territorial election commission, to provide round-the-clock security of the premises of the respective election commission, and, if necessary, at the request of the Central Election Commission and the State Voter Register maintenance bodies (regional, territorial bodies of the Central Election Commission).

#### **Article 212.** Remuneration of Members of Election Commissions and Persons Engaged in Activities of Election Commissions

1. According to a decision of the election commission, the chair, deputy chair and secretary or, in the event of their refusal, other members of the territorial election commission (no more than three persons in total) or of a precinct election commission (no more than two persons) may exercise their powers during the election process in the election commission on a paid basis, pursuant to a civil law agreement between them and the election commission. The said persons

shall be released from the performance of employment-related or official duties at the main place of employment for the duration of the said time period, with preservation of the length of service.

The decision of the territorial election commission on the exercise of its members' powers on a paid basis shall be immediately sent to the respective regional or territorial body of the Central Election Commission (in case of its formation).

The decision of the precinct election commission on the exercise of its members' powers on a paid basis shall be approved by the territorial election commission, which provides financial support to the said precinct election commission.

The chair, deputy chair, and the secretary of the Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea shall exercise their powers on a permanent basis. Terms of payment for their work shall be established by the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine, and the payment shall be made at the expense of the funds of the budget of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea.

2. Remuneration for the work of the members of the territorial or precinct election commission, who perform their responsibilities in the election commission on a paid basis, according to Part One of this Article, shall be paid within limits and in accordance with procedures approved by the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine, at the expense of the funds of the budget of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, respective local budget (hereinafter, funds of the respective local budget), received as a targeted subvention from the State Budget of Ukraine (or, in the cases provided for by this Code, at the expense of funds of the respective local budget).

3. The amount of remuneration for the work of the members of election commissions shall be determined by the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine. The remuneration to a member of the election commission who has been released from performance of the working or official duties at his or her principal place of employment shall not be lower than his or her average salary at the principal place of employment and shall not be higher than the salary of the respective village, settlement or city mayor or the chair of the respective council. The remuneration to a member of an election commission who is a pensioner or temporarily unemployed shall not be lower than the minimum salary as of the day of calculation of the remuneration.

4. Within the scope of the general savings of the remuneration fund allocated by the budget of expenditures of the respective election commission for preparation and conduct of the local election, members of the election commissions can be paid a one-time remuneration in accordance with procedures approved by the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine.

5. Remuneration for the work of the members of election commissions (including pensioners and temporarily unemployed persons) on the day of voting and on the days of tabulation of the voting results shall be paid within limits and in accordance with procedures approved by the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine.

6. Remuneration for the work of the persons specified in Part ten of Article 33 of this Code, during preparation and conduct of a local election, shall be paid at the expense of the funds of the State Budget and the respective local budget received as a targeted subvention from the State Budget of Ukraine (or, in the cases provided for by this Code, at the expense of funds of the respective local budget).

7. Work, related to preparation and conduct of the local election performed by persons registered as unemployed under the law, shall not constitute a reason for the cancellation of registration of such persons at the State Employment Service as those seeking employment, or for termination of the payment of social unemployment benefits or other types of social benefits.

8. The payment of remuneration to members of an election commission, as well as to persons engaged in activities of the commission, in particular on the day of voting and on the days of tabulation of the voting and election results, may not be a reason for cancellation, restriction, or decrease in any types of social payments, pensions, or subsidies for reimbursement of expenses related to housing and utility payment.

9. In order to ensure that the territorial election commission can exercise its powers in the time period outside the election process, it shall be financed at the expense of the funds of the respective local budget.

#### **Chapter XXXVI. ELECTORAL FUNDS OF PARTY ORGANIZATIONS AND CANDIDATES**

**Article 213.** Electoral Fund of a Party Organization, a Local Council Candidate and a Candidate for Village, Settlement and City Mayor

1. A party organization that nominated an electoral list of candidates, a local council candidate, a candidate for village, settlement or city mayor shall, in order to finance their own election campaign, be entitled to open an account of their own electoral fund.

The electoral fund of a party organization that nominated the electoral list (hereinafter, a party organization's electoral fund) shall have one accumulation account to which the funds for financing the election campaign thereof shall be transferred, as well as current accounts from which the expenditures relating to election campaigning shall be covered. Resources shall be transferred to the current accounts of a party organization's electoral fund exclusively from the accumulation account of its electoral fund. An accumulation account of a party organization's electoral fund shall be opened on the basis of a copy of the decision of the territorial election commission on the registration of candidates for local council included in the electoral list of a party organization. A current account of a party organization's electoral fund shall be opened on the basis of a banking institution's certificate on the opening of a party organization's accumulation account.

The electoral fund of a local council candidate, a candidate for village, settlement or city mayor shall have one current account to which the funds for financing the election campaign shall be transferred. A current account of the electoral fund shall be opened on the basis of a copy of the decision of the territorial election commission on registration of the respective candidate.

2. The procedure for opening and closing the accounts of electoral funds of a party organization or a candidate shall be approved no later than fifty days prior to the day of ordinary elections by the National Bank of Ukraine in coordination with the Central Election Commission.

3. A party organization, a local council candidate, a candidate for village, settlement or city mayor shall open an accumulation accounts and current accounts, respectively, of their electoral funds at a banking institution, which shall be chosen at their sole discretion, located within the respective election district or in the territory of the respective village, settlement or rayon. A party organization or a candidate shall open the respective accounts of its/his/her electoral fund only in the national currency.

A party organization may open current accounts of its electoral fund in the amount of no more than one for one territorial election district within the multi-member election district. One current account of a party organization's electoral fund may be used for several territorial election districts.

4. The funds in the accounts of the electoral fund shall be spent in a cashless form.

5. The banking institutions' services relating to the opening and closing of the accounts of the electoral fund shall be delivered on a regular basis. A banking institution shall neither accrue nor pay any interests on the funds maintained in the accounts of the electoral fund.

6. No later than on the next business day following the day of the opening of the account of the electoral fund, the banking institution shall notify the territorial election commission in writing of the opening of the respective account and its details.

7. The information on the opening of the account of an electoral fund and its respective details may be made public in print mass media or online at the expense of the resources of the electoral fund.

8. The spending of the funds in current accounts of the electoral fund after 18:00 hours on the last day prior to the day of voting shall be performed only in the case if invoices for payment for goods, works, and services were issued prior to the aforementioned time.

The spending of the funds in current accounts of the electoral fund shall be terminated at 18:00 hours on Wednesday after the day of voting.

9. The accounts of the electoral fund shall be closed by a banking institution on the sixteenth day after the day of the official promulgation of the results of the respective local elections.

10. Seizure of the funds or termination of transactions in the accounts of the electoral fund, or closing such accounts before the deadline specified in this Article shall not be allowed.

**Article 214.** Managers of an Electoral Fund of a Candidate or a Party Organization

1. A party organization that nominated an electoral list of candidates shall, by a decision of its governing body, appoint:

- 1) no more than two managers of the accumulation account of the party organization's electoral fund, from among its candidates for local council included in its electoral list, or from among its authorized persons in the unified multi-member election district;
- 2) one administrator of each current account of the election fund of the party organization's electoral fund – from among its authorized persons of the parties in territorial election districts.

A local council candidate or a candidate for village, settlement or city mayor may be a manager of the current account of his or her own electoral fund or appoint no more than one manager of the current account of his or her own electoral fund from among his or her agents.

2. The managers of the accumulation account of a party organization's electoral fund shall keep the records of the receipt and distribution of the resources of the electoral fund between the current accounts.

The manager of the current accounts of an electoral fund shall ensure observance of financial discipline, as well as the purposeful use of the resources of the electoral fund

3. The banking institution at which the accumulation or the current account of an electoral fund has been opened shall on a weekly basis or upon request of the manager of the resources of the respective electoral fund provide the latter with information on the amounts and sources of donations transferred to the accounts of the electoral fund, as well as with information on the flow of resources and on the remaining resources.

4. No later than eight days prior to the day of voting, the manager of the current account of a party organization's electoral fund shall be obliged to submit to the manager of the accumulation account of the party organization's electoral fund an interim financial report for the time period from the day of opening the accumulation account of the electoral fund till the tenth day prior to the day of voting, in a form established by the Central Election Commission.

No later than five days prior to the day of voting, the manager of the accumulation account of a party organization's electoral fund shall be obliged to submit to the respective territorial election commission an interim financial report for the time period from the day of opening the accumulation account of the electoral fund till the tenth day prior to the day of voting, in a form established by the Central Election Commission.

5. The manager of the current account of a party organization's electoral fund shall be obliged no later than on the fifth day after the day of voting to submit to the manager of the accumulation account of the party organization's electoral fund a final financial report, in a form established by the Central Election Commission.

The manager of the accumulation account of a party organization's electoral fund shall be obliged no later than on the seventh day after the day of voting to submit to the respective territorial election commission a final financial report, in a form established by the Central Election Commission.

6. A manager of the current account of the electoral fund of a local council candidate, a candidate for village, settlement or city mayor shall be obliged no later than five days prior to the

day of voting to submit to the respective territorial election commission an interim financial report for the time period from the day of opening of the current account of the electoral fund till the tenth day prior to the day of voting, in a form established by the Central Election Commission. Should the respective territorial election commission appoint repeat voting, a manager of the current account of the electoral fund of a candidate for village, settlement or city mayor, included on the ballot for the repeat voting, shall be obliged, no later than five days prior to the day of repeat voting, to submit to the respective territorial election commission an interim financial report for the time period from the day after the day of the official publication by the respective territorial election commission of a decision on appointing repeat voting till the seventh day prior to the day of repeat voting, in a form established by the Central Election Commission.

The manager of the current account of the electoral fund of a candidate in a multi-member election district or a candidate for village, settlement or city mayor shall be obliged, no later than the seventh day after the day of voting (in the case if the candidate for village, settlement or city mayor is included on the ballot for repeat voting, no later than the seventh day after the day of repeat voting) to submit to the respective territorial election commission a final financial report, in a form established by the Central Election Commission.

7. Both interim and final financial reports shall necessarily contain the information on all amounts of transfers to the account of the electoral fund, the incurred expenses and remaining resources in the respective accounts, including the information on the date of receipt of each contribution to the electoral fund, its amount, the person who made a contribution to the respective account of the electoral fund (with the indication of a person's last name, first name and patronymic name), the party organization's name (in case the party organization made a donation), the purpose of payment, date and amount of each payment from the respective account of the electoral fund, and the beneficiary of each payment.

8. The analysis of financial reports shall be performed by the territorial election commission. Should there in the course of the analysis of financial reports be revealed indications of violation of the law, the territorial election commission shall within five days from the date of detection of the respective signs notify the respective law enforcement bodies thereof.

9. Forms of financial reports provided for in this article, as well as the procedure for their analysis, shall be established by the Central Election Commission in coordination with the National Agency for Corruption Prevention.

10. The information contained in both interim and final financial reports shall be published by the territorial election commission within two days of the date of its receipt on its official websites (if available), the websites of respective local councils (if available), and the official websites of respective regional (territorial) bodies of the Central Election Commission or in another manner determined by it. Party organizations that have nominated electoral lists and set up their own election funds publish interim and final financial reports on the official websites of the respective party organization (if available) or otherwise on the Internet within two days of receiving them.

11. Upon the decision of the Central Election Commission and in accordance with the procedure established by it, the financial reports provided for in this article may be submitted to the respective territorial election commission by means of electronic services. In this case, the paper form of the specified report is not submitted.

#### **Article 215. Formation of an Electoral Fund**

1. The electoral fund of a party organization that nominated the electoral list of candidates shall be formed from the party organization's own resources, contributions from candidates included in the electoral list of candidates from this party organization, as well as voluntary donations from natural persons.

The electoral fund of a local council candidate or a candidate for village, settlement or city mayor nominated by a party organization, shall be formed at the expense of his or her own resources, voluntary donations from natural persons, as well as the resources of the respective party organization.

The electoral fund of a local council candidate or a candidate for village, settlement or city mayor nominated through self-nomination shall be formed at the expense of his or her own resources, as well as voluntary donations from natural persons.

Restrictions as regards the amount and the number of transfer of funds to the account of the electoral fund shall not apply to either a party organization's own funds or the own resources of a local council candidate or a candidate for village, settlement or city mayor.

2. A voluntary donation made by one natural person to one electoral fund shall not exceed ten minimum salaries.

3. Voluntary donations to the electoral fund shall not be made by:

- 1) foreign citizens and individuals without citizenship;
- 2) anonymous donors (without indicating in the payment document the information specified by Part four of this Article);
- 3) legal entities, their branches, and representative offices.

4. A voluntary donation of a citizen of Ukraine to the electoral fund shall be accepted by a banking institution or a post office provided that he or she presents one of the documents specified in Part one of Article 8 of this Code. The payment document shall necessarily contain the person's last name, first name (all first names), patronymic name (if any), the date of birth, and the address of the place of residence.

5. A voluntary donation shall be transferred by a banking institution or a post office to the account of the electoral fund no later than on the next business day following the day of the receipt of the respective payment document. The overall term for the cashless transfer of the contribution to the account of the electoral fund shall not exceed one banking day.

6. The manager of the respective account of the electoral fund may refuse to accept a voluntary donation from a natural person to the electoral fund by submitting an application to that effect appended with the payment document to the banking institution in which the account of the electoral fund has been opened. Such voluntary donation shall be returned to the individual at the expense of his or her voluntary donation or, if such return is impossible, shall be transferred to the budget of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea or to the respective local budget.

7. In case of receipt of a donation from a natural person exceeding the amount established by Part two of this Article, the amount exceeding the established amount shall be returned by the banking institution, in which the account of the electoral fund has been opened, based on the respective application and a payment document, submitted by the manager of the respective account of the electoral fund, to the person who made the donation, at the expense of his or her voluntary donation or, if such return is impossible, shall be transferred to the budget of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea or to the respective local budget.

8. The manager of the respective electoral fund account shall reject a donation from a natural person who, under this Code, shall have no right to make a voluntary donation. Based on the manager's application rejecting the donation for such a reason, the banking institution in which the respective account of the electoral fund has been opened shall transfer such voluntary donation to the budget of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea or to the respective local budget at the expense of this donation.

9. Selective control over the receipt, accounting and the use of the resources of the electoral fund shall be performed by the respective territorial election commission and a banking institution in which the account of the electoral fund has been opened.

10. The bank in which the current account of the election fund of the party organization is opened no later than on the third day after the election day transfers the funds not used by the party organization to the cumulative account of the respective election fund.

The unused resources of the electoral fund of a party organization, on the basis of a decision of a party's governing body which shall be adopted within five days from the day of the official



promulgation of the results of the local election, shall be transferred by the manager of the cumulative electoral fund to the current bank account of a party organization within three days from the date the party organization's governing body adopted the respective decision. Should a party fail to make such a decision, the unused resources of the electoral fund shall be indisputably transferred by the banking institution to the budget of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea or to the respective local budget on the tenth day following the day of the official promulgation of the results of the respective local elections by the territorial election commission.

No later than within five days from the date of the official promulgation of the results of the local election, the unused resources of the electoral fund of a candidate shall be returned by the manager of the cumulative account electoral fund to the current account of the respective candidate, which has been opened in a banking institution. In the event of failure to transfer those unused funds within the specified time period, they shall not be returned and shall be indisputably transferred by a banking institution to the budget of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea or to the respective local budget within ten days from the date of the official promulgation by the territorial election commission of the results of the respective election.

11. In the case of cancellation of the decision on the registration of a candidate or a candidate's withdrawal from the election, the unused resources of his or her electoral fund shall upon a decision of the territorial election commission be transferred to the budget of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea or to the respective local budget.

12. Voluntary donations received in the electoral fund later than one day prior to the day of voting (or the day of repeat voting) shall be transferred by a banking institution to the budget of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea or to the respective local budget.

## **Chapter XXXVII. NOMINATION AND REGISTRATION OF CANDIDATES IN LOCAL ELECTIONS**

**Article 216.** General Procedure for Nominating Candidates for Local Council and Candidates for Village, Settlement and City Mayor

1. The nomination of candidates for village, settlement or city mayor shall begin forty days prior to the day of voting and shall end thirty days prior to the day of voting.

2. The right to nominate candidates to the Verkhovna Rada of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, and to oblast, rayon, rayon in city councils, as well as city, village and settlement councils (of territorial communities with up to 10,000 voters) shall be exercised by voters through the local party organizations (hereinafter, a party organization) in accordance with the procedure specified by this Code.

The right to nominate candidates to village, settlement or city council (of a territorial community with up to 10,000 voters) shall be exercised by the voters through the party organizations or through self-nomination in accordance with the procedure specified by this Code.

The right to nominate candidates for village, settlement or city mayor shall be exercised by voters through the party organizations or through self-nomination, in accordance with the procedure specified by this Code.

3. A party organization shall be entitled to nominate candidates in the respective election under the condition that the respective party organization has been registered pursuant to the procedure prescribed by the Law. A party organization shall not be entitled to the status of an electoral subject if a central executive power body that implements the state policy in the area of state registration of legal entities, registration (legalization) of public associations, civic unions or other civic formations, has made a decision declaring, in accordance with the procedure established by the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine, the party organization's or the party's activities, name and/or symbols as such that fail to comply with the requirements of the Law of Ukraine "On Condemnation of Communist and National Socialist (Nazi) Totalitarian Regimes in Ukraine and Prohibition of their Symbols."

4. A person may be nominated as a candidate in a multi-member district at no more than two levels of local councils.

A person nominated as a candidate for the position of village, settlement or city mayor may not at the same time be nominated in any other unified single-member election district for any local elections.

A person nominated as a candidate for the position of village, settlement or city mayor (of a city with up to 75,000 voters) may at the same time be nominated as a candidate in a multi-member election district to the respective village, settlement city council and/or to the respective oblast council.

A person nominated as a candidate for mayor (of a city with 75,000 or more voters) may at the same time be nominated as a candidate in a multi-member election district only to the respective city council.

5. A person, subject to the requirements of part four of this article, may simultaneously be nominated as candidate for local councils and candidate for the position of village, settlement or city mayor if nominated by the local organization of one political party only, or by self-nomination only.

#### **Article 217. The Nomination of Candidates by a Party Organization**

1. The nomination of candidates for local council and for the position of village, settlement or city mayor by a party organization shall be conducted pursuant to this Code and the party's charter by the decision of the highest governing body of the party on the participation of its local organizations in the respective ordinary, extraordinary, first, repeat, or by-elections, made after the decision to call the respective elections.

In case a political party decides on the participation of its local organizations in the elections of members to the Verkhovna Rada of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, to oblast, rayon or rayon in city councils, as well as to city, village or settlement councils (of territorial communities with 10,000 or more voters), or in mayoral elections, such a decision shall also indicate the name of the central governing body of the party, which will approve the decision of the meeting (conference) of the local party organization to nominate candidates or the candidate for mayor from the local party organization, as well as the name, surname, and patronymic name (if any) of the party leaders authorized to certify with their signatures copies of decisions of meetings (conferences) of the local party organization on the nomination of candidates for the local council and for mayor from the local party organization.

A copy of the decision of the highest governing body of the party on the participation of its local organizations in the respective elections, certified by the signature of the leader and the seal of the party shall be submitted to the Central Election Commission no later than 48 days before election day.

The Central Election Commission shall publish the list of political parties that have decided on the participation of their local organizations in the respective local elections no later than 45 days before the day of voting day on its official website.

2. A party organization may nominate as a candidate a person who is either a member of that party or not a member of any party.

3. A republican party organization in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea shall be entitled to nominate a unified republican electoral list of candidates to the Verkhovna Rada of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea in the election to the Verkhovna Rada of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea.

4. An oblast party organization shall be entitled to nominate a unified oblast electoral list of candidates to the respective oblast council.

An oblast or, in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, republican organization of a political party in accordance with the existing administrative-territorial structure may also nominate:

- 1) candidates for local councils in elections of the respective rayon, city, rayon in city, village or settlement councils (rayons, cities, rayons in cities, villages or settlements that are part of the respective oblast or the Autonomous Republic of Crimea in accordance with the administrative-territorial structure);

- 2) no more than one candidate for the position of village, settlement or city mayor (villages, settlements or cities that are part of the respective oblast or the Autonomous Republic of Crimea in accordance with the administrative-territorial structure).
5. A city party organization shall be entitled to nominate:
- 1) the electoral list of candidates for membership of the corresponding city council;
  - 2) the electoral list of candidates for membership of the city council (of a city which is a part of this city according to the administrative-territorial system);
  - 3) the electoral list of candidates for membership of the village and/or settlement council (villages and settlements that are part of this city in accordance with the administrative-territorial structure);
  - 4) one candidate for city mayor;
  - 5) no more than one candidate for village, settlement or city mayor (of villages, settlements and cities that are parts of this city, in accordance with the administrative-territorial structure);

A city party organization in cities with rayon division, in which city rayon councils were established shall be entitled to also nominate a list of candidates in the elections of the respective rayon in city councils.

In the case of absence of the respective city party organization in the structure of the party, the republican party organization in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea or the oblast party organization, in accordance with the administrative-territorial structure, shall be entitled to nominate the list of candidates to the city council.

The city organization of a party may not nominate candidates for local councils or candidates for the position of village, settlement or city mayor provided for in this part if the respective oblast organization of this political party in accordance with the administrative-territorial structure has decided to nominate such candidates for the position of village, settlement or city mayor.

6. A rayon party organization may nominate, and in the absence of a corresponding rayon organization in the structure of a political party, an oblast or, in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, republican organization of a political party in accordance with the administrative-territorial structure:

- 1) the electoral list of candidates for the rayon council;
- 2) the electoral list of candidates for the city council (in a city of oblast importance which is a part of this area according to the administrative-territorial structure);
- 3) the electoral list of candidates for village and settlement council (in a village and settlement, which according to the administrative-territorial structure is a part of this rayon);
- 4) one candidate each for the position of village, settlement and city mayor of a city of rayon importance, which are part of this rayon in accordance with the administrative-territorial structure (except for villages or settlements that in accordance with the administrative-territorial structure are a part of the city).

The rayon organization of a party may not nominate candidates for local councils or candidates for the position of village, settlement or city mayor provided for in this part if the respective oblast organization of this political party in accordance with the administrative-territorial structure has decided to nominate such candidates for the position of village, settlement or city mayor.

The city party organization in a city of rayon importance which, according to the administrative-territorial structure is part of this rayon, cannot nominate candidates for local council of the corresponding city council of the city of rayon importance if the corresponding rayon organization of this political party, according to the administrative-territorial structure, has decided to nominate

candidates for membership of the corresponding city council of a city of rayon importance in the manner provided by this Code.

7. A rayon in city party organization may nominate a list of candidates in the election of the respective rayon in city council.

A rayon in city party organization cannot nominate a list of candidates for the rayon in city council if the city organization of this political party has adopted a decision to nominate candidates for this rayon in city council in the manner provided by this Code.

**Article 218.** General Procedure for Nomination of Candidates by a Party Organization

1. The nomination of candidates by a party organization shall be conducted by the party organization at its meeting or conference, pursuant to the procedure prescribed by the party's charter and this Code.

2. A party organization shall notify the respective territorial election commission in writing of the date, time and place of holding the party organization's meeting or conference with the purpose to nominate candidates no later than one day prior to the day of holding a party organization's meeting or conference.

3. A notification of the time and place of holding a party organization's meeting or conference with the purpose of nominating candidates for local council, and the procedure for accreditation of media representatives at such a meeting, determined by its organizers, shall be published on the official website of the party organization, or, in the case of its unavailability, on the website of the party, no later than five days prior to the day of the meeting or conference.

4. A party organization shall also notify mass media of the date, time, and place of holding the party organization's meeting or conference with the purpose of nominating candidates. The procedure for accreditation of media representatives at such a meeting or conference shall be determined by the event organizers.

5. The central executive body that implements the state policy in the field of registration (legalization) of public associations shall no later than thirty-five days prior to the day of voting submit in both paper and electronic form to the respective territorial election commissions the information on registered parties and their organizations, with an indication of the party organization's chair, and shall, in the event of replacement of a party organization's chair, or a change of the party organization's chair, immediately notify the respective territorial election commissions thereof.

**Article 219.** Procedure of Nomination of Candidates to the Verkhovna Rada of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and Candidates for Oblast, Rayon, Rayon in City, City, Village and Settlement Councils (of territorial communities with 10,000 or more voters)

1. The nomination of candidates for local councils by a party organization and the formation and approval of the unified and territorial electoral lists of candidates shall be carried out at a party organization's meeting or conference, pursuant to the procedure prescribed by the party's charter and this Code.

2. A party organization may nominate as candidate for a local council a person who is either a member of that party or not a member of any party, provided that the person shall have the right to be elected a local council member under Article 193 of this Code.

3. A party organization shall nominate candidates from the among persons specified in Part two of this Article, in the form of a unified electoral list, which shall be formed and approved at the party organization's meeting or conference.

4. The number of candidates for local council who are included in the unified electoral list of a party organization shall not exceed the number of seats in the Verkhovna Rada of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea or the respective local council.

5. The first candidate in the unified electoral list is determined. From among other candidates included in the unified electoral list, the party organization at the same meeting or conference shall form and approve territorial lists of candidates in each territorial election district. The territorial electoral list of a party organization must include at least five and no more than twelve candidates.

6. Each candidate included in the unified electoral list shall also be included in one of the territorial electoral lists. A candidate may not be included in the unified electoral list of a party organization more than once, and also, he or she may not be included in two or more different territorial electoral lists.

7. A person shall be entitled to express his or her consent to be a candidate and be included in the unified and territorial electoral lists of one party organization only and from one party only.

8. The sequence (ordinal numbers) of candidates in a unified electoral list and in the territorial electoral lists shall be determined at a meeting or conference of the party organization during the nomination of candidates and preparation of the respective lists.

9. When compiling the unified and territorial electoral lists, a party organization shall ensure that both men and women (no less than two candidates of each gender) shall be present in each group of five (places from the first to the fifth, from the sixth to the tenth and so on) candidates in each electoral list.

If the party organization forms unified and territorial electoral lists with the number of candidates, which is not a multiple of five, a requirement is applied whereby the latter in the list of candidates (from 1 to 4) is required, one by one, to be candidates of different genders.

10. The decision of a party organization's meeting or conference to nominate candidates for local council from the party shall be made by way of approval of both the unified and the territorial electoral lists of candidates, assigned by the party organization to the respective territorial election districts, which shall be appended to such a decision and shall be an integral part thereof. A decision of a party organization's meeting or conference on the nomination of local council candidates shall be signed by the chair of the party organization and affixed with the seal of the party.

11. The forms of a party organization's unified and territorial electoral lists of candidates shall be established by the Central Election Commission and cannot be changed during the election process.

12. The unified electoral list shall contain the following information with regard to each candidate:

- 1) ordinal number of the candidate in the unified electoral list;
- 2) last name, first name (all first names), patronymic name (if any) of the candidate;
- 3) day, month and year of birth;
- 4) citizenship;
- 5) information on educational background;
- 6) job position (occupation), place of employment;
- 7) party membership;
- 8) address of the place of residence;
- 9) information on the presence or absence of a criminal record;
- 10) information on the presence or absence of a representative mandate;
- 11) the number of the territorial election district, to which the candidate has been assigned (aside from the first candidate);
- 12) the ordinal number of the candidate in the respective territorial electoral list (aside from the first candidate).

13. Each territorial electoral list shall contain the ordinal number of each candidate in this list, as well as the data indicated in 2-10 of Part 12 of this Article.

**Article 220.** The procedure for Nomination of Candidates to Village, Settlement and City Council (of a territorial community with up to 10,000 voters)

1. The right to nominate candidates to village, settlement or city council (of a territorial community with up to 10,000 voters) shall be exercised by voters through local party organizations, or through self-nomination, in accordance with the procedure specified by this Code.

A person may be nominated as a candidate for local council only by one local political party organization or only through self-nomination.

2. The nomination of candidates by a party organization in each multi-member election district shall be conducted by the party organization at its conference or meeting, pursuant to the procedure prescribed by the party's charter and this Article.

3. A party organization may nominate as a candidate for a local council, a person who is either a member of that party or not a member of any party, provided that the person shall have the right to be elected a local council member under Article 193 of this Code.

4. A party organization shall nominate candidates from among persons specified in Part three of this Article, in the form of a list of candidates to the respective council (indicating the number of the multi-member district in which each candidate is nominated), which shall be formed and approved at a party organization's conference or meeting.

5. The number of candidates for the local council, which are included in the list of candidates for the respective council in each multi-member election district shall not exceed the number of seats to be distributed in the respective multi-member election district.

6. A person may be nominated as a candidate in the respective local election only from one local party organization (unless he or she is running through self-nomination).

7. When compiling a list of candidates to the respective council, a party organization shall ensure the representation of no less than 30 percent of persons of each gender, in the total number of candidates for the respective council.

8. A decision of a party organization's conference or meeting to nominate candidates from the party organization shall be made by way of approval of a list of candidates to the respective council (indicating the number of the multi-member district in which each candidate is nominated), which shall be appended to such a decision and shall form an integral part thereof. The decision of a party organization's meeting or conference on the nomination of candidates shall be signed by the chair of the party organization and affixed with the party organization's seal, or, in the case of absence thereof, with the seal of a higher-level party organization.

9. The form of a party organization's list of candidates to the respective council shall be established by the Central Election Commission and cannot be changed during the election process.

10. The list of candidates to the respective council shall contain the following information with regard to each candidate:

- 1) the ordinal number of the multi-member district in which candidate is nominated;
- 2) last name, first name (all first names), patronymic name (if any) of a candidate;
- 3) day, month and year of birth;
- 4) citizenship;
- 5) information on educational background;
- 6) job position (occupation), place of employment;
- 7) party membership;

- 8) address of place of residence;
- 9) information on the presence or absence of a criminal record;
- 10) information on the presence or absence of a representative mandate.
- 11) repealed.

The documents provided for in part two of Article 223 of this Code shall be attached to the application for self-nomination.

A person may be nominated as a candidate by self-nomination in only one election district.

**Article 221.** The procedure of Nomination of Candidates for Village, Settlement and City Mayor

1. The right to nominate candidates for village, settlement or city mayor shall be exercised by voters through local party organizations or through self-nomination, in accordance with the procedure specified by this Code.

2. The nomination of candidates for village, settlement or city mayor in a unified single-member election district by a party organization shall be conducted at its conference or meeting, pursuant to the procedure prescribed by the party's charter and this Article.

3. A party organization may nominate as candidate for village, settlement or city mayor a person who is a member of that party or not a member of any party, provided that the person has the right to be elected under Article 193 of this Code.

4. Nomination of a candidate for village, settlement or city mayor from a party organization is done by adopting a decision of the party organization's conference or meeting. In the event a party organization's conference or meeting nominates candidates for the position of village, settlement or city mayors in more than one village, settlement or city territorial community, a decision with regard to each candidate shall be adopted separately.

The decision of a party organization's meeting or conference on the nomination of candidates for village, settlement or city mayor shall be signed by the chair of the party organization and affixed with the party organization's seal, or, in the case of absence thereof, with the seal of a higher-level party organization.

5. The decision of a party organization's meeting or conference shall contain the following information with regard to a candidate nominated as village, settlement or city mayor:

- 1) last name, first name (all first names), patronymic name (if any) of a candidate;
- 2) day, month and year of birth;
- 3) citizenship;
- 4) information on educational background;
- 5) job position (occupation), place of employment;
- 6) party membership;
- 7) address of place of residence;
- 8) information on the presence or absence of a criminal record;
- 9) information on the presence or absence of a representative mandate;
- 10) the date of adoption of such a decision.

6. A citizen of Ukraine who, in accordance with Article 193 of this Code, has the right to be a candidate in local elections, may self-nominate as a candidate for the position of village, settlement or city mayor by submitting an application for self-nomination to the respective territorial election commission.

The application for self-nomination shall be accompanied by the documents provided for in part two of Article 224 of this Code.

7. A person may run as a candidate for the position of only one village, settlement or city mayor from a party organization or by way of self-nomination.

**Article 222.** Conditions for Registration of Candidates to the Verkhovna Rada of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, and Candidates for Oblast, Rayon, Rayon in City, City, Village and Settlement Councils (of territorial communities with 10,000 or more voters)

1. The Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, oblast, rayon, rayon in city, city, village or settlement election commissions shall register candidates included in the unified and territorial lists of the party's organization upon receipt of the following documents:

- 1) an application for registration of the candidates, signed by the chair of the party organization and affixed with the party organization's seal;
- 2) a decision of the party organization's meeting or conference on the nomination of candidates, as stipulated by Part ten of Article 219 of this Code, signed by the chair of the local party organization and certified by the seal of the local party organization or the respective party organization and approved by the central governing body certified by the seal of this party (indicating the name of the central governing body of the party and the number and date of the respective decision, which is not attached);
- 3) the unified electoral list and all territorial electoral lists of candidates nominated by the party organization to the respective multi-member districts, in the forms established by the Central Election Commission, in hard copy, which must contain the information provided for in part ten of Article 220 of this Code, signed by the chair of the party organization and affixed with the seal of the party organization or the respective party organization of the highest level, as well as in electronic form;
- 4) the party organization's election program, prepared in the state language, the volume of which is up to 4,000 printed characters, approved by the party organization's meeting or conference, in a paper form, signed by the chair of the party organization and affixed with the party organization's seal, as well as in electronic form;
- 5) a document on making a cash deposit in accordance with Article 225 of this Code;
- 6) statements of the persons included in the party organization's electoral list expressing consent to be nominated as that party organization's candidate, which shall also contain a person's consent to the publication of his or her biographical information, as well as the acknowledgment of the obligation, in the event of being elected, to lay down a representative mandate (or indicating absence thereof);
- 7) statements of the persons included in the electoral lists of the republican party organization in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea shall also contain the acknowledgment of the obligation, in the event of being elected as a local council member, to terminate any activities which are incompatible with the mandate of a member of the Verkhovna Rada of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea (or indicating absence thereof), as well as the obligation, in the event of being elected as a local council member, to transfer, within one month from the day of the official promulgation of the election results, to another person, pursuant to the procedure prescribed by the Law, the management of enterprises and corporate rights owned by the candidate (or indicating absence thereof);
- 8) paper and electronic copies of the application forms of candidates, in a form established by the Central Election Commission, which shall necessarily contain: last name, first name (all first names), and patronymic name (if any), all previous last names, first names, and patronymic name and the dates of change thereof (if a person has changed his or her last name and/or first name (one of the first names or all first names), and/or patronymic name during the last five years prior to the day of voting), the day, month, year and place



- of birth, citizenship, information about educational background, job position (occupation), place of employment, party membership, address of place of residence, presence or absence of a representative mandate, telephone number, information on presence or absence of a criminal record, date of filling out the application and the signature of the candidate (to be filled out in printed form);
- 9) certificates on the presence or absence of a criminal record issued by an authorized body after the start of the election process;
  - 10) a statement of each of the candidates about the presence (absence) of arrears of child support, the amount of which exceeds the amount of the respective payments for six months from the date when an executive document for mandatory enforcement was presented;
  - 11) one photograph on paper sized 4x6 cm, as well as in an electronic format, of each of the candidates;
  - 12) photocopies of the first and second page of each candidate's passport of a citizen of Ukraine in the form of a passport book or photocopies of the front and reverse page of a passport of a citizen of Ukraine in the form of a card.

Submission of documents to the respective election commission for registration of candidates is carried out by a representative of the party organization authorized by a power of attorney from the party organization.

In case the territorial election commission finds discrepancies between the unified electoral list and the territorial electoral lists of the party organization, provided in hard copy and in electronic form, the paper document shall prevail.

2. The territorial election commission shall issue to a person who has submitted documents provided for by Part One of this Article, a certificate confirming the receipt of such documents. The certificate shall contain a list of documents received, the day, month, year and time of their receipt, and the position and last name of the person who received the documents.

3. The territorial election commission shall not accept the documents specified in Part one of this Article if they are submitted after the expiry of the deadline specified in Part two of Article 227 of this Code.

4. Persons nominated as candidates shall be held responsible for the authenticity and accuracy of the data in the documents specified in clauses 6 to 8 and 10 of Part one of this Article, filed with the territorial commission for the registration of candidates.

5. Documents for registration of candidates may be submitted to the respective election commission by means of electronic services in accordance with the procedure established by the Central Election Commission.

In this case, the documents provided for in part one of this article may be submitted in the form of electronic copies, the authenticity of which is certified by the chair of the respective party organization and/or the respective candidate, taking into account the laws of Ukraine "On electronic documents and electronic document management" and "On electronic trust services."

**Article 223.** Conditions for Registration of Candidates to village, Settlement and City Council (of territorial communities with up to 10,000 voters)

1. The respective village, settlement or city election commission shall register candidates nominated by the party organization in multi-member election districts upon receipt of the following documents:

- 1) an application for registration of the candidates, signed by the chair of the party organization and affixed with the party organization's seal, or, in the case of absence thereof, with the seal of a higher-level party organization;

- 2) a decision of the party organization's meeting or conference specified in Part eight of Article 220 of this Code on the nomination of candidates from the party organization and the approved list of candidates to the respective council specified in Part two of Article 220 of this Code, which shall be appended to such a decision and shall be an integral part thereof, in a form established by the Central Election Commission, in paper form, which shall necessarily include the information provided by Part ten of Article 220 of this Code, signed by the party organization's chair and affixed with the party organization's seal, as well as in electronic form;
- 3) statements of the persons included in the party organization's list of candidates to the respective council expressing consent to be nominated as that party organization's candidate (including in the respective multi-member election district), which shall also contain a person's consent to the publication of his or her biographical information and the processing of the candidate's personal data, as well as the acknowledgment of the obligation in case of election to lay down another representative mandate (in the absence of a mandate – to indicate its absence);
- 4) a document on making a cash deposit in accordance with Article 225 of this Code;
- 5) paper and electronic copies of the application forms of candidates, in a form established by the Central Election Commission, which shall necessarily contain: last name, first name (all first names), and patronymic name (if any), all previous last names, first names, and patronymic name and the dates of change thereof (if a person has changed his or her last name and/or first name (one of the first names or all first names), and/or patronymic name during the last five years prior to the day of his or her nomination as a candidate), the day, month, year and place of birth, citizenship, the information about educational background, job position (occupation), place of employment, party membership, address of place of residence, presence or absence of a representative mandate, telephone number, information on presence or absence of a criminal record, date of filling out the application and a signature of a candidate (to be filled out in printed form);
- 6) one photograph on paper sized 4x6 cm, and in an electronic format, of each of the candidates;
- 7) photocopies of the first and second page of each candidate's passport of a citizen of Ukraine in the form of a passport book or photocopies of the front and reverse page of a passport of a citizen of Ukraine in the form of a card.

Should village, settlement or city election commission find discrepancies between the party organization's list of candidates to the respective council provided in both hard copy and electronic form, the paper copy shall prevail.

The documents to the respective election commission for registration of candidates nominated by the party organization in multi-member election districts shall be submitted by a party organization's representative authorized by a power of attorney issued by the party organization.

The territorial election commission shall issue to a party organization's representative authorized by a power of attorney issued thereby, who has submitted documents provided for by this Part of this Article, a certificate confirming the receipt of such documents, with the indication of the date and time of the receipt of the documents, as well as the list thereof.

2. The respective territorial election commission shall register a candidate nominated by self-nomination, upon receipt of a document specified by Part one of Article 8 of this Code, submitted by a candidate in person, and submission by him or her of the documents provided by clauses 4 to 7 of Part one of this Article, as well as an application on self-nomination signed by him or her, and a statement of his or her consent to the publication of his or her biographical information in connection with his or her participation in the elections to village, settlement or city council (of territorial communities with up to 10,000 voters)

The territorial election commission shall issue a certificate to the candidate who submitted documents on self-nomination, indicating the date and time of acceptance of the documents and the list of accepted documents.

3. The respective territorial election commission shall not accept the documents specified in Part one and two of this Article if they are submitted after expiry of the deadline specified in Part two of Article 228 of this Code.

4. Persons nominated as candidates shall be held responsible for the authenticity and accuracy of the data in the documents specified in clause 5 of Part one of this Article, filed with the territorial election commission for the registration of candidates.

5. Documents for registration of candidates may be submitted to the respective election commission by means of electronic services in accordance with the procedure established by the Central Election Commission.

In this case, the documents provided for in part one of this article may be submitted in the form of electronic copies, the authenticity of which is certified by the chair of the respective party organization and/or the respective candidate, taking into account the laws of Ukraine "On electronic documents and electronic document management" and "On electronic trust services."

If the Central Election Commission decides to use electronic services for registration of candidates, the provisions of part two of this article on the personal presentation of the document provided for in part one of Article 8 of this Code shall not apply to a candidate running by self-nomination. In this case, the documents provided for in paragraphs 4-7 of part one and part two of this article shall be signed (certified) by the respective candidate taking into account the requirements of the laws of Ukraine "On electronic documents and electronic document management" and "On electronic trust services."

#### **Article 224. Conditions for Registration of Candidates for Village, Settlement and City Mayor**

1. Village, settlement or city election commission shall register a candidate for village, settlement or city mayor nominated by the party organization upon receipt of the following documents

- 1) an application for registration of a candidate for village, settlement or city mayor, signed by the chair of the party organization and affixed with the party organization's seal, or, in the case of absence thereof, with the seal of a higher-level party organization;
- 2) a decision of the party organization's meeting or conference on the nomination of a candidate for village, settlement or city mayor on behalf of this organization, which shall be signed by the party organization's chair and affixed with the party organization's seal, or, in the case of absence thereof, of the seal of a higher-level party organization and in case of nomination of a candidate for the position of mayor by a local party organization – also approved by the central governing body of the party, certified by the seal of this party (indicating the name of the central governing body of the party and the number and date of the decision, which does not have to be attached);
- 3) a statement of the person expressing consent to be nominated as that party organization's candidate for village, settlement or city mayor, which shall also contain the person's consent to publication of his or her biographical information and the processing of personal data of the candidate for village, settlement or city mayor, as well as the acknowledgement of the obligation, in the event of being elected, to transfer, within one month from the day of the official promulgation of the election results, to another person, pursuant to the procedure prescribed by the Law, the management of enterprises and corporate rights owned by the candidate for village, settlement or city mayor (or indicating absence thereof), as well as the obligation, in the event of being elected, to terminate any activities or lay down a representative mandate, which, according to the Constitution and the Laws of Ukraine, are incompatible with the mandate of village, settlement or city mayor (on indicating absence thereof);

- 4) a document on making a cash deposit in accordance with Article 225 of this Code;
- 5) paper and electronic copies of the application form of a candidate for village, settlement or city mayor, in a form established by the Central Election Commission, which shall necessarily contain: last name, first name (all first names), patronymic name (if any), all previous last names, first names, and patronymic names and the dates of change thereof (if a person has changed his or her last name and/or first name (one of the first names or all first names), and/or patronymic name during the last five years prior to the day of his or her nomination), the day, month, year and place of birth, citizenship, information about educational background, job position (occupation), place of employment, party membership, address of place of residence, presence or absence of a representative mandate, telephone number, information on presence or absence of a criminal record, date of filling out the application and a signature of the candidate for village, settlement or city mayor (to be filled out in printed form);
- 6) one photograph on paper sized 4x6 cm, and in an electronic format, of each candidate for village, settlement or city mayor;
- 7) photocopies of the first and second page of a passport of a citizen of Ukraine in the form of a passport book or photocopies of the front and reverse page of a passport of a citizen of Ukraine in the form of a card, of each candidate for village, settlement or city mayor;

2. The respective village, settlement or city election commission shall register a candidate for village, settlement or city mayor nominated by self-nomination, upon receipt of a document specified by Part one of Article 8 of this Code, submitted by a candidate in person, and submission by him or her of the documents provided by clauses 4 to 7 of Part one of this Article, as well as the application on self-nomination as a candidate for village, settlement or city mayor signed by him or her, and the statement of his or her consent to the publication of his or her biographical information in connection with his or her participation in the local election.

3. The territorial election commission shall issue a certificate indicating the date and time of acceptance of documents, the list of accepted documents to the representative of the party organization which nominated the candidate for the position of the village, settlement or city mayor, or to the candidate who submitted the documents by self-nomination.

The documents provided for by Parts one and two of this Article shall not be considered if they were submitted after the deadline specified in Part two of Article 229 of this Code, and in this case, the respective election commission shall not make a decision thereon.

4. Persons nominated as candidates for village, settlement or city mayor shall be held responsible for the authenticity and accuracy of the data in the documents specified in clause 5 of Part one of this Article (or provided for by Part two of this Article, for persons nominated by self-nomination), filed with the territorial election commission for the registration of candidates for village, settlement or city mayor.

5. Documents for registration of candidates for village, settlement or city mayor may be submitted to the respective election commission by means of electronic services in accordance with the procedure established by the Central Election Commission.

In this case, the documents provided for in part one of this article may be submitted in the form of electronic copies, the authenticity of which is certified by the chair of the respective party organization and/or the respective candidate, taking into account the laws of Ukraine "On electronic documents and electronic document management" and "On electronic trust services."

If the Central Election Commission decides to use electronic services for registration of candidates, the provisions of part two of this article on the personal presentation of the document provided for in part one of Article 8 of this Code shall not apply to a candidate running by self-nomination. In this case, the documents provided for in paragraphs 4 to 7 of part one and part two of this article shall be signed

(certified) by the respective candidate taking into account the requirements of the laws of Ukraine "On electronic documents and electronic document management" and "On electronic trust services."

#### **Article 225. Financial Deposit**

1. A party organization that nominated the electoral list of candidates to the Verkhovna Rada of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea shall, after the commencement of the election process and prior to submission of documents to the Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea for the registration of candidates, transfer to a special account of the Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea a financial deposit in the cashless form in the amount of fifty minimum salaries established as of the day of commencement of the election process.

2. A candidate for member of village, settlement or city (of a territorial community with up to 10,000 voters) council, who is nominated by self-nomination in a multi-member district after the start of the election process and before submitting documents to the respective election commission for registration shall transfer to the special account of the election commission a financial deposit in a cashless form in the amount of twenty percent of the minimum wage in the monthly amount established as of the day of commencement of the election process.

A party organization that nominated candidates for members of village, settlement or city council (of a territorial community with up to 10,000 voters) or an organization of the respective party at higher-level in the multi-member district shall, after the start of the election process and before submitting documents to the respective election commission for registration, transfer in one payment to the special account of the election commission a financial deposit in a cashless form in the amount of twenty percent of the minimum wage in the monthly amount established on the day the commencement of the election process for each candidate.

A party organization that nominated a candidate for the position of the village, settlement or city mayor (of a city with up to 75,000 voters) or an organization of the respective party at higher level, as well as the person nominated by self-nomination for the position of village, settlement or city mayor (of a city with up to 75,000 voters) in the unified single-member district shall, after the start of the election process and before submitting documents to the respective election commission for registration as a candidate for the position of village, settlement or city mayor, transfer in one payment to the special account of the election commission a financial deposit in a cashless form in the amount of the minimum wage in the monthly amount established as of the day of commencement of the election process.

A party organization that nominated an electoral list of candidates to the oblast, rayon, rayon in city, as well as city, settlement or village councils (of a territorial community with 10,000 or more voters) as well as a person, nominated through self-nomination as a candidate for a city mayor (of a city with 75,000 or more voters) shall, after the commencement of the election process and prior to the submission of documents to an oblast or city election commission for the registration of candidates and candidates for city mayor, transfer to the special account of the election commission a financial deposit in a cashless form in the amount of four minimum salaries established as of the day of commencement of the election process, per each ninety thousand voters in the respective unified territorial election district separately for each type of elections.

The Central Election Commission shall, no later than the fifth day of the day of commencement of the election process, based on the data from the State Voter Register as of the day of commencement of the election process in the respective local elections, establish the amount of a financial deposit for each village, settlement, city, rayon, rayon in city or oblast election district and shall immediately make it public on its official website and inform the respective territorial election commissions thereof.

The bank account details of the bank account for depositing a financial deposit shall be posted by the respective election commission on its official website, or on the stand for official documents of that election commission, no later than the second day of the day of commencement of the election process.

Should the village, settlement, rayon in city, city, rayon or oblast election commission or the Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea make a decision on refusal of registration of all candidates to local councils and/or a candidate for village, settlement or city mayor nominated by

a party organization or through self-nomination, the financial deposit shall, within five days from the day of making such a decision, be transferred to the bank account of a party organization or to the bank account specified in the application filed with the respective election commission by a person nominated through self-nomination.

In case funds are received on the special account of the respective territorial election commission for payment of electoral deposits in an amount that is less than specified in parts one, two of this article, and/or funds contributed in violation of the requirements of this article, such funds are not refundable and shall in eight days after the expiry of the registration of candidates be transferred, respectively, to the village, settlement, city, oblast or republican Autonomous Republic of Crimea budget.

The financial deposit paid by a party organization that nominated candidates shall be returned to the bank account of the party organization that transferred it, if, based on the election results, the party organization has obtained the right to participate in the distribution of seats, within eight days following the day of the official promulgation of the results of the elections of local council members.

The financial deposit shall be returned to the respective subject that deposited it, if, based on the results of the local election, the candidate has been declared elected as village, settlement or city mayor.

In other cases, the financial deposit shall, within eight days following the day of the official promulgation of the election results, be transferred, respectively, to the respective village, settlement, rayon in city, city, rayon oblast or the republican budget of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea.

The procedure for depositing, return and transfer of a financial deposit shall be established by the Central Election Commission jointly with the Ministry of Finance of Ukraine no later than sixty days prior to the day of voting.

**Article 226.** Filing a Declaration of Property, Income, Expenditures and Financial Liabilities of a Candidate for Local Council and a Candidate for Village, Settlement and City Mayor

1. A candidate for local council, a candidate for village, settlement or city mayor, registered in accordance with the procedure established by this Code, shall submit a declaration of a person authorized to perform the functions of state or local self-government, pursuant to the Law of Ukraine “On Corruption Prevention.”

**Article 227.** Procedure of Registration of Candidates to the Verkhovna Rada of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, Candidates for Oblast, Rayon, Rayon in City, City, Village and Settlement Councils (of territorial communities with 10,000 or more voters)

1. Candidates included in a party organization’s unified electoral list and territorial electoral lists shall be registered by the Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, or by oblast, rayon, rayon in city, city, village or settlement election commissions upon receipt by the respective election commission of the documents provided for by Article 222 of this Code.

2. The submission of documents to the respective election commission for registration of candidates shall end thirty days prior to the date of voting.

3. Should a person included in a party organization’s unified electoral list and the respective territorial electoral lists fail to submit, as of the day the party organization filed the application on the registration of candidates to the Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, or to the oblast, rayon, rayon in city, city, village or settlement election commission, a statement of consent to be nominated as a candidate from this party organization, he or she shall be deemed excluded from the party organization’s electoral list (electoral lists) as of the day of submission of the party organization’s application. A statement of consent submitted by such a person after the submission of the aforementioned party organization’s application for registration of candidates shall not be accepted.

4. A person included in a party organization’s unified electoral list and territorial electoral lists may withdraw his or her statement of consent to be nominated as that party organization’s candidate prior to the day of registration of him or her as a candidate. Such person shall, in person, file to the Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, or to oblast, rayon, rayon in city, city, village or settlement election commissions, an application on withdrawal of his or her statement of

consent to be nominated as a candidate from the respective party organization notarized pursuant to the procedure established by the Law of Ukraine “On Notariate”. Such person shall be deemed excluded from the party organization’s unified electoral list and respective territorial electoral lists as of the moment of receipt by the Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, oblast, rayon, rayon in city, city, village or settlement election commission of the statement of withdrawal of his or her consent to be nominated as a candidate from that party organization. The respective election commission shall notify the party organization that nominated the candidate in writing of the receipt of a statement of withdrawal no later than on the day following the day of the receipt of the statement of withdrawal. A statement of consent submitted by a person who has previously withdrawn consent to be nominated as a candidate by a party organization shall not be accepted.

5. If it becomes known that a person has been included in the electoral lists of several party organizations, an authorized representative of the election commission shall, no later than on the next day following the day when such information has become known, address the said person with a demand to file, in person, with the election commission a statement on the confirmation of his or her consent to be nominated as candidate only from one party organization, which shall be notarized pursuant to the procedure established by the Law of Ukraine “About Notariate”.

Should a person file a statement on the confirmation of his or her consent to be nominated as a candidate from the respective party organization, such person shall be deemed excluded from the unified electoral list and the respective regional electoral lists of other party organizations.

Should a person fail to submit a statement confirming his or her consent to be nominated as a candidate from the respective party organization within two days following the day of receipt of the respective address, such person shall be excluded by a decision of the respective territorial election commission from the electoral lists of all party organizations in which he or she has been included.

6. Within five days of the receipt of the party organization’s application on registration of candidates and the documents appended thereto, the territorial election commission shall make a decision on registration of candidates, or on refusal to register candidates.

7. The list and sequence of candidates in the unified electoral list, as well as the list of candidates in each territorial electoral list, determined by the party organization, may not be changed after the documents for candidate registration have been filed with the territorial election commission. The order of candidates in the regional electoral list may be changed only based on the results of the vote of voters under conditions and in accordance with the procedure specified by Parts one and two of Article 259 of this Code.

8. In the event of registration of candidates, the party organization’s representative in the territorial election commission shall be presented with a copy of the resolution on the candidates’ registration no later than within three days after the adoption together with candidate certificates in a form established by the Central Election Commission. The decision on registration of candidates shall be posted within three days from the date of its adoption by the respective election commission on its official website (if available), websites of respective local councils (if available) or in another manner determined by these commissions and/or on a stand for official materials of the commission. Information on registration of candidates for local council in the unified election district with an indication of the subject of nomination, ordinal number of the candidate, surname, first name (all first names), patronymic name (if any), date, month, year of birth, information on citizenship, education, party affiliation, position, place of work (occupation), place of residence, presence (absence) of arrears of child support, the total amount of which exceeds the amount of the respective payments for six months from the date the executive document for enforcement was presented, the number of the territorial election district to which the candidates belong, and the ordinal number of candidates in the respective territorial electoral list for each candidate (except for the first candidate) shall be submitted for publication on the official website of the Central Election Commission in accordance with a procedure established by it.

**Article 228.** The procedure of Registration of Candidates to Village, Settlement and City Council (of territorial communities with up to 10,000 voters)

1. The respective village, settlement or city election commission shall register candidates nominated by the party organization in a multi-member election district, upon receipt by the respective election commission of documents provided for by Article 223 of this Code.

2. The submission of documents to the respective election commission for registration of candidates shall end thirty days prior to the date of voting.

3. Should a person included in the party organization's list of candidates to the respective council fail to submit, as of the day the party organization submits the application for registration of candidates to village, settlement or city council (of a territorial community with up to 10,000 voters) to the respective territorial commission a statement of consent to be nominated as a candidate for that party organization, he or she shall be deemed excluded from the party organization's list of candidates as of the day of submission of the party organization's application. A statement of consent submitted by such a person after the submission of the aforementioned party organization's application for registration of candidates shall not be accepted.

4. A person included in the party organization's list of candidates to the respective council may withdraw his or her statement of consent to be nominated as that party organization's candidate prior to the day of registration of him or her as a candidate. Such person shall, in person, file with the territorial election commission a statement of withdrawal of his or her consent to be nominated as a candidate from the respective party organization notarized pursuant to the procedure established by the Law of Ukraine "On Notariate". Such person shall be deemed excluded from the party organization's list of candidates to the respective council as of the moment of receipt by the territorial election commission of the statement of withdrawal of his or her consent to be nominated as a candidate from that party organization. The respective territorial election commission shall notify the party organization that nominated the candidate in writing of the receipt of a statement of withdrawal no later than within three days following the day of the receipt of the statement of withdrawal. A statement of consent to be nominated as a candidate by the party organization submitted by a person who has previously withdrawn shall not be accepted.

5. If it becomes known that a person has been included in the lists of candidates to the respective council of several party organizations and/or through self-nomination, the authorized representative of the territorial election commission shall address, no later than on the next day following the day when such information has become known, the said person with the requirement to file, in person, with the election commission a statement on the confirmation of his or her consent to be nominated as candidate only from one party organization or through self-nomination, which shall be notarized pursuant to the procedure established by the Law of Ukraine "On Notariate".

Should a person file a statement on the confirmation of his or her consent to be nominated as a candidate from the respective party organization, such person shall be deemed excluded from the lists of candidates to the respective council of other party organizations.

Should a person fail to submit such a statement within two days following the day of receipt of the respective address, such person shall be excluded by a decision of the territorial election commission from the list of candidates to the respective council of all party organizations, in which he or she has been included.

6. Within five days of the receipt of the party organization's application on registration of candidates and the documents appended thereto, the respective territorial election commission shall make a decision on registration of candidates, or on refusal to register candidates.

7. The territorial election commission shall, no later than twenty-two days prior to the day of voting, make public in the manner determined by it, the information on registration of candidates in multi-member election districts in alphabetic order (according to their last names), with an indication of the number of the multi-member election district, in which the candidate has been nominated, the nominating subject, the last name, first name (all first names), patronymic name (if available), the day, month and year of birth, information on citizenship, education, party membership, job position, place of employment (occupation) and place of residence of each of the candidates.



8. In case of registration in a multi-member district of a candidate nominated by a party organization or a candidate nominated by self-nomination, the respective territorial election commission shall issue a candidate's certificate to the representative of the party organization or the respective candidate within three days of the registration decision. according to a form established by the Central Election Commission

The decision on registration of candidates is posted by the respective territorial election commission within three days from the date of its adoption on its official website (if available), the website of the respective local council or in another manner specified by it and/or on the stand of official materials of the commission.

Information on registered candidates for members of the village, settlement or city councils (of territorial communities with up to 10,000 voters) indicating the number of the multi-member election district in which the candidate is nominated, the subject of nomination, surname, first name (all first names), patronymic name (if any), date, month, year of birth, information on citizenship, education, party affiliation, position, place of work (occupation), place of residence of each candidate are submitted for publication on the official website of the Central Election Commission in the manner prescribed by it.

**Article 229.** Procedure for Registration of Candidates for Village, Settlement and City Mayor

1. A candidate for village, settlement or city mayor shall be registered by the respective village, settlement or city election commission, upon receipt thereby of documents provided for by Article 224 of this Code.

2. The submission of documents to the respective village, settlement or city election commission for registration of candidates for the position of village, settlement or city mayor shall end thirty days prior to the date of voting.

3. The documents to the respective village, settlement or city election commission for registration of a candidate for village, settlement or city mayor shall be submitted by a party organization's representative authorized by a power of attorney issued by a party organization, or by a candidate himself or herself, as regards candidates nominated through self-nomination.

4. A candidate for village, settlement or city mayor, who, as of the day of filing an application by the party organization on the registration of him or her as a candidate for village, settlement or city mayor, has failed to submit a statement of consent to be nominated as village, settlement or city mayor by that party organization, shall be deemed such that has not given the respective consent. A statement of consent submitted by such a person after submission of the aforementioned party organization's application for registration of him or her as a candidate for village, settlement or city mayor shall not be accepted.

5. A person nominated by the party organization for the position of village, settlement or city mayor may prior to the day of the registration of him or her as candidate for village, settlement or city mayor withdraw his or her statement of consent to be nominated as candidate for the position as village, settlement or city mayor from that party organization.

The statement of withdrawal of the statement of consent to be nominated as candidate for the position of village, settlement or city mayors from the respective party organizations must be notarized pursuant to the procedure established by the Law of Ukraine "About Notariate", or submitted in person by the respective person to the village, settlement or city election commission.

In such cases, the person shall be deemed to have renounced nomination. The respective village, settlement or city election commission shall notify the party organization that nominated a candidate in writing of the receipt of a statement of withdrawal no later than within three days following the day of the receipt of the statement of withdrawal. A subsequent statement of consent submitted by a person who has previously withdrawn consent to be nominated as a candidate by the party organization shall not be accepted.

6. In the event a person nominated by a party organization in accordance with his or her written statement of consent to be nominated as a candidate for village, settlement or city mayor simultaneously has been nominated as a candidate from another party organization and/or by way of self-nomination, an authorized representative of the territorial election commission shall no later than the following day address the said person with the request to submit to the election commission a statement confirming consent to be nominated as a candidate for village, settlement or city mayor from one party organization or by self-nomination. Such statement shall be notarized pursuant to the procedure established by the Law of Ukraine “On Notariate”, or submitted to the commission in person.

In the event the person submits a statement confirming consent to be nominated as a candidate for the position of village, settlement or city mayor by way of self-nomination, the territorial election commission shall refuse to register him or her as candidate of the party organization.

In the event the person submits a statement confirming consent to be nominated as a candidate for the position of village, settlement or city mayor from a party organization, the territorial election commission shall refuse to register him or her as candidate from the remaining party organizations and/or through self-nomination.

In the event the person fails to submit such a statement within two days following the day of receipt of the respective address, the territorial election commission shall cancel the decision on registration of such person as a candidate for village, settlement or city mayor, and shall notify the person in question and the respective party organization thereof.

7. A village, settlement or city election commission shall, no later than the fifth day of the day of receipt of an application on the registration of a candidate for the position of village, settlement or city mayor, or an application for self-nomination, and all necessary documents appended thereto, adopt a decision on the registration of the respective candidate, or on refusal to register him or her as candidate.

8. Information on registered candidates for village, settlement or city mayor indicating the subject of nomination, surname, first name (all first names), patronymic name (if any), all previous last names, first names, and patronymic names and the dates of change thereof (if a person has changed his or her last name and/or first name (one of the first names or all first names), and/or patronymic name during the last five years prior to the day of his or her nomination), date, month, year of birth, information on citizenship, education, party affiliation, position, place of work (occupation), place of residence of each candidate are no later than twenty-two days prior to the day of voting made public by the territorial election commission in the manner prescribed by it.

9. In case of registration of a candidate for village, settlement or city mayor nominated by a party organization or a candidate nominated by self-nomination, the respective village, settlement or city territorial election commission shall within three days of the adoption of the decision on registration issue to a representative of the party organization or the respective candidate a candidate's certificate in accordance to a form established by the Central Election Commission.

The decision on registration of a candidate for village, settlement or city mayor is posted by the respective village, settlement or city territorial election commission within three days from the date of its adoption on its official website (if available), the website of the respective local council or in another manner specified by it and/or on the stand for official materials of the commission.

Information on registered candidates city mayors indicating the subject of nomination, surname, first name (all proper names), patronymic names (if any), all previous last names, first names, and patronymic names and the dates of change thereof (if a person has changed his or her last name and/or first name (one of the first names or all first names), and/or patronymic name during the last five years prior to the day of his or her nomination), date, month, year of birth, information on citizenship, party affiliation, position, place of work (occupation), place of residence of each candidate are submitted for publication on the official website of the Central Election Commission in the manner prescribed by it.

**Article 230.** Refusal to Register a Candidate (Candidates) for Membership of Local Council and Candidates for Village, Settlement and City Mayor

1. The territorial election commission shall refuse to register all candidates nominated by the party organization in the event of:

- 1) a violation of the procedure for nomination of candidates established by this Code, including exceeding the number of candidates established by this Code in the unified republican electoral list of candidates to the Verkhovna Rada of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, candidates for an oblast, rayon, rayons in city, city, village or settlement council (of territorial communities with 10,000 or more voters) or candidates to village, settlement or city councils (of territorial communities with up to 10,000 voters) which may be nominated by party organizations;
- 2) absence of at least one of the documents specified in clauses 1 to 5 of Part one of Article 222 of this Code, clauses 1, 2 and 4 of Part one of Article 223, or non-compliance of such documents with the requirements of this Code (including the amount of the financial deposit);
- 3) discovery thereby of the presence of statements in the party organization's election program aimed at the liquidation of Ukraine's independence, forcibly overthrow of the constitutional order, breach of sovereignty and territorial integrity of the state, undermining its security, illegal seizure of state power, the propaganda of war, violence, incitement to inter-ethnic, racial, religious enmity, or encroachment on human rights, liberties and public health;
- 4) the nomination of candidates by a party organization that promotes communist and/or National Socialist (Nazi) totalitarian regimes and their symbols, with regard to which the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine has made a decision declaring the party organization's activities, name and/or symbols as such that fail to comply with the requirements of the Law of Ukraine "On Condemnation of Communist and National Socialist (Nazi) Totalitarian Regimes in Ukraine and Prohibition of their Symbols."

2. The territorial election commission shall refuse to register an individual candidate or a candidate for village, settlement or city mayor in the event of:

- 1) absence of at least one of the documents with regard to a candidate for a local council or a candidate for village, settlement or city mayor specified in clauses 5-12 of the Part one of Article 222, clauses 3-7 of the Part one of Article 223, part one of Article 224 of this Code, or non-compliance of such documents with the requirements of this Code (including the amount of the financial deposit);
  - a) violation of the procedure for nominating a specific candidate to local council or a candidate for the position of village, settlement or city mayor, established by Articles 216-221 of this Code, including the prohibition of simultaneous nomination;
- 2) receipt of information from a competent authority that confirms the fact of termination of citizenship of Ukraine of a local council candidate or a candidate for village, settlement or city mayor;
- 3) information is received from a competent authority that confirms the fact of departure of a local council candidate or a candidate for village, settlement or city mayor abroad for permanent residence;
- 4) it receives from a court a duly certified copy of a court decision declaring a candidate for local council or a candidate for village, settlement or city mayor incapacitated;
- 5) a person nominated as a candidate for local council or candidate for the position of village, settlement or city mayor has a criminal record for a grave or especially grave crime, a criminal offense against electoral rights of citizens or corruption crime, if this conviction is

not lifted or expunged pursuant to the procedure established by the law;

- 6) it discovers other circumstances depriving a person nominated as a candidate for local council or a candidate for village, settlement or city mayor of the right to be elected.

3. Mistakes and inaccuracies discovered in the documents submitted for registration, if their presence is not an obstacle to understanding the content of the information, are not grounds for a refusal to register candidates for local council or candidates for the position of village, settlement or city mayor.

In the absence of information submitted for registration, which must be specified in accordance with the requirements of this Code, the respective subject of submission of the documents shall be notified immediately.

Deficiencies identified in the submitted documents may be eliminated by submitting no later than the next day after receipt of the said notification updated or other documents for registration of candidates for local council or candidates for the position of village, settlement or city mayor.

If the updated or other documents are not received within this period, the respective documents are considered missing.

4. A decision on refusal to register a candidate for local council (candidates for local council) or a candidate for village, settlement or city mayor shall contain an exhaustive list of grounds for such a refusal. A copy of such decision shall no later than the next day following the day of the adoption thereof be issued (sent) to a party organization's representative (in the event of nomination of such person by a party organization) and to the candidate for local council or the candidate for village, settlement or city mayor (in the case of self-nomination).

**Article 231.** Cancellation of Registration of a Candidate for Local Council or a Candidate for Village, Settlement and City Mayor

1. The territorial election commission shall take a decision about canceling the registration of a candidate for village, settlement or city mayor or a specific candidate for member of local council included in the party organization's unified and/or territorial electoral lists (during elections of members of the Verkhovna Rada of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, or members of the oblast, rayon, rayon in city, city, village or settlement councils (of territorial communities with 10,000 or more voters) with the exclusion of him or her from the respective electoral lists or about cancelling the registration of a specific candidate in a multi-member election district (during elections of members of village, settlement and village councils (of territorial communities with up to 10,000 voters)), in the case if:

- 1) a candidate for village, settlement or city mayor no later than nineteen days prior to the day of voting in person has submitted a statement of withdrawal of candidacy. Such statement must be notarized pursuant to the procedure established by the Law of Ukraine "About Notariate".
- 2) the respective party organization no later than nineteen days prior to the day of voting, has requested cancellation of a decision on registration of a candidate for member of local council or a candidate for village, settlement or city mayor based on a decision adopted in accordance with the party organization's charter, which shall be appended to such request and shall be signed by the party organization's chair and affixed with the party organization's seal and in case of its absence – the seal of the organization of the party of highest level or the seal of the party;
- 3) information is received from a competent authority that confirms the fact of termination of citizenship of Ukraine as regards a candidate for local council or a candidate for village, settlement or city mayor;
- 4) information is received from a competent authority that confirms the fact of departure of a candidate for local council or a candidate for village, settlement or city mayor abroad for permanent residence;

- 5) it receives from court a duly certified copy of a court decision declaring a candidate for local council or a candidate for village, settlement or city mayor incapacitated;
- 6) a person nominated as a candidate for local council or a candidate for position of village, settlement or city mayor has a criminal record for committing a grave or especially grave crime, a crime against the citizens' electoral rights or a corruption crime, which has not been lifted or expunged pursuant to a procedure established by law;
- 7) a violation of the procedure for nominating a candidate for local council or candidate for the position of village, settlement or city mayor established by part four of Article 216 of this Code, including failure of a candidate for local council or a candidate for the position of village, settlement or city mayor in accordance with this Code to confirm consent to run as a candidate for local council or as candidate for the position of village, settlement or city mayor from a party organization in case of detection of the inclusion of this person in electoral lists or the lists of candidates to the respective council of several party organizations;
- 8) discovery of circumstances depriving a candidate for local council or a candidate for village, settlement or city mayor the right to be elected as council member or village, settlement or city mayor.

In the event of receipt of the applications provided for in clauses 1, 2 of this Part, the territorial election commission shall adopt a decision canceling the registration of a candidate for village, settlement or city mayor or the local council candidate and excluding him or her from the party organization's national and regional electoral lists within three days from the day of receipt of such applications, but no later than seventeen days prior to the day of voting.

In case of cancellation of the registration of a candidate for local council included in the unified and territorial electoral lists of a party organization, such a candidate shall be simultaneously excluded from the respective electoral lists. At the same time, the order (ordinal numbers in the respective electoral lists) of other candidates does not change.

In the event of receipt of applications provided for in clauses 1, 2 of this Part less than nineteen days prior to the day of voting, the territorial election commission shall not consider such applications and no decisions shall be taken thereon.

2. A decision on cancellation of registration of a candidate for local council or a candidate for village, settlement or city mayor on the grounds specified in clauses 3-8 of Part one of this Article shall be adopted by the respective election commission no later than the third day following the day of receipt of the documents that establish the respective facts or occurrence of the respective circumstances.

A territorial election commission may not decide to cancel the registration of a candidate for local council or a candidate for the position of village, settlement or city mayor later than eighteen days before the day of voting.

The territorial election commission shall consider the issue of cancellation of the registration of a local council candidate or a candidate for village, settlement or city mayor in the presence of such candidate and an authorized representative of the party organization in the territorial election commission. The aforementioned persons shall be notified of the time when the issue of canceling the registration of a candidate shall be considered no later than on the day prior to the day of the consideration of the issue. In the event of the absence of the aforementioned persons who have been duly notified of the time of the meeting for consideration of this issue, the territorial election commission shall consider the issue of canceling the registration of a candidate in the absence of these persons.

3. The territorial election commission shall present the party organization's representative in the election commission or the candidate for local council or a candidate for village, settlement or city mayor with a copy of the decision on cancellation of the registration of the candidate (candidates) no later than the next day after its adoption.

4. In the event of the death of a local council candidate or a candidate for village, settlement or city mayor, the territorial election commission shall adopt a decision removing that candidate from the ballot, excluding him or her from the party organization's unified and respective regional electoral lists, or from the list of candidates to the respective council.

5. A decision on cancellation of the registration of a candidate (candidates) to local council or a candidate for village, settlement or city mayor and a decision on a candidate's withdrawal from the election shall be posted on the official website of the respective election commission and on the stand for information materials of the election commission no later than on the next day following its adoption.

The decision to cancel the registration of a candidate (candidates) for local council or a candidates for the position of village, settlement or city mayor shall be immediately sent to the Central Election Commission in accordance with the procedure established by it.

### **Chapter XXXVIII. PECULIARITIES OF INFORMATION SUPPORT FOR LOCAL ELECTIONS**

#### **Article 232. Special Information Support for Local Elections**

1. Special information support for local elections consists of informing the voters of the following:

- 1) The registered candidates and their nominating subjects;
- 2) The election programs of party organizations that are electoral subjects;
- 3) The accounts of the electoral funds, the maximum amount of a voluntary contribution and the manner in which a voluntary contribution shall be made;
- 4) The cancellation of the registration (withdrawal from the ballot) of a candidate for local council or a candidate for village, settlement or city mayor;
- 5) facts and events associated with the election process.

2. Mass media organizations and information agencies shall be entitled to participate in the special information support for the election based on a request from the respective election commission; and as regards data specified in clause 5 of Part one of this Article, on their own initiative in accordance with the requirements of this Code.

3. Territorial election commissions shall inform the Central Election Commission and its regional and territorial representations about the course of the election process of the respective local elections in accordance with the procedure established by the Central Election Commission.

#### **Article 233. Information Posters of Party Organizations that are Electoral Subjects**

1. The Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, or the oblast, rayon, city, rayon in city, village or settlement election commission shall at the expense of budget funds allocated for the preparation and conduct of the respective elections ensure the production of information posters of each party organization that is subject of an election process to the Verkhovna Rada of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, the respective oblast, rayon, rayon in city council, as well as village, settlement or city council (of a territorial community with 10,000 or more voters).

2. Information posters of a party organization that is an electoral subject shall be produced for each territorial election district. An information poster of a party organization that is an electoral subject produced for the respective territorial election district must present the information on each candidate included in the respective territorial electoral list including his or her ordinal number in the regional electoral list, his or her last name, first name (all first names), patronymic name (if any), the day, month and year of birth, information on educational background, job position (occupation), place of employment, party membership and place of residence, as well as the photographs of all candidates included in the respective regional electoral list.

3. The form, size, and printing design of the information posters of party organizations that are electoral subjects, as well as the procedure for their manufacturing and delivery to the precinct election commissions, shall be established by the Central Election Commission. Information posters shall be produced in accessible formats that provide the opportunity for voters with health disorders (due to disability, temporary health disorders, age) to familiarize themselves with the information with the use of universal design, taking into account requirements established by the Central Election Commission.

4. The Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, or an oblast, rayon, city, rayon in city, village or settlement election commission shall agree the text of the information poster of a party organization with the representative of the party in the election commission.

5. The Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, of the oblast, rayon, city, rayon in city, village or settlement election commission shall provide for the production of information posters for each territorial election commission, in the amount of five copies of each poster for each election precinct, as well as for each territorial election commission.

6. Information posters of party organizations that are electoral subjects shall be delivered to the respective precinct election commissions together with the ballot papers.

7. Information posters of party organizations that are electoral subjects shall be used for voter information in the premises for voting, including on the day of voting, as well as for voting at the place of voters' stay.

8. The responsibility for the storage of information posters of party organizations that are electoral subjects shall be entrusted to the precinct election commissions.

9. Information posters for elections of members of the village, settlement or city councils (of territorial communities with less than 10,000 voters) and village, settlement or city mayors shall not be produced.

#### **Article 234. Information Brochures of Party Organizations that are Electoral Subjects**

1. The Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, or the oblast, rayon, city, rayon in city, village or settlement election commission shall at the expense of budget funds allocated for the preparation and conduct of the respective election ensure the production of information brochures of each party organization that is subject of the election process to the Verkhovna Rada of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, the respective oblast, rayon, rayon in city council, as well as city, village or settlement council (of a territorial community with 10,000 or more voters).

2. An information brochure of a party organization that is an electoral subject must present the election program of the party organization (of a volume of no more than 4,000 printed characters) submitted thereby during the registration of candidates, as well as the unified and all territorial electoral lists of the party organization, as well as the photographs of all candidates included in the territorial electoral lists.

A unified electoral list, which is presented in the party organization's information brochure, shall contain the information on each candidate's ordinal number in the unified electoral list, his or her last name, first name (all first names), patronymic name (if any), as well as the number of the territorial election district, in the territorial electoral list of which he or she has been included, as well as the ordinal number of the candidate in that list. Territorial electoral lists of candidates, which are presented in the information brochures of a party that is an electoral subject, shall contain the information on each candidate included in the respective territorial electoral list, including the candidate's ordinal number in the territorial electoral list, his or her last name, first name (all first names), patronymic name (if any), the day, month and year of birth, information on educational background, job position (occupation), place of employment, party membership and place of residence, as well as photographs of all candidates included in the respective regional electoral list.

3. The form, size, and printing design of the information brochures of party organizations that are electoral subjects, as well as the procedure for their manufacturing and delivery to the precinct election commissions, shall be established by the Central Election Commission. Information brochures shall be produced in accessible formats that provide the opportunity for voters with health disorders (due to disability, temporary health disorders, age) to familiarize themselves with the information with the use of universal design, taking into account requirements established by the Central Election Commission.

4. The Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, an oblast, rayon, city, rayon in city, village or settlement election commission shall agree the text of the information brochure of a party organization with a representative of the party in the election commission.

5. The Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, or the oblast, rayon, city, rayon in city, village or settlement election commission shall provide for the production of information brochures for each territorial election commission, in the amount of five copies of each poster for each election precinct, as well as for each territorial election commission.

6. Information brochures of party organizations that are electoral subjects shall be delivered to the respective precinct election commissions together with the ballot papers.

7. Information brochures of the party organizations that are electoral subjects shall be used for voter information in the premises for voting, including on the day of voting, as well as for the voting at the place of voters' stay.

8. The responsibility for the storage of information posters of the party organizations that are electoral subjects shall be entrusted to the precinct election commissions.

9. Information brochures for elections of members of the village, settlement and city councils (of territorial communities with less than 10,000 voters) and village, settlement or city mayors shall not be produced.

**Article 235. Making Changes to Information Posters and Information Brochures of Party Organizations that are Electoral Subjects**

1. In case the territorial election commission decides to cancel the registration of a candidate for the Verkhovna Rada of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, or the respective oblast, rayon, city, rayon in city, village or settlement council (of a territorial community with 10,000 or more voters) or in the case if a candidate withdraws from the election in the time period, during which the information posters and information brochures of party organizations that are electoral subjects are produced, or after the production thereof, but within the time period, when the remaining time is insufficient to allow re-printing of information posters and information brochures of the parties that are electoral subjects, the territorial election commission shall make a decision on making changes to the information posters and information brochures of a party that is an electoral subject. The territorial election commission shall immediately communicate such a decision to the respective territorial election commissions so that the precinct election commissions can make the respective amendments.

Such amendments to information posters and information brochures of party organizations that are electoral subjects shall be made by members of the precinct election commissions of that territorial election district to the territorial electoral list of candidates in which the respective candidate was included by applying the "Withdrawn" stamp at a meeting of the precinct election commission.

In this case, an election commission member appointed by the commission shall affix the "Withdrawn" stamp to the respective candidate's number and last name in each information poster of the respective party organization that is an electoral subject, as well as in each information brochure of a party organization that is an electoral subject (such stamp shall be affixed in two places: in the unified electoral list and in the respective territorial electoral list). The stamp shall be affixed in a horizontal position and shall not cover another candidate's number and last name.



It shall be prohibited to make amendments to information posters and information brochures of parties that are electoral subjects without a decision of the respective territorial election commission.

Each voter shall be informed of the amendments made to information posters and information brochures of party organizations that are electoral subjects at the time when the ballot paper is being issued to him or her.

The form of the "Withdrawn" stamp shall be approved by the Central Election Commission no later than twenty-six days prior to the day of voting. Territorial election commissions shall, not later than seven days before election day, ensure the production of such stamps or use stamps that have been made earlier. The "Withdrawn" stamps are handed over to the respective territorial election commissions or directly to the precinct election commissions at the same time as information posters and information booklets of party organizations of parties that are subjects of the election process. Stamps are stored in the respective territorial election commission.

The "Withdrawn" stamp shall be handed over by the territorial election commission to all precinct election commissions simultaneously with the respective decision on making changes to the information posters and information booklets of party organizations.

2. If the information posters of a party organization of a party that is subject of the election process and/or information brochures of a party organization of a party that is subject of the election process are amended without a decision of the territorial election commission or changes do not comply with such a decision, the precinct election commission removes and destroys such posters, about which fact an act is completed at its meeting in two copies. The act shall indicate the number of received information posters of a party organization that is subject of the election process and/or information brochures of a party organization that is subject of the election process, the number of seized and destroyed information posters and/or information brochures and the names of the persons responsible for it. One copy of this act shall be immediately transferred to the respective territorial election commission for transfer to the territorial Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, or an oblast, rayon, city, rayon in city, village or settlement election commission; the second copy shall be kept in the precinct election commission.

At the same time, the territorial Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, oblast, rayon, city, rayon in city, village, settlement election commission decides on providing the election precinct with the required number of information posters of the party organization that is subject of the election process and/or information brochures of the party organization that is subject of the election process. If necessary, the territorial election commission may decide to produce an additional number of information posters and/or information brochures of the party organization that is subject of the election process.

3. It shall, on the day of voting, be prohibited to use the information posters and/or the information brochures of a party organization that is subject of the election process, in which no amendments were made pursuant to the decision of the territorial election commission, or in which amendments were made not in compliance with such a decision.

## **Chapter XXXIX. GUARANTEES FOR ELECTORAL SUBJECTS, OFFICIAL OBSERVERS IN LOCAL ELECTIONS**

**Article 236.** Guarantees of Activities in Election Process of Party Organizations and Candidates that Registered Their Representatives and Authorized Persons in the Unified Multi-Member Election District.

1. A party organization that nominated candidates to the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, an oblast, rayon, rayon in city, as well as city, village or settlement council (of a territorial community with 10,000 or more voters) has the right to delegate one representative to the territorial election commission with the right of an advisory vote authorized to represent the interests of the party organization in the territorial election commission during the election process. The candidacy of the representative of the party organization in the election commission shall be approved by the governing body of the party organization.

2. A citizen of Ukraine who, in accordance with Article 70 of the Constitution of Ukraine, has the right to vote may be a representative of a party organization in an election commission. None of the following persons may be a party organization's representative to the election commission:

- 1) an election commission member;
- 2) a candidate's agent;
- 3) a civil servant or official of state executive bodies, prosecutor's offices or courts; law enforcement authorities, other state bodies, bodies of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea or local self-government bodies;
- 4) a serviceman, police officer, employee of the Security Service of Ukraine, a junior or senior staff member of the State Penitentiary Service of Ukraine;
- 5) a person who is undergoing alternative (non-military) service;
- 6) a person who has a criminal record for committing a grave or especially grave crime or a crime against citizens' electoral rights or a corruption crime, which has not been lifted or expunged pursuant to the procedure established by law.

3. An application to register a party organization's authorized representative to the election commission signed by the party organization's chair and affixed with the party organization's seal, along with a copy of a decision of a party organization's governing body on approval of candidacy of the party organization's authorized representative to the respective election commission, shall be filed with the territorial election commission simultaneously with an application to register candidates from the party organization.

An application to register a party organization's authorized representative to the election commission shall contain the following information: a party organization's authorized representative last name, first name, patronymic name; his or her citizenship; the day, month and year of birth, place of employment, job position (occupation), place and address of residence, telephone number, information on the absence of a criminal record for committing a grave or especially grave crime or a crime against citizens' electoral rights or a corruption crime, which has not been lifted or expunged pursuant to the procedure established by law.

The application shall be appended with a photocopy of his or her passport of a citizen of Ukraine (photocopies of the first and second pages of a passport of a citizen of Ukraine in the form of a passport book; or photocopies of the front and reverse sides of a passport of a citizen of Ukraine in the form of a card or a photocopy of the first and second pages of a person's temporary certificate of a citizen of Ukraine (for persons who have recently been granted Ukrainian citizenship)).

In case of technical errors and inaccuracies in the application for registration of a representative of a party organization in the election commission, the resolution of the respective territorial election commission on its registration shall contain information on the basis of the copies of the passport documents.

4. The territorial election commission shall register a party organization's authorized representative in the election commission with an advisory vote and shall issue an identification document to such representative no later than the third day following the receipt of the documents specified in Part three of this Article. The form of such an identification document shall be established by the Central Election Commission.

In case of violation of the requirements established by parts one to three of this Article, the respective territorial election commission shall refuse to register the representative of the party organization in the election commission.

5. A party organization that nominated candidates in the unified multi-member election district shall be entitled to have no more than two authorized persons in this election district and no more than two authorized persons in each territorial election district (hereinafter, a party organization's authorized person). A party organization's authorized person shall represent the respective party

organization and shall not be an independent electoral subject. A party organization's authorized person shall comply with the requirements specified in Part two of this Article. The list of a party organization's authorized persons with the mandatory indication of the respective election district shall be approved by the governing body of the party organization.

6. An application to register a party organization's authorized persons, in both paper and electronic form, signed by the party organization's head and affixed with the party organization's seal, along with a copy of a decision of the party organization's governing body on approval of a list of the party organization's authorized persons, shall be filed with the Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, an oblast or city election commission at any time after the registration of candidates included in the party organization's electoral list.

An application to register a party organization's authorized persons shall contain the following information: each authorized person's last name, first name (all first names), patronymic name (if any); the respective election district; a party organization's authorized person's citizenship; day, month and year of birth, place of employment, job position (occupation), place and address of residence, telephone number, information on the absence of a criminal record for committing a grave or especially grave crime or a crime against citizens' electoral rights or a corruption crime, which has not been lifted or expunged pursuant to the procedure established by law.

The application shall be appended, with a photocopy of his or her passport of a citizen of Ukraine (photocopies of the first and second pages of a passport of a citizen of Ukraine in the form of a passport book; or photocopies of the front and reverse sides of a passport of a citizen of Ukraine in the form of a card or a photocopy of the first and second pages of a person's temporary certificate of a citizen of Ukraine (for persons who have recently been granted Ukrainian citizenship)).

In case of detection of technical errors and inaccuracies in the application for registration of authorized persons of the party organization, the resolution of the respective territorial election commission on their registration shall contain information on the basis of the copies of the passport documents.

7. No later than the third day following the receipt of the documents specified in Part six of this Article, the territorial election commission shall register a party organization's authorized persons and issue their identification documents to the party organization's representative in the respective election commission in a form established by the Central Election Commission

In case of violation of the requirements established by parts two, five, six of this article, the respective territorial election commission shall refuse to register the authorized person of the party organization.

8. A party organization's authorized representative in the respective election commission or a party organization's authorized person, in the time period from the day of his or her registration by a territorial election commission until the termination of his or her powers or the completion of the election process, shall be released from his or her employment-related or official duties, with the suspension of salary for that period, upon agreeing with the owner of the enterprise, establishment, organization or a body authorized by the owner.

9. A party organization's authorized representative in the election commission, or a party organization's authorized person, shall be entitled to file a statement of resignation with the respective election commission at any time prior to the end of the election process

10. A party organization's governing body which adopted a decision on approval of the party organization's representative in the election commission, or the party organization's authorized person, may at any time prior to the end of election process take a decision to recall the party organization's representative in the election commission, or a party organization's authorized person and to approve another candidacy to replace the one that has been recalled. Such an application shall be filed with the respective election commission concurrently with a copy of the decision and other documents under the procedure prescribed by Parts three and six of this Article.

11. On the basis of an application submitted in accordance with part nine or ten of this article, no later than on the third day after its receipt, and on the eve of the day of voting (day of repeat voting) or on the day of voting (day of repeat voting) – immediately, the territorial election commission shall decide to cancel the registration of a representative of a party organization in an election commission, or an authorized person of a party organization, and, if the respective documents provided for in parts three or six of this article have been received, to register another person as a representative of the party organization in the election commission, or an authorized person of a party organization. A copy of the respective decision shall be immediately issued to the representative of the party organization in the election commission.

12. The powers of a party organization's representative in the election commission and a party organization's authorized person shall also be deemed terminated from the moment the party loses the status of an electoral subject.

13. The party organization's representative in the election commission shall be entitled to:

- 1) be present at all meetings of an election commission during the discussion of issues pertaining to the respective elections and take part in the discussion of such issues with the right of an advisory vote;
- 2) to receive prior to a meeting its agenda and related materials, to participate in the discussions and to present proposals concerning a decision of the election commission;
- 3) have access to the minutes of the meetings of the election commission and its decisions and receive copies thereof, and, in the case of his or her absence from a meeting, have access to the documents that provided the basis for decisions taken at such meeting;
- 4) have access to protocols, telephone, fax, or other official messages received by the election commission from the territorial election commissions, in particular those concerning the results of the voting in the unified multi-member election district and territorial election districts, and to obtain copies thereof;
- 5) exercise other rights specified by this Code for a party organization's authorized representative in the election commission.

14. A party organization's authorized person shall:

- 1) facilitate the participation of a party organization in the election process, in particular during the election campaigning;
- 2) represent a party organization's interests in the relations with the election commissions (except the Central Election Commission), state executive bodies, other state bodies, state bodies of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, local self-government bodies, voters and other electoral subjects in the territory of the respective election district;
- 3) be allowed to participate in the meetings of election commissions (except the Central Election Commission) in the territory of the respective election district;
- 4) have the right to be present at the election precinct during the voting and at the meeting of a precinct election commission during the vote counting, subject to restrictions established by Part eight of Article 36 of this Code;
- 5) have the rights of the party organization's official observer, as specified by Part seven of Article 239 of this Code;
- 6) have other rights provided for by this Code for a party's authorized person.

15. Restrictions established by Part eight of Article 239 of this Code shall apply to a party's authorized person.

16. Documents for registration of a representative of a party organization in the election commission or an authorized person of the party organization may be submitted to the respective

election commission by electronic services in accordance with the procedure established by the Central Election Commission.

The authenticity of the copies of documents provided for in this article may be certified, taking into account the requirements of the laws of Ukraine "On electronic documents and electronic document management" and "On electronic trust services."

**Article 237.** Guarantees of Election Process Activities for Candidates

1. A candidate may not be denied the opportunity to take a leave of absence without pay from his or her place of employment and to not perform employment-related or official duties for the time period from his or her registration as a candidate until the end of the election process (or cancellation of his or her registration).

2. A candidate may not be dismissed from his or her position during the election process on the initiative of the owner of the enterprise, institution, organization, or a body authorized by the owner or the commander of the military unit (command).

3. A candidate shall not without his or her prior consent be transferred to any other place of employment, sent on a business trip, or called up for military or alternative (non-military) service, training (test), or special assemblies of persons liable to a call-up.

**Article 238.** Agents of Local Council Candidates

1. A candidate to the Verkhovna Rada of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, or an oblast, rayon, rayon in city council, as well as a candidate for member of city, village or settlement councils (of territorial communities with 10,000 or more voters) may have no more than three agents.

2. A candidate to the city, city rayon, village or settlement council (of territorial communities with less than 10,000 voters) shall be entitled to have no more than two agents.

3. A candidate for a city mayor (in a city with 75,000 or more voters) may have no more than five agents.

4. A candidate for village, settlement or city mayor (in a city with less than 75,000 voters) may have no more than three agents.

5. An authorized representative of a party organization in an election commission shall be a citizen of Ukraine who in accordance with Article 70 of the Constitution of Ukraine has the right to vote. None of the following persons may be a candidate's agent:

- 1) an election commission member;
- 2) a party organization's representative in the Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, or in an oblast, rayon, city, rayon in city, settlement or village election commission (of territorial communities with 10,000 or more voters) or a party organization's authorized person;
- 3) an official of the state executive bodies, prosecutor's offices or courts; law enforcement authorities, other state bodies, bodies of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea or local self-government bodies;
- 4) a serviceman, police officer, employee of the Security Service of Ukraine, a person of the rank and file or senior staff of the State Penitentiary Service of Ukraine;
- 5) a person who is undergoing alternative (non-military) service;
- 6) a person who has a criminal record for committing a grave or especially grave crime or a crime against citizens' electoral rights or a corruption crime, which has not been lifted or expunged pursuant to the procedure established by law.

6. A candidate's agents shall be registered by the respective territorial election commission upon submission of the candidate.

An application to register a candidate's agents shall contain each agent's last name, first name (all first names), patronymic name (if any); the day, month and year of birth; citizenship; place of employment (occupation), job position, address of the place of residence, telephone number, information on the absence of a criminal record for committing a grave or especially grave crime or a crime against citizens' electoral rights or a corruption crime, which has not been lifted or expunged pursuant to the procedure established by law. The application shall be appended with a copy of the passport of a citizen of Ukraine (copies of the first and second pages of the passport of a citizen of Ukraine in the form of a passport book or a copy of the front and back of the passport of a citizen of Ukraine in the form of a card) or copies of the first and second pages of a temporary certificate of a citizen of Ukraine citizenship of Ukraine) of the proposed person.

In case of detection of technical errors and inaccuracies in the application for registration of agents of the candidate, the resolution of the respective election commission on registration of agents shall contain information on the basis of copies of passport documents.

The application for registration of agents signed by the candidate shall be submitted on paper and in electronic form unless otherwise established by the Central Election Commission in the case of the use of electronic services.

The respective election commission shall no later than three days from the date of receipt of the application register the agents of the candidate and issue them certificates in the form established by the Central Election Commission.

In case of violation of the requirements established by parts one to six of this article, the respective election commission shall refuse to register the candidate's agents.

7. A candidate's agents shall facilitate candidates during the election process, represent a candidate's interests in the relations with the election commissions, state executive bodies, other state bodies, state bodies of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, local self-government bodies, associations of citizens and voters.

8. A candidate's agents shall acquire powers from the day of their registration by the respective election commission. The powers of these persons shall be terminated on the day of completion of the respective election process. The powers of agents may be terminated earlier in case of withdrawal of a candidate from the ballot and, in case of cancellation of the respective candidate, from the expiry of the term of appeal against the decision to cancel the registration of the candidate or, in case of an appeal, from the date of its entry into force.

9. An agent of a candidate shall have the right from the day of his or her registration for the time period of the election process to be released from his or her employment-related or official duties, with the suspension of salary for that period upon agreement with the owner of the enterprise, establishment, organization or a body authorized by the owner.

10. A candidate may at any time prior to the end of the election process address the respective election commission with a request to terminate the powers of his or her agents. An agent of a candidate shall have the right to file a statement of resignation with the respective election commission at any time.

On the basis of the respective applications, the respective election commission shall, no later than on the third day following its receipt, and, on the eve of the day of voting (day of repeat voting), or on the day of voting (day of repeat voting), immediately, and, in the case of presence of the respective documents specified in Part six of this Article, adopt a decision to register another person as his or her representative. A copy of the decision shall be sent (issued) to the candidate or an agent, as regards which such a decision was taken.

11. An identification document issued to a candidate's agent, whose registration has been cancelled, shall be immediately returned to the territorial election commission that issued it.

12. An agent of a candidate shall:

- 1) be allowed to be present at the meetings of the territorial election commissions and precinct election commission and to participate in them with the right of the advisory vote;

- 2) have the right to be present at the election precinct during the voting and at the meeting of the precinct election commission during the vote counting, having regard to the restrictions specified by this Code;
- 3) be allowed to receive, in the respective election commission, identification documents of official observers from a candidate, whose interests he or she represents;
- 4) upon instructions from a candidate, be a manager of his or her electoral fund;
- 5) be allowed to receive copies of the vote-counting protocols on the vote counting at an election precinct, or the protocols of the territorial election commission on the results of the voting and the results of the elections;
- 6) draw up acts on violations, which shall be signed by the persons who discovered a violation and voters who witnessed the violation, and submit them to the respective election commission with due compliance with the time period requirement established by the law;
- 7) apply to the respective election commission with a statement on the elimination of the revealed violations;
- 8) on behalf of the candidate to appeal on his behalf against decisions, actions or omissions of the respective precinct election commission violating the legal rights of the candidate, in the manner prescribed by this Code;
- 9) to sign acts or protocols drawn up by the precinct, territorial election commission on the respective local elections, in case his or her presence at the meeting of the election commission during their drafting;
- 10) exercise the rights provided for by this Code for an official observer from an electoral subject;
- 11) exercise the rights provided for by this Code for an agent.

13. No interference on behalf of a candidate's agent with the work of election commissions shall be allowed.

14. A candidate's agents shall fulfill their functions on a voluntary basis.

15. Documents for registration of a candidate's agent may be submitted to the respective election commission using electronic services in accordance with the procedure established by the Central Election Commission.

#### **Article 239. Official Observers in Local Elections**

1. Official observers from party organizations that nominated electoral lists, candidates in multi-member election districts, candidates for village, settlement or city mayor shall be entitled to participate in the election process.

A citizen of Ukraine who has the right to vote in accordance with Article 70 of the Constitution of Ukraine may be an official observer from a party organization, a candidate, or a public organization in a local election.

The procedure for registration and legal status of official observers from foreign states, international organizations and public organizations is determined by Articles 59 and 60 of this Code.

2. Official observers from candidates or party organizations shall be registered by the election commission upon submission of the candidate or a party organization's authorized person in the unified multi-member election district or the respective territorial election district.

3. An application for registration of official observers shall contain each official observer's last name, first name (all first names), patronymic name (if available); the respective election district; citizenship; the day, month and year of birth; place of employment; job position (occupation); place and address of residence, telephone number; information on the absence of a criminal record for

committing a grave or especially grave crime or a crime against citizens' electoral rights or a corruption crime, which has not been lifted or expunged pursuant to the procedure established by law.

The application shall be appended with statements of the consent of these persons to be official observers for the respective party organization or a candidate, a photocopy of his or her passport of a citizen of Ukraine (photocopies of the first and second pages of a passport of a citizen of Ukraine in the form of a passport book, or a photocopy of the front and reverse sides of a passport of a citizen of Ukraine in the form of a card), or a photocopy of the first and second pages of a person's temporary certificate of a citizen of Ukraine (for persons who have recently been granted Ukrainian citizenship).

In case of detection of technical errors and inaccuracies in the submission on registration of an official observer, the resolution of the respective election commission on his registration shall contain information on the basis of copies of passport documents.

4. An application for registration of official observers, signed by a candidate, a representative of a party organization in the territorial election commission or an authorized person of a party organization shall be submitted to the respective territorial election commission no later than five days before election day (on paper and electronically).

Documents for registration of official observers may be submitted through electronic services in accordance with the procedure established by the Central Election Commission.

5. The election commission shall register official observers in the respective election district, produce and issue to them their identification documents in a form established by the Central Election Commission no later than the third day after the submission of the application.

6. The only ground upon which an application for registration of an official observer may be refused is a failure to comply with requirements contained in the provisions of Parts one to four of this Article and Part three of Article 58 of this Code.

7. An official observer from a party organization shall be entitled to:

- 1) be present, with due observance of the requirements of this Code, at the meetings of territorial and precinct election commissions in the respective election district;
- 2) be present at the meetings of candidates or authorized persons of party organizations with voters, at election campaign meetings and rallies;
- 3) be present at the election precincts during the voting and observe actions of the election commission members, in particular during the issuance of ballot papers to voters and vote counting without physically getting in the way of the election commission members;
- 4) make photographic, video and audio recordings, without violating the secrecy of voting;
- 5) be present during the voting at the place of voters' stay;
- 6) address, in accordance with the procedure established by this Code, the election commissions within the respective election district with an application or a complaint seeking the elimination of violations of this Code if any have been discovered;
- 7) draw a statement of the discovery of a violation of the requirements of this Code that shall be signed by him or her and by no less than two voters certifying the fact of such violation, with an indication of their last names, first names, patronymic name, place, and address of residence, and file it with the respective election commission or a court;
- 8) take necessary measures within the limits of legislation to stop illegal actions during the voting and vote counting at the election precinct;
- 9) receive copies of the protocols as well as other documents specified by this Code;
- 10) exercise other rights provided by this Code for official observers.

8. An official observer from a party organization may not:



- 1) interfere with the work of the election commission, perform actions violating the lawful course of the election process, or unlawfully prevent the election commission members from exercising their powers;
- 2) fill out a ballot paper for a voter (in particular upon his or her request);
- 3) be present during the filling out of a ballot paper by a voter in a polling booth (room) for secret voting or violate the secrecy of voting in any other way.

9. If an official observer violates the requirements of Part eight of this Article, the election commission shall give him or her a warning. In the event of a repeat violation, or of gross violation of the requirements of Part eight of this Article, the election commission may deprive him or her of the right to be present at its meeting in accordance with procedures provided for by Part 10 of Article 36 of this Code. An official observer may appeal such a decision to court.

10. A candidate, representative of the party organization in the election commission, authorized person of the party organization in the respective election district may recall an official observer by filing a written statement of termination of his or her authority with the respective election commission, and present the documents required for registration of another person as an official observer in the manner prescribed by this Article.

11. An official observer shall be entitled to file with the respective election commission a statement of resignation. Based on such an application, the election commission shall adopt a decision canceling the registration of the official observer and issue or send a copy thereof, accordingly, to the authorized person of the party organization in the respective election district.

12. In the event of the cancellation of registration of all candidates included in the unified electoral lists of a party organization, a candidate in the multi-member election district or a candidate for village, settlement or city mayor, the powers of the respective official observers from such party organization or candidate shall be considered terminated after the expiry of the term for appealing the respective decision on cancellation of registration or, in the case of an appeal, from the date of entry into force of the respective court decision.

## **Chapter XXXX. VOTING AND ESTABLISHING THE RESULTS OF LOCAL ELECTIONS**

### **Article 240. General Requirements to Ballot Papers in Local Elections**

1. The form and color of the ballot papers for voting in each local election shall be approved by the Central Election Commission no later than thirty days prior to the day of voting in local elections and may not be changed until the beginning of the election process of the next ordinary elections.

2. The text of the ballot papers for voting in the respective election districts shall be approved by the respective territorial election commissions no later than seventeen days prior to the day of voting. The security features of the ballot paper shall be established by the respective territorial election commission within the same time period.

3. The text of the ballot paper shall be printed in the official language and shall be placed on one sheet and on one side only.

4. A ballot paper must contain the name and the date of the local elections, or, in the event of repeat voting, the indication “repeat voting” and the date of holding thereof; an indication of the election district; the number of the election district (if available), as well as places designated for the number of the election precinct and for the precinct election commission’s seal. If the technical capability is confirmed by the respective printing enterprise, the territorial election commission may adopt a decision to produce ballot papers with an indication of the numbers of the election precincts.

5. A ballot paper shall contain an explanation of the procedure for filling out the ballot paper by a voter during the voting.

6. A ballot paper shall have a counterfoil, separated by a tear-off line. The counterfoil shall contain the name and the date of the local election, or, in the event of repeat voting, the indication “repeat voting,” an indication of the election district; the number of the election district (if available), as well

as designated places for the number of the election precinct, the number under which a voter was entered in the voter list for the election precinct, the signature of the voter receiving the ballot paper, and the signature of the precinct election commission member issuing the ballot paper.

The counterfoil of ballot papers that are produced with an indication of election precinct numbers shall contain the number of the election precinct.

7. The territorial and precinct election commissions shall keep a precise record of ballot papers received and delivered in accordance with this Code.

8. The ballot papers shall, as a rule, be printed for each election precinct of each election district in an amount exceeding by 0.5 percent the number of voters included in the voter lists for the respective election precinct, with possible deviation from the aforementioned number resulting from how many ballot papers can be printed on a single typographic sheet.

The number of voters included in the voter lists at election precincts within the respective election district shall be determined on the basis of information on the number of voters included in preliminary voter lists at election precincts received by the respective territorial election commissions from the State Voter Register maintenance bodies after they have compiled such voter lists.

9. If the Central Election Commission decides to conduct an experiment or pilot project using innovative technologies in accordance with part one of Article 18 of this Code, the Central Election Commission shall organize the development of experimental ballots for such experiment or pilot project simultaneously with the actions provided for in Articles 241, 242. Code.

An experimental ballot paper developed in accordance with the first paragraph of this part shall:

1) differ in form and color from the ballot paper, the form of which is approved by the Central Election Commission in accordance with part one of this article;

2) in the upper part contain in capital letters the inscription: "EXPERIMENT" or "PILOT PROJECT";

3) under the information specified in paragraph 2 of this part, contain the text of the following content:

"The completion of this ballot paper by a voter does not certify his or her expression of will, does not create legal consequences, cannot be used to establish the outcomes or results of elections, as well as to appeal against decisions, actions or omissions of election participants."

#### **Article 241. Requirements to Ballot Papers for Certain Types of Local Elections**

1. In the ballot paper for voting in a territorial election district within a unified multi-member district for the election of members of the Verkhovna Rada of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, an oblast, rayon, rayon in city, as well as city, village or settlement council (of a territorial community with 10,000 or more voters), the names of the party organizations shall be placed in the order of their numbers determined by way of drawing lots, which is conducted by the respective territorial election commission in accordance with a procedure established by the Central Election Commission, with the participation of the representatives of party organizations in the respective election commission, candidates, authorized persons of party organizations in the unified multi-member election district after the end of registration of candidates for local councils and before the approval of the text of the ballot. The ordinal number of the party organization, determined by the results of the lottery, may not be changed during the respective election process.

In the ballot paper in one row, alternately from left to right is indicated:

1) the number of each party organization determined by lot;

2) the full name of the respective party organization, surname, name and patronymic of the candidate included in the unified electoral list under the first number without specifying the number;

3) two squares: an empty square – for expressing the will for the party organization and a

square with a stencil – for expressing the will for the candidates included in the respective territorial electoral list of the party organization;

- 4) electoral list with surnames, initials of all candidates and their ordinal numbers in a stencil format from top to bottom, according to which they are included in the respective territorial electoral list of the party organization, in two columns.

2. In the ballot paper for voting in a multi-member district for elections of members of city, village or settlement council (of a territorial community with up to 10,000 voters) and in a unified single-member district for elections of village, settlement or city mayor, the candidates have the ordinal numbers corresponding the alphabetical order of their surnames, first names (all first names) and patronymics (if any), the subject of nomination of the candidate, if the candidate is nominated by self-nomination, "self-nominated", shall be indicated, and information on the year of birth, position and place of residence. To the right of the ordinal number and surname of each candidate is an empty square.

#### **Article 242. Procedure for Printing Ballot Papers and their Transfer to Election Commissions**

1. The territorial election commission shall provide for the production of ballot papers for voting in local elections, pursuant to an agreement that shall be concluded between the territorial election commission and printing enterprises, respectively:

- 1) the Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, or an oblast or city (city with rayon division) election commission – no later than ten days before the day of voting and receives the produced ballots no later than nine days before the day of voting in the packaging of the manufacturer on the basis of an act of acceptance-transfer according to the form established by the Central Election Commission;
- 2) a rayon or city (cities without rayon division) or rayon in city (in cities where district councils are formed in the city) election commission – no later than seven days before the voting day and receives the produced ballot papers no later than six days by the day of voting in the packaging of the manufacturer on the basis of an act of acceptance-transfer in the form established by the Central Election Commission;
- 3) a village or settlement election commission – no later than five days before the day of voting and receives the produced ballot papers no later than four days before the day of voting in the packaging of the manufacturer on the basis of an acceptance certificate according to the form established by the Central Election Commission.

The chair of the election commission or another person authorized by a decision of this commission receives the ballots from the manufacturer, in the manner and terms specified in this article on behalf of a territorial election commission, which establishes the results of local elections.

2. The manufacturing enterprises shall be selected by the territorial election commissions specified in Part one of this Article.

The contract between the respective territorial election commission and the printing company is concluded using a negotiated procurement procedure based on the production, technological and organizational capabilities of the company to ensure timely printing and protection of ballots.

Ballot manufacturers shall ensure strict compliance with the ordered number of ballots produced, their registration, and transfer to the customer in accordance with the procedure established by the Central Election Commission.

Summary information on the basis of acceptance-transfer acts on the number of ballots produced for each territorial election district shall be published by the territorial election commission, which shall establish the election results of elections of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, an oblast, rayon, rayon in city, as well as city, village or settlement council (of a territorial community with more than 10,000 voters), no later than one day before the day of voting on its official website (if available), websites of the respective local councils (if available) or in another way determined by these commissions and/or on the stand of official materials of the commission.

3. Any technical waste material, defective printed ballot papers or ballot papers in which errors were discovered, on which the territorial election commission has adopted a decision, as well as the typographic plates used, shall be destroyed by the printing enterprise according to a procedure and within a time limit defined by the agreement concluded for the production of ballot papers on which the parties sign an act in two copies.

Control over the production of ballot papers by the printing enterprises and over the observance of the requirements regarding the destruction of the typographic plates, technical wastes, defective printed matter, and erroneously produced ballot papers shall be exercised by a supervisory commission created by the respective territorial election commission based on submissions from the local organizations of political parties whose parliamentary factions are registered with the Apparatus of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine of the current convocation, as of the start of the election process, but no later than on the day of approval of the ballot paper text and establishing the security features of the ballot paper.

4. The territorial election commission, which establishes the results of local elections, shall transfer the ballot papers in the packaging of the manufacturing enterprise to the territorial election commissions, which establishes the outcomes of the respective local elections, within the following terms:

- 1) the Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea or the oblast election commission shall transfer ballot papers from the elections to the Verkhovna Rada of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea or the oblast council to the respective village, settlement or city election commissions – no later than six days before election day;
- 2) the rayon election commission shall transfer the ballot papers for the elections of the rayon council to the respective village, settlement or city election commissions – no later than four days before the day of voting;
- 3) the city (in cities with rayon division) election commission shall transfer ballot papers on elections of members of the Verkhovna Rada of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, the oblast, rayon or city council in territorial or multi-member districts, and on elections of the mayor to the respective rayon in city election commissions – no later than four days before election day.

If the transfer is made at a meeting of the territorial election commission, ballots in the packaging of the manufacturer on behalf of the territorial election commission to which the ballots are transferred, are received by at least three members of the commission authorized by its decision, who must be representatives of different candidate nominating subjects, to the respective territorial election commission.

5. A city election commission in cities without rayon division, or a rayon in city, village or settlement election commission no earlier than three days before the voting day at its meeting submits to the respective precinct election commissions ballot papers for each local election in the packaging of the manufacturer:

1) a city (cities without rayon division) or rayon in city election commission transfers the ballot papers for the respective elections of mayor, members of city council, members of a rayon in city council (in cities where rayon in city councils are formed), members of a rayon council, members of the Verkhovna Rada of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea or members of an oblast council in the respective election district (except for the cities of Kyiv and Sevastopol);

2) a village or settlement election commission transfers the ballot papers for the respective elections of village or settlement mayor, members of the village or settlement council, members of the rayon council, members of the Verkhovna Rada of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea or the respective oblast [council] of the respective district.

Ballot papers in the packaging of the manufacturer shall be received, on behalf of the respective precinct election commission, by at least three members of this commission, authorized by its decision, who must be representatives of different candidate nominating subjects to the respective precinct election commission.

6. The territorial election commission, which transfers or receives ballot papers at its meeting, shall draw up a three-copy protocol on the transfer of ballots from the respective local elections to the respective territorial election commissions in accordance with the procedure established by Paragraph 6 of Article 37 of the Code and in a form established by the Central Election Commission, with an indication of:

- 1) the name of the local election;
- 2) indication and/or the number of the election district;
- 3) the number of transferred ballot papers;
- 4) last names and signatures of the members of the territorial election commission who received the ballot papers.

The first copy of the act shall be kept in the custody of the territorial election commission that delivered the ballot papers; the second copy shall be delivered to the respective territorial election commission that received the ballot papers, and the third copy shall be immediately posted in the premises of the territorial election commission that delivered the ballot papers for public review.

The territorial election commission, which hands over the ballot papers for voting in the respective local election to the precinct election commissions, shall draw a protocol in three copies in a form established by the Central Election Commission, with an indication of

- 1) the name of the local election;
- 2) indication and/or the number of the election district;
- 3) the number of the election precinct;
- 4) the number of transferred ballot papers;
- 5) last names and signatures of the precinct election commission members who received the ballot papers.

The first copy of the act shall be kept in the custody of the territorial election commission that delivered the ballot papers; the second copy shall be delivered to the respective higher-level territorial election commission, and the third copy shall be immediately posted in the premises of the territorial election commission for public review.

An excerpt from the protocol prepared in accordance with the form approved by the Central Election Commission, signed by the chair and secretary of the territorial election commission and three members of the respective precinct election commission and affixed with the territorial election commission's seal, specifying the data related to the respective election precinct, shall be handed over together with the ballot papers to the representatives of each precinct election commission who received ballot papers.

7. The Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and an oblast, rayon, city, rayon in city, settlement or village election commission shall submit to the respective election commissions all ballot papers prepared for the respective election district.

Should it be impossible to transfer ballot papers to the respective territorial election commission, the respective ballot papers shall be considered unused and shall be invalidated by the respective territorial election commission by way of handing them over for destruction to the manufacturer. The ballot papers shall be destroyed by the manufacturer in the presence of representatives of the respective territorial election commission and the control commission established by such election commission, and a corresponding act shall be drawn up thereof.

Should it be impossible to transfer ballot papers from the territorial election commission to the precinct election commission, the respective ballot papers shall be considered unused, and a corresponding act shall be drawn up thereof in two copies (if the territorial election commission hands over ballot papers for an election which it does not organize to a precinct election commission and in other cases – in one copy), in a form established by the Central Election Commission. One copy of the act shall be sent to the respective election commission; the second copy shall be kept in the custody of the

territorial election commission. Such ballot papers shall be invalidated by the respective territorial election commission after the end of voting by cutting off the bottom right corner of the ballot papers. The invalidated unused ballot papers shall be packed, and the inscription “Unused ballot papers invalidated by the territorial election commission” shall be made on the package, with an indication of the number of the multi-member election district, as well as the number (numbers) of the election precinct, number of packaged ballots and the date and time of packaging; the package shall be signed by the members of the territorial election commission present and affixed with the commission’s seal.

8. Each member of an election commission, candidates or their agents, authorized persons of party organizations or official observers who were present during the transfer of ballot papers shall be entitled to receive copies of the protocols on transfer of ballot papers to the territorial and precinct election commissions signed by the chair and the secretary of the election commission that hands over the ballot papers, as well as affixed with the seal of this commission, on the basis of one copy of each protocol per person.

9. The members of the territorial or precinct election commissions shall transfer the ballot papers to the premises of the respective territorial or precinct election commission accompanied by a representative of the police who shall be responsible for the safekeeping of the ballot papers, or by representatives of the Security Service of Ukraine, if necessary, upon request of the territorial election commission.

10. Immediately after the arrival of the election commission members who received the ballot papers, the ballot papers shall be accepted by the territorial or precinct election commission at a meeting.

The secretary of the precinct election commission, or, if he or she is unavailable, another member of the election commission appointed by a decision of the commission, shall open the packaging of the printing enterprise and affix the precinct election commission’s seal on the designated places of each ballot paper. Another member of the precinct election commission, appointed by a decision of the commission, shall, if necessary, put the number of the electoral precinct on the designated places of each ballot paper, whereas another member of the precinct election commission, appointed by a decision of the precinct election commission shall count the ballot papers for voting separately for each local election and for each election district and check the accuracy of the numbers (indications) of the election district, to which the election district, which received the ballot papers, belongs. During the counting of the ballot papers, a member of the election commission, appointed by a decision of the commission, shall count the ballot papers aloud, while other election commission members shall observe the counting. It shall be prohibited to divide the commission into groups to count separate parts of all ballot papers.

11. If a discrepancy is found between the number of ballot papers counted and the number of ballot papers indicated in the excerpt from the protocol of the territorial election commission on the handover of the ballot papers, the precinct election commission shall produce an act, in two copies, in a form established by the Central Election Commission, on such discrepancies, which shall indicate the reason for the discrepancy as established by a decision of the precinct election commission. One copy of the act shall be submitted to the territorial election commission; the second copy shall be stored at the precinct election commission. If such discrepancies are detected, the number of the ballot papers received by the precinct election commission shall be deemed to be the number of the ballot papers established at the meeting of the precinct election commission and entered in the act on discrepancies.

12. A territorial or precinct election commission shall ensure the storage and safekeeping of received ballot papers. Ballot papers shall be kept in the office of the election commission in a safe (a metal case or a separate room), which shall be sealed with tape bearing the signatures of all members of the commission present at the meeting and having the commission seal affixed thereto. The safe (a metal case or a separate room) shall be continuously (until the transfer of the ballot papers to precinct election commissions, or until the day of voting) guarded by a representative of the police, or by representatives of the Security Service of Ukraine, if necessary, upon request of the territorial election commission.

If damage to the tape sealing of the safe (metal case) or a discrepancy between the signatures or the seal on the tape and the authentic signatures or the seal is detected, the chair of the election commission

shall immediately notify bodies of the National Police of Ukraine and the higher-level election commission. The chair of the commission shall then immediately open the safe (metal case or a separate room) and remove all ballot papers. The members of the precinct election commission shall check the ballot papers to determine whether the number of the election precinct indicated on them is correct and whether the precinct election commission's seal is affixed thereto; and, after that, they shall recount the ballot papers, separately for each type of election. The precinct election commission shall produce an act on detected signs of opening of the safe (metal case) and on any discrepancy in the numbers of ballot papers (if detected). The number of ballot papers in the safe (metal case) shall also be entered in the minutes of the precinct election commission's meeting. In such case, the established number of ballot papers shall be deemed the number of ballot papers received by the precinct election commission

13. In case of cancellation of registration of a candidate in a multi-member election district, a candidate for the position of village, settlement or city mayor or the withdrawal of such a candidate from voting, or the cancellation of registration of all candidates from a party organization in a unified multi-member district in the period during or after election ballots were printed, but during which it is impossible to reprint the ballots after the ballots have been produced, the respective territorial election commission shall make a decision on making changes to the ballot. A copy of such a decision shall be immediately transmitted by the territorial election commission to the Central Election Commission.

The decision of the election commission shall be immediately transferred to the respective territorial election commissions for transfer to the precinct election commissions or directly to the precinct election commissions for making the appropriate changes to the ballot papers by the precinct election commissions.

Changes made to a ballot paper shall be notified to each voter during the issuance of the ballot paper.

Such changes pursuant to a decision of a territorial election commission shall be made to ballot papers by the members of the precinct election commissions using the stamp "Withdrawn" at a meeting of the precinct election commission. It is prohibited to make changes to the ballot paper without a decision of an election commission.

The form, procedure for production, storage and transmission to election commissions of the "Withdrawn" stamp shall be approved by the Central Election Commission no later than twenty-six days prior to the day of ordinary local elections. The respective election commission shall no later than seven days before election day ensure the production of such stamps or use stamps that have been made earlier.

Precinct election commissions shall immediately notify the territorial election commission, which made the decision to make changes to the ballot paper, of the fact that the stamp "Withdrawn" have been affixed to the ballot papers, which certifies that amendments have been made to the ballot paper.

A member of the precinct election commission shall inform each voter about the changes made to the ballot paper during the issuance of the ballot paper.

The "Withdrawn" stamp is transferred to the precinct election commissions simultaneously with the decision of the territorial election commission on cancellation of the registration of all candidates from a party organization in a unified multi-member election district, cancellation of the registration of a candidate in a multi-member election district, a candidate for village, settlement or city mayor, withdrawal of such a candidate from voting and on making changes to the ballot paper in this connection.

The use of the "Withdrawn" stamp by the precinct election commission without having obtained the respective decision of the territorial election commission is prohibited.

14. If ballot papers are amended without a decision of the territorial election commission or changes are entered that do not comply with the decision of the territorial election commission, the precinct election commission at its meeting shall draw up an act in two copies in the form and manner prescribed by part six of Article 37 of this Code. The act shall indicate the number of ballots received, the number of spoiled ballots for voting in the respective election district, and the

names of the persons who caused it. One copy of this act shall be immediately submitted to the territorial election commission; the second copy shall be kept by the precinct election commission. The information of the said act shall be taken into account by the precinct election commission when drawing up the protocol on the counting of votes at the election precinct.

The spoiled ballots for voting in various local elections shall be cancelled and packed separately in different packages in accordance with the procedure provided for in part six of Article 250 of this Code. The packages shall be marked: "Spoiled ballots," indicating the type and number of spoiled ballots for voting. Packed spoiled ballots shall be stored in the precinct election commission until the day of voting and shall be submitted to the territorial election commission together with other election documentation in accordance with the procedure provided for in Article 253 of this Code. When counting the votes, the spoiled ballots are counted as unused.

If the number of spoiled ballots calls into question the possibility of conducting voting at the election precinct, the respective territorial election commission shall decide on the possibility of reprinting the respective ballots and delivering them to the election precinct to ensure the conduct of voting. In this case, the provisions of this Code regarding the deadlines for the transfer of ballot papers shall not apply.

15. Persons guilty of unlawful spoilage of ballot papers shall reimburse the damage caused in accordance with the procedure established by law.

(Articles 243 – 245 have been repealed)

#### **Article 246.** Equipping Premises for Voting

1. In the premises for voting or directly in front of them, the precinct election commission shall necessarily place posters produced by the territorial election commission at the expense of budget funds, which shall provide an explanation of the procedure of voting and liability for violations of the legislation on local elections in a form established by the Central Election Commission.

2. The following materials shall be placed in the premises for voting at the election precinct in places accessible for voters:

- 1) information brochures of the party organizations that are electoral subjects in elections of the Verkhovna Rada of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, an oblast, rayon, rayon in city, as well as city, village or settlement council (of a territorial community with 10,000 or more voters);
- 2) information posters of each party organization that is electoral subject in the elections of the Verkhovna Rada of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, an oblast, rayon, rayon in city, as well as city, village or settlement council (of a territorial community with 10,000 or more voters) in the respective territorial election district.

Information posters of the parties shall be placed in accordance with the sequence of appearance of the names of the party organizations on the ballot.

3. The materials specified in Parts one and two of this Article must be placed in an accessible manner for familiarization, including to provide the opportunity for voters with health disorders (due to disability, temporary health disorders, age) to familiarize with the information

#### **Article 247.** Preparation for Voting

1. The precinct election commission of a regular election precinct shall notify voters included in the voter list for the election precinct of the time and place of voting by sending or delivering personal invitations in accordance with Part two of Article 42 of this Code.

2. On the last day prior to the day of voting, each precinct election commission shall, at its meeting, assign duties to the members of the commission for the day of voting (except the chair and the secretary of the commission) relating to:

- 1) Determining the identity of the voter and his or her inclusion in the voter list;



- 2) Issuing ballot papers to the voter;
- 3) supervising the voters' entry into the booths for secret voting;
- 4) supervising the ballot boxes;
- 5) organizing voting at the places of voters' stay;
- 6) supervising the process of entering and exiting the premises for voting;
- 7) ensuring voting of voters with health disorders (due to disability, temporary health disorders, age) as well as other voters with low mobility

3. On the day of voting, the precinct election commission shall hold a preparatory meeting, no earlier than 45 minutes prior to the start of voting. At the beginning of the meeting, all persons present shall examine the tape sealing the safe (metal case) where the ballot papers are stored.

4. The chair of the precinct election commission shall make each ballot box at the election precinct, one by one, available for individual examination by members of the precinct election commission, candidates present, their agents, authorized persons of party organizations, official observers, and mass media representatives. As soon as a ballot box has been examined, it shall be sealed or affixed with the precinct election commission's seal; after that, a control sheet shall be deposited into the ballot box, with an indication of the number of the election precinct, the time when the control sheet was deposited into the ballot box, last names, initials and signatures of the precinct election commission members present, as well as of any candidates, their agents, party organizations' authorized persons and official observers wishing to sign it. The signatures shall be affixed with the precinct election commission's seal. As soon as the control sheet has been deposited into the ballot box, the chair of the election commission shall provide the next ballot box for examination, repeating the same procedure. After sealing or affixing the commission seal to the last ballot box, depositing a control sheet into it, and placing the stationary (large) ballot boxes at the places assigned for them, the premises for voting shall be deemed to be ready for conducting the voting. Mobile (small) ballot boxes shall be placed in the premises for voting with their slots for depositing the ballot papers downwards, within plain view of the election commission members and other persons present in the premises for voting in accordance with the requirements of this Code.

5. If during the examination of the tape sealing of the safe (metal case) with the ballot papers, damage to the tape or a discrepancy between the signatures or the seal affixed to it is detected, as specified in Part twelve of Article 242 of this Code, the precinct election commission shall perform actions pursuant to the procedure prescribed by Part twelve of Article 242 of this Code.

6. The chair of the precinct election commission shall open the safe (metal case) with the ballot papers and, based on the excerpt from the protocol of the territorial election commission on handover of the ballot papers to the precinct election commission, or on the respective act, shall announce the number of the ballot papers received by the precinct election commission for voting in each local election and separately for each election district, in which voting is held at the election precinct. These data shall be entered by the secretary of the precinct election commission in the respective vote-counting protocol of the precinct election commission, as well as in the minutes of the meeting of the commission.

7. The chair of the precinct election commission shall hand over the necessary number of ballot papers to the precinct election commission members who will be responsible for issuing the ballot papers to voters in the premises for voting or who will organize voting at voters' place of stay. The handover of the ballot papers shall be registered in a special register in a form established by the Central Election Commission. The aforementioned members of the commission shall certify the receipt of the ballot papers by their signatures in the register and shall ensure their storage as well as adherence to the procedure for issuing them to the voters, as prescribed by this Code. No ballot paper shall be left in the safe.

8. The chair of the precinct election commission shall hand the sheets of the voter list over to the precinct election commission members who will be responsible for working with the voter list on the

day of voting. The respective members of the commission shall ensure that they are stored and used in accordance with the procedures prescribed by this Code.

9. If the Central Election Commission decides to conduct an experiment or a pilot project using innovative technologies, preparation for voting within such an experiment or project shall be carried out in accordance with the procedure established by the Central Election Commission

**Article 248. Organization and Procedure of Voting**

1. Voting shall be held on the day of voting from 8:00 until 20:00 without any breaks.

2. The precinct election commission shall be responsible for organizing the conduct of voting and ensuring appropriate order in the premises for voting, and for ensuring the secrecy of the expression of the will of voters during the voting. If an offense is committed for which the legislation of Ukraine provides liability, the chair or deputy chair of the precinct election commission shall be entitled to invite into the premises for voting a representative of the police, who shall take such measures as are prescribed with respect to the perpetrator and then leave the premises for voting. In other cases, the presence of the police in the premises for voting shall be prohibited.

3. During the conduct of voting at an election precinct, two members of the precinct election commission shall provide a voter with the opportunity to vote: one member of the precinct election commission, upon presentation by the voter of one of the documents specified in clauses 1 and 2 of Part one of Article 8 of this Code, and if the voter is included in the voter list for the respective election precinct and if he or she has the right to vote in the respective local election (considering the presence of the mark in the column "Notes" as regards his or her permanent inability to move independently, or a record "Votes at the place of his or her stay"), shall hand the voter list to the voter for his or her signature; the other member of the precinct election commission shall enter his or her last name and initials and put his or her signature in the designated place on the counterfoil of the ballot paper, as well as writing the number under which the voter is included in the voter list for the election precinct. The voter shall certify the receipt of the ballot paper by putting his or her signature on the voter list and on the designated place on the counterfoil of the ballot papers. After that, the member of the election commission shall detach the counterfoil from each ballot paper and hand the ballot paper over to the voter. The member of the election commission shall inform the voter of how many ballots he or she has received. The counterfoils of the ballot papers shall be stored by the member of the commission who handed over the ballot papers. Making any other marks on the ballot papers shall be prohibited.

4. A voter shall be allowed to stay in the premises for voting only for the time necessary for him or her to vote.

5. A voter shall fill out the ballot paper personally, in a booth for secret voting. The presence of other persons in the booth for secret voting, or photo and video recording during the filling out the ballot paper by the voter shall be prohibited. A voter who, due to his or her health disorder (due to disability, temporary health disorders or age) is unable to fill out the ballot paper independently, may, with the consent of the chair or other member of the precinct election commission, ask another voter for assistance, with the exception of a member of the election commission, a candidate for local council, a candidate for village, settlement or city mayor, a candidate's agent, a party organization's authorized person, or an official observer.

6. A voter shall have no right to hand his or her ballot papers over to other persons. It shall be prohibited to receive ballot papers from a person other than the member of the election commission in charge of issuing the ballot papers, as well as to encourage or force voters, by means of bribery, threats, or in any other manner, to hand their ballot papers over to other persons.

7. In the ballot paper for the elections to the Verkhovna Rada of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, an oblast, rayon, rayon in city, as well as city, settlement or village council (of a territorial community with 10,000 or more voters), a voter, who has determined the party organization for which he will vote, places the mark "plus" (+) or another, indicating his will, in the empty square opposite the name of this organization of the political party, and may enter the

ordinal number of the candidate he supports in the square with a stencil for writing in the number of the candidate.

If a voter in the square with the stencil for writing in the number of a candidate made a mark not on the stencil, but from which it is possible to determine the genuine will of the voter, it is considered that the voter supports the candidate whose number is indicated.

If the entry (mark) in the square with the stencil for writing in the number of the candidate supported by the voter is made in the column of a party that was not supported by the voter, it is considered that such voter supports the entire regional list of candidates from the party organization without supporting an individual candidate.

8. On the ballot paper for the elections of members of city, village or settlement council (of a territorial community with up to 10,000 voters) the voter makes a mark "plus" (+) or other, indicating his will, in the square opposite the name of the candidate he/she supports

9. A voter may vote for only one party organization, one candidate for local council and one candidate for village, settlement or city mayor, or head of a village or settlement.

10. A voter shall personally cast his or her completed ballot papers into the ballot box.

A voter who, due to his or her health disorder (due to disability, temporary health disorders or age) is unable to deposit the ballot paper into the ballot box independently may, with the consent of the chair or other member of the precinct election commission, ask another person to do that in his or her presence, except that he or she may not ask for assistance from a member of the election commission, a candidate for local council, a candidate for village, settlement or city mayor, a candidate's agent, a party organization's authorized person, or an official observer.

11. If in the course of voting, a ballot box has been damaged, the chair and no less than three members of the election commission representing different nominating subjects shall seal the box in a way that shall exclude the possibility of further depositing in or taking out ballot papers. Such ballot box shall be kept in the premises for voting within plain sight of the election commission members and other persons who have the right to be present at the election precinct during the voting in accordance with the requirements of this Code, and shall not be used until the end of voting.

12. If a voter makes a mistake when filling out the ballot paper, he or she shall have the right to immediately address the election commission member who handed over the ballot paper to him or her with a written request to be issued another ballot paper. The member of the election commission shall issue another ballot paper to the voter in accordance with the procedure prescribed by Part three of this Article only in exchange for a spoiled ballot paper, which fact shall be noted in the voter list opposite to a voter's name and certified by the signature of this member of the precinct election commission. A spoiled ballot paper shall be immediately invalidated as unused, and an act certifying this fact shall be drawn up. This act shall be signed by the two members of the precinct election commission who issued the ballot paper and by the voter who spoiled the ballot paper and shall be appended to the voter list. The invalidated ballot paper shall be kept by the member of the election commission who handed over the ballot paper until the start of vote counting. During vote counting, such ballot paper shall be considered as unused and shall be packed together with the counterfoil into the package with unused ballot papers. Repeated issuance of a ballot paper instead of a spoiled one shall not be allowed.

13. At 5 minutes to 20:00, the chair of the precinct election commission shall announce that the voting will end, and the election precinct will be closed at 20:00. Voters who have come to the election precinct before 20:00 for voting shall have the right to vote. To ensure the exercise of those voters' right, one of the commission's members shall, on instructions from the chair of the precinct election commission, approach the entrance to the premises for voting and invite all voters who have not voted yet to come into the premises for voting, and shall close the door. As soon as the last voter leaves the premises for voting, the premises shall be locked, and only the election commission members and persons entitled by this Code to be present at the election commission's meeting shall be allowed to stay inside.

14. During the voting, it shall not be allowed to close the voting premises, to suspend the

voting, to open ballot boxes, to count votes prior to the end of the time for voting established by this Code.

15. During the day of voting, a precinct election commission shall provide for sending the data on a number of voters, which were issued ballot papers at an election precinct, to all territorial election commissions in local elections, that are organized and held at this election precinct, pursuant to the procedure established by the Central Election Commission.

16. If the Central Election Commission decides to conduct an experiment or pilot project using innovative technologies in accordance with part one of Article 18 of this Code, the respective election commissions shall organize voting in such an experiment or pilot project simultaneously with the actions provided for in this article, according to the requirements provided by this Code.

Voters may participate in an experiment or pilot project using innovative technologies only if they vote simultaneously in the manner prescribed by this article.

Voters may not be forced to participate in an experiment or pilot project using innovative technologies.

**Article 249.** Procedure for Organizing Voting at Voters' Place of Stay

1. A precinct election commissions shall ensure that voters who are included in the voter list of the precinct and are incapable of moving independently due to his or her health disorder (due to disability, temporary health disorders or age) are able to vote at the place of their stay.

2. On the last day before the day of voting, each precinct election commission shall create, at its meeting, an excerpt from the voter list, in a form established by the Central Election Commission, for the purpose of organizing voting by those who are incapable of moving independently at the place of their stay.

As soon as this excerpt has been created, it shall be immediately posted on the premises of the precinct election commission for public review.

3. The following voters may be included in the excerpt from the voter list:

- 1) without a decision of the commission, a voter specially marked in the voter list as permanently incapable of moving independently, unless such voter notifies the precinct election commission, in writing or in person, by 12:00 noon on the last Saturday prior to the day of voting of his or her wish to vote in the premises for voting;
- 2) upon a decision of the commission, a voter being temporarily incapable of moving independently, which decision must be based on his or her application and certificate of his or her health issued by a medical institution.

4. When entering a voter in the excerpt from the voter list for voting at places of voters' stay, the secretary of the precinct election commission shall make an entry "votes at place of stay" in the column "Voter's signature" of the voter list of the election precinct.

5. A voter being temporarily incapable of moving independently shall file, by postal mail or through a third person, a handwritten application in his or her own handwriting requesting that he or she be provided with an opportunity to vote at the place of his or her stay, with an indication of the voter's place of stay. Such an application shall be submitted, along with a certificate of the voter's health issued by a medical institution, to the precinct election commission no later 20:00 of the last Friday prior to the day of voting.

6. It shall be the responsibility of a voter to file the application provided for by Part five of this Article to ensure compliance with the requirements relating to the voting procedure provided for by this Code.

7. At special election precincts established in inpatient care establishments, voting at the place of voters' stay shall be conducted on the basis of a voter's application, in his or her own handwriting, with

a request to be provided with the opportunity to vote at his or her place of stay, in view of his or her need to be confined to bed.

8. An application by a voter to vote at the place of his or her stay shall be registered by the precinct election commission in a separate register, indicating the day and time of the receipt of the application, and also the last name, first name, patronymic name, and address of the voter's place of residence (place of stay).

9. Voting at voters' place of stay shall be organized by no less than three members of the precinct election commission appointed by a decision of the election commission. Such election commission members shall be representatives of different subjects nominating members to the election commissions.

10. Voting at voters' place of stay shall be organized in such a way that the precinct election commission members involved in organizing such voting will be able to return to the premises for voting no later than one hour prior to the end of voting.

11. The chair of a precinct election commission shall announce the departure of the precinct election commission members who are conducting voting at voters' place of stay in the precinct. The chair of the precinct election commission shall provide the appointed election commission members with the excerpt from the voter list created in compliance with Part two of this Article. Simultaneously, the election commission members shall be provided with one copy of each party organization's information brochures and information posters for the respective multi-member election district, and with a sealed (or taped) mobile ballot box into which a control sheet shall be deposited. The control sheet shall contain the following information: the ballot box number; the time at which the appointed election commission members departed (in hours and minutes); the numbers of ballot papers received by them separately for each type of the local elections; and the last names of the appointed election commission members which received the ballot papers. The control sheet shall be signed by all the election commission members present, whose signatures shall be certified by the seal of the commission and, upon request, by candidates for local council, candidates for village, settlement or city mayor, candidates' agents, party organizations' authorized persons, or official observers.

12. Local council candidates, candidates for village, settlement or city mayor, candidates' agents, party organizations' authorized persons and official observers have the right to be present during the conduct of voting at voters' place of stay.

13. A voter or his or her family members may not refuse entry to any of the commission members appointed to conduct voting at voters' place of stay, or to any candidate for local council, a candidate for village, settlement or city mayor, a candidate's agent, a party organization's authorized person, or an official observer, that have the right to be present during the voting. In the event that the aforementioned persons are denied entry into the voter's place of stay, the voter in question shall not be provided with the opportunity to vote at his or her place of stay.

14. In the event of organizing voting at a voter's place of stay, a member of the precinct election commission shall, based on the excerpt from the voter list, issue to the voter, provided that the latter presents one of the documents specified in the clauses 1 and 2 of Part one of Article 8 of this Code, a ballot paper for voting. When issuing the ballot paper, the precinct election commission member shall enter his or her last name and initials and put his or her signature in the designated place on the counterfoil of the ballot paper, as well as indicating the number of the voter in the voter list.

A voter shall put his or her signature on the counterfoils of the ballot papers and in the excerpt from the voter list.

The member of the election commission shall detach the counterfoils from the ballot papers that are to be issued to a voter, and hand ballot papers for voting in each local election, one by one, over to the voter. The counterfoils of the ballot papers shall be stored by the member of the commission who handed over the ballot papers.

Another member of the election commission shall present to a voter a copy of each party organization's information brochures and information posters for the respective territorial election district.

The voter shall fill out the ballot paper by secret ballot in accordance with the procedure established by parts seven, eight of Article 248 of this Code, using, if necessary, information brochures and information posters of organizations of parties that are subjects of the election process for the Verkhovna Rada of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, an oblast, rayon, rayon in city, as well as city, village or settlement council (of a territorial community with up to 10,000 voters), and deposits the ballots to a portable ballot box. A member of the voter's family or a person caring for him/her has the right to be present during the voter's voting, to help him/her to fill in the ballot paper and to deposit it in the ballot box if the voter has health problems (due to disability, temporary health disorder or age) and cannot perform these actions on their own. After voting, the voter returns to the members of the precinct election commission the copies of information brochures and information posters of party organizations received by him.

15. Members of the precinct election commission shall be entitled to verify the fact of a voter's temporary inability to move independently in accordance with the procedure specified by the Central Election Commission.

16. If a voter included in the excerpt from the voter list for voting at voters' place of stay arrives at the premises for voting after the precinct election commission members have departed to conduct voting at voters' place of stay, that voter may not be issued ballot papers for voting until the return of the commission members in charge of organizing voting at voters' place of stay and until it has been determined that the voter has not already voted at the place of his or her stay.

17. After a voter has voted at his or her place of stay, the precinct election commission member who issued the ballot paper to the voter shall put the mark "voted at the place of stay" next to the voter's name, enter his or her own last name, and put his or her signature.

18. The excerpt from the voter list used for voting at voters' place of stay shall be appended to the voter list and be deemed to be an integral part thereof. The voter list shall be appended with voters' written applications, certificates from medical institutions, and copies of the respective decisions by the precinct election commission.

19. If the Central Election Commission decides to conduct an experiment or pilot project using innovative technologies in accordance with part one of Article 18 of this Code, the respective election commissions shall organize voting in such an experiment or pilot project simultaneously with the actions provided for in this article and provided by this Code.

Voters may participate in an experiment or pilot project using innovative technologies only if they vote simultaneously in the manner prescribed by this article.

Voters cannot be forced to participate in an experiment or pilot project using innovative technologies.

#### **Article 250.** Procedure for Vote Counting at the Election Precinct

1. The final meeting of a precinct election commission shall take place immediately after the end of voting at the election precinct, and shall be held in the same premises where the voting was held. The final meeting of a precinct election commission shall continue without interruption and shall end when the vote counting protocols of the election precinct have been drawn up and signed.

2. The vote counting at an election precinct shall be organized in the following order:

- 1) vote counting in the election of the President of Ukraine, the elections of MPs of Ukraine or in an all-Ukrainian referendum (in the event of holding the local elections concurrently with the election of the President of Ukraine, the elections of Members of Parliament of Ukraine or in the all-Ukrainian referendum);
- 2) vote counting in the election of the Verkhovna Rada of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea or an oblast council;
- 3) vote counting in the election of a rayon council;
- 4) vote counting in the election of city mayor;

- 5) vote counting in the election of city council;
- 6) vote counting in the election of city mayor of a city which is a part of another city, in accordance with the administrative-territorial structure;
- 7) vote counting in the election of a city rayon council, the city council of a city which form a part of another city, in accordance with the administrative-territorial structure;
- 8) vote counting in the election of village or settlement mayor;
- 9) vote counting in the election of village or settlement council;
- 10) repealed.

The counting of votes from each local election shall be completed by drawing up a protocol on the counting of votes at the election precinct from the respective local elections in accordance with the procedure specified in Article 251 of this Code.

During the vote-counting in each local election, the ballot papers related to the local election, the vote counting for which has not been performed yet, shall be placed in ballot boxes, which shall be kept within plain sight of the precinct election commission members.

The packages with the protocols and other election documents relating to the elections, the counting of which has already been completed, shall be kept in the premises of the precinct election commission until the end of the precinct election commission meeting, in the field of view of precinct election commission members and persons present at the commission meeting. Packages with election documents shall be transported in accordance with the procedure established by Article 253 of this Code to the territorial election commission, which establishes the outcome of the voting, and in cases provided by this Code – to the territorial election commission, which establishes election results, immediately after counting and drawing up respective protocols for all local elections organized by the respective precinct election commission.

3. At its final meeting, a precinct election commission shall, by its decision, assign the keeping of the minutes, accordingly, to the deputy chair of the precinct election commission or to some other member of the precinct election commission. At that meeting, the secretary of the precinct election commission shall enter data in the protocols on vote counting at the election precinct.

4. In the event, if during the conduct of the voting, a precinct election commission received applications or complaints relating to violations that occurred during the conduct of the voting at an election precinct, a precinct election commission shall consider them at the beginning of its meeting, prior to the vote counting at the election precinct.

5. Vote counting at an election precinct shall be conducted openly and transparently, exclusively by members of the precinct election commission. Vote counting at the election precinct shall be performed in accordance with the sequence specified in the provisions of this Article and in the manner prescribed by the Central Election Commission.

6. A precinct election commission shall pack the processed election documents in packages. A package with election documents shall be sealed, and an inscription shall be made on a package, with an indication of the number and type of the packaged documents. The name of the local election, indication and/or a number of the election district, the number of the election precinct, the number of packaged ballot papers, and the date and time of packaging shall also be noted. The package shall be signed by the precinct election commission members present and affixed with the commission's seal.

7. Each member of the precinct election commission, responsible for the work with the voter lists, shall count and put on each sheet of the voter lists received by him or her the following information, separately for each sheet of the voter lists:

- 1) the number of voters included in the voter list at the election precinct (as of the end of voting);

- 2) the number of voters who received ballots (signed by voters and marked "voted at the place of stay" in the voter list).

8. A voter list at the election precinct, after the end of voting, in the event if any additions have been made thereto, shall be closed by crossing out empty fields in the voter lists so as to make the addition of additional voters to the voter list impossible, and shall be signed by the chair and secretary of the precinct election commission and affixed with the commission's seal.

9. A precinct election commission shall, on the basis of a voter list (comparing the voter list and an excerpt from the voter list), establish the number of voters at the election precinct. This number shall be announced and entered by the secretary of the election commission (the secretary of the meeting) in the protocol on vote counting at an election precinct in all local elections.

10. A precinct election commission shall count unused ballot papers. A number of such ballot papers shall be announced and entered by the secretary of the commission in the protocol on the vote counting at the election precinct. The unused ballot papers shall be invalidated by cutting off the bottom right corner of the ballot papers. The invalidated unused ballot papers, together with the ballot papers spoiled, while the voters were filling them out, and returned to the precinct election commission members who issued them, shall be packed. The inscription "Unused ballot papers" shall be made on the packages, with an indication of the name of the local election, indication and/or number of the election district, the number of the election precinct, the number of packaged ballots, the date and time of packaging; the package shall be signed by the precinct election commission members present and affixed with the precinct election commission's seal.

11. A precinct election commission shall count the number of voters who received ballot papers for voting in the respective local elections, based on the voters' signatures in the voter list and marks "voted at the place of stay" in the voter list. That number shall be announced.

12. A precinct election commission shall sum up the number of the counterfoils of the ballot papers with signatures of voters and election commission members who issued them separately for each local election and for each election district, in which the voting was held at the election precinct. The number of such counterfoils shall be announced.

13. If there is no mismatch between the number of counterfoils specified in Part twelve of this Article, and the number indicated in Part eleven of this Article, the secretary of the election commission shall announce this number and enter this number in the protocol on vote counting at the election precinct as the number of voters who received ballot papers at the election precinct.

If there is a discrepancy between the number of counterfoils specified in Part twelve of this Article, and the number specified in Part eleven of this Article, the precinct election commission shall write an act thereon, stating the reason for such discrepancy established by the commission's decision, which shall be signed by the precinct election commission members present. The signatures shall be affixed with the election commission's seal. The aforementioned act may be signed by the candidates for local council present, candidates for village, settlement or city mayor, candidates' agents, party organization's authorized persons, and official observers. After that, the election commission shall take a decision establishing the number of voters who received the ballot papers for voting in the respective elections. That number shall be announced and entered in the vote-counting protocols of the election precinct.

14. The voter list, along with the excerpt from the voter list created pursuant to Parts two and three of Article 249 of this Code; the applications of voters based on which the excerpt was compiled; court decisions on making changes to the voter list; notifications from the State Voter Register maintenance body shall be packed in one package. The inscription "Voter List" shall be made on the package, with an indication of the name of the local election, an indication and/or a number of the election district, the number of election precinct, the date and time of packaging; the package shall be signed by the precinct election commission members present and affixed with the precinct election commission's seal.



15. The counterfoils of the issued ballot papers for voting in each local election shall be packed in separate packages. The inscription “Counterfoils of ballot papers” shall be made on the packages, with an indication of the name of the local election, an indication and/or a number of the election district, the number of election precinct, the number of packed counterfoils, the date and time of packaging; the package shall be signed by the precinct election commission members present and affixed with the commission’s seal.

16. A precinct election commission for each local election shall check if the number of unused ballots and the number of voters that received ballot papers are equal to the number of ballot papers received by the precinct election commission. In the event of a discrepancy between these numbers, the precinct election commission shall draw up an act thereon, stating the reason for such discrepancy established by the precinct election commission’s decision, which shall be signed by the precinct election commission members present. The signatures shall be affixed with the commission’s seal. The aforementioned act may be signed by candidates for local council present, candidates for village, settlement or city mayor, candidates’ agents, party organization’s authorized persons and official observers.

17. The precinct election commission shall check the integrity of the sealing tape or seal on each ballot box.

18. If the precinct election commission discovers damage to the tape or seal, or any other damage that indicates that the integrity of ballot box has been violated, the precinct election commission shall write an act thereon, stating the nature of the discovered damage, which shall be signed by the precinct election commission members present. The signatures shall be affixed with the commission’s seal. The aforementioned act may be signed by candidates for local council present, candidates for village, settlement or city mayor, candidates’ agents, party organization’s authorized persons, and official observers.

19. The precinct election commission shall open the ballot boxes one by one. The first ballot boxes to be opened shall be the mobile ones that were used for voting outside the voting premises, and the last ballot boxes to be opened shall be the ones with damaged seals or sealing tape, or with other damage revealed during the voting (if there are any such boxes).

20. When an undamaged ballot box is opened, its contents shall be emptied on the table at which the precinct election commission members are sitting. The presence of a control sheet in the ballot box (or, in case of a mobile ballot box, of the control sheets) shall also be checked.

21. The ballot papers from a damaged ballot box shall be taken out one by one without mixing them. The precinct election commission shall count the numbers of ballot papers for voting in each local election contained in such ballot box, and check the presence of a control sheet, which shall be taken out of the ballot box last.

22. If there is no control sheet in the ballot box, the precinct election commission shall draw up an act on the absence of the control sheet in the ballot box in accordance with the procedure specified by Part six of Article 37 of this Code, in which the number of ballot papers for voting in each local election contained in the ballot box shall be indicated. The aforementioned ballot papers shall be considered as those that are not subject to counting during the establishment of the total number of voters who took part in the voting and in the vote-counting in the respective local election.

23. If there are more ballot papers in the mobile ballot box than the number of voters included in the excerpt from the voter list in the election precinct, the precinct election commission shall draw up an act in accordance with the procedure specified by Part six of Article 37 of this Code on such a discrepancy, in which the number of ballot papers contained in this ballot box shall be indicated. The aforementioned ballot papers shall not be subject to counting during the establishment of the total number of voters who took part in the voting and in the vote counting.

24. If the members of the commission have doubts as to the authenticity of a control sheet, or in other doubtful situations, the precinct election commission shall adopt, by voting, a decision recognizing the ballot papers contained in the ballot box as ones that shall not be subject to counting

during the establishment of the total number of voters who took part in the voting and in the vote counting.

25. If an indication (number) of the election district and/or the number of the election precinct indicated on the ballot paper do not correspond to the indication (number) of the respective election district and/or the number of the election precinct, at which the vote-counting is being performed, such ballot papers shall not be subject to counting during the establishment of the total number of voters who took part in the voting and in the vote counting.

26. The number of ballots papers that are not subject to counting shall be announced and entered in the protocol on the counting of votes. Non-accountable ballots are packed. The inscription "Ballot papers not subject to counting" shall be made on the package, with an indication of the name of the local election, indication and/or a number of the election district, the number of the election precinct, the number of packed ballot papers, the date and time of packaging; the package shall be signed by the precinct election commission members present and affixed with the commission's seal.

27. Ballot papers for voting in each local election and in each election district shall be separated from each other. The election commission shall count the total number of ballot papers separately for each local election and for each election district, except for ballot papers that are not subject to counting.

When counting ballot papers, a member of the precinct election commission, appointed by a decision of the commission, shall count the ballot papers aloud. All items found in the ballot boxes other than the ballot papers of the approved form shall be placed separately and not counted. In case of doubt as to whether an item is a ballot paper, the precinct election commission shall adopt a decision thereon by voting. Each member of the election commission shall have the right to personally examine such items. The counting of ballot papers shall be suspended while such items are being examined. Any items that are not deemed to be ballot papers shall be packed in one package. Control sheets shall also be deemed as such items. The inscription "Items" shall be made on the package, with an indication of the name of the local election, an indication and/or a number of the election district, the number of the election precinct, the date and time of packaging; the package shall be signed by the precinct election commission members present and affixed with the commission's seal. The number established as a result of the above shall be considered the number of voters that took part in voting. The secretary of the election commission shall announce this number and enter it into the protocol on vote counting at the election precinct in the respective local election.

28. When counting ballot papers for the elections to the Verkhovna Rada of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, an oblast, rayon, rayon in city, as well as city, village or settlement council (of a territorial community with 10,000 or more voters) ballots are laid out in places marked with separate plates, containing on both sides the name of the party organization or the inscription "Invalid."

When counting ballot papers for elections of members of city, village or settlement council (of a territorial community with up to 10,000 voters), or of village, settlement or city mayor, ballots are laid out in places marked with separate plates containing the name of the candidate on both sides, registered in the respective multi-member district or, accordingly, the name of the candidate for the position of the village, settlement or city mayor, and for each of these types of elections – with the inscription "Invalid."

When unfolding ballots, a member of the commission appointed by the election commission shall show each ballot paper to all members of the commission, announcing the result of the voter's will. In case of doubt about the content of a ballot paper, the election commission shall resolve the issue by voting. In this case, each member of the commission has the right to personally inspect the ballot. At the time of the ballot review, work with other ballots shall be suspended.

29. A ballot paper shall be deemed invalid if:

- 1) in the elections to the Verkhovna Rada of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea or to an oblast, rayon, rayon in city, as well as city, village or settlement council (of a territorial community with 10,000 or more voters):

- a) it bears no seal of the respective precinct election commission;
  - b) it has not been amended in accordance with part thirteen of Article 242 of this Code or amended without a decision of the Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, or an oblast, rayon, rayon in city, as well as city, village or settlement election commission (of a territorial community with 10,000 or more voters) or the changes made do not correspond to the decision of the Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, or an oblast or city (of a territorial community with 10,000 or more voters) election commission;
  - c) the ballot paper has marks opposite the name of several party organizations;
  - d) no mark has been placed next to the full name of a party organization;
  - e) the counterfoil of the ballot paper has not been separated therefrom;
  - f) it is impossible to identify the result of the expression of the voter's will with regard to his or her support of the electoral list of a certain party organization for any other reason;
- 2) in the election of a city, village or settlement council (of a territorial community with up to 10,000 voters) or city mayor:
- a) it bears no seal of the respective precinct election commission;
  - b) it has not been amended as required by Part thirteen of Article 242 of this Code, or it has been amended without a decision by the rayon, city, city rayon or settlement election commission, or amended in a way that fails to comply with such a decision;
  - c) it bears no mark;
  - d) it bears marks opposite the names of several candidate;
  - e) the counterfoil of the ballot paper has not been separated therefrom;
  - f) it is impossible to determine the result of the expression of the voter's will for any other reason.

If in the ballot paper for elections of members of the Verkhovna Rada of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea or an oblast, rayon or rayon in city councils, as well as member of city, village or settlement councils (of territorial communities with 10,000 or more voters) after the words "From the party organization, for which I voted, I support the candidate " a voter enters a non-existent ordinal number of a candidate in the territorial electoral list or another mark, such a vote is considered to support the entire territorial electoral list of the respective local party organization, which is marked.

If any member of the election commission have doubts as to the validity of a ballot paper in the case provided for by subclause f) of clause one and subclause f) of clause two of this Part, the precinct election commission shall resolve the issue by voting. Each member of the election commission shall be allowed to personally examine the ballot paper in question. During the examination of the ballot paper, the counting of other ballot papers shall be suspended.

30. Invalid ballot papers shall be counted separately. The secretary of the election commission shall announce this number and enter it into the protocol on vote counting at the election precinct. The invalid ballot papers shall be packed together. The inscription "Invalid ballot papers" shall be made on the package, with an indication of the name of the local election, an indication and/or a number of the election district, the number of the election precinct number, the number of packed ballot papers, the date and time of packaging; the package shall be signed by the precinct election commission members present and affixed with the commission's seal.

31. The precinct election commission shall count the number of votes cast for territorial electoral lists of the party organizations in the election of members of the Verkhovna Rada of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, an oblast, rayon, rayon in city councils, as well as members of city, village or settlement councils (of territorial communities with 10,00 or more voters). During the vote counting, each member of the commission shall be entitled to examine or re-count the

respective ballot papers. The results of the counting of voters' votes cast for territorial electoral lists of each party organization and party organizations in total at the election precinct shall be announced and entered, respectively, in the protocol on vote counting at the election precinct by the secretary of the election commission.

32. When counting votes at an election precinct, the precinct election commission shall check whether the number of voters who took part in the voting at the precinct is equal to the sum of the numbers of invalid ballot papers at the election precinct and ballot papers with votes cast for territorial electoral lists of all party organizations. In case of a discrepancy of these data, the precinct election commission shall draw up an act, stating the reason for such discrepancy established by the precinct election commission's decision, which shall be signed by the precinct election commission members present. The signatures shall be affixed with the election commission's seal. The aforementioned act may be signed by the candidates present, their agents, the party organization's authorized persons, and official observers.

33. A precinct election commission shall, one by one, process ballot papers with votes of the voters who supported the territorial electoral list of the respective party organization, in order to establish the number of votes cast in support of each candidate included in such electoral list. For this purpose, the ballot papers with the votes of the voters who supported the territorial electoral list of the respective party organization shall be put in places marked by special plates containing, on both sides, the ordinal numbers of candidates in accordance with the territorial electoral list of candidates from this party organization, as well the inscription "Supported the entire list."

34. A precinct election commission shall count the number of voters who supported each of the candidates for local council included in the territorial electoral list of the respective party organization, as well as the number of votes of voters who supported the entire regional electoral list of candidates for local council from the respective party organization, without supporting an individual candidate from that list. During the vote counting, each member of the precinct election commission shall be entitled to check or re-count the respective ballot papers.

If the election commission members have doubts as to the content of a ballot paper, the election commission shall resolve the issue by voting. Before voting, each member of the election commission shall have the right to personally examine the ballot paper. For the time of examination of the ballot paper, the work with the other ballot papers shall be suspended. The results of the voting shall be recorded in the minutes of the precinct election commission meeting

35. The results of the counting of votes in the form of the number of votes of voters who supported each individual candidate included in the territorial electoral list of the respective party organization, and the number of votes of voters who supported the entire territorial electoral list of the respective party organization without supporting an individual candidate shall be announced by the chair of the election commission and entered by the secretary of the election commission into the protocol of the vote counting at the election precinct.

36. After processing the ballots with the votes of voters who supported the territorial electoral list of the respective party organization, the precinct election commission shall check whether the number of votes of voters who supported the territorial electoral list of this party organization is equal to the number of votes of voters who supported candidates included in the territorial electoral list of this party organization and the number of votes of voters who supported the entire territorial electoral list from this party organization without supporting a single candidate from this list. In case of a discrepancy of these data, the precinct election commission may recount the ballots. Upon confirmation of this discrepancy, the precinct election commission shall draw up an act in the form established by the Central Election Commission and in accordance with the procedure provided for in part six of Article 37 of this Code, indicating the reasons for such discrepancy established by the decision of the precinct election commission.

37. Ballots with the votes cast for each of the candidates included in the territorial electoral list of each party organization are packed in packages. The package shall indicate the name of the local elections, the number of the territorial district, the number of the election precinct, the name of the

party organization, the name of the candidate and his ordinal number in the territorial electoral list of the party organization, the number of packed ballots, the date and time of packing; the package shall be signed by the precinct election commission members present and affixed with the commission's seal.

38. Ballot papers with the votes cast for the entire territorial electoral list from a party organization without supporting a single candidate are packed in a package. The package shall indicate the name of the local elections, the number of the territorial election district, the number of the election precinct, the name of the party organization, the number of packed ballots, the date and time of packing; the package shall be signed by the precinct election commission members present and affixed with the commission's seal.

39. Packages with ballot papers specified in Parts 37 and 38 of this Article, containing the votes of voters who supported a territorial electoral list of a party organization, shall be packed in one paper package for each. The following information shall be indicated on each package: the name of the local election, the number of the territorial election district, the number of the election precinct, the name of a party organization, the number of packaged ballot papers, the date and time of packaging; the package shall be signed by the precinct election commission members present and affixed with the commission's seal.

40. The precinct election commission counts the number of votes cast for each candidate in a multi-member district for the election of city, village or settlement council (of a territorial community with up to 10,000 voters) and for each candidate for the position of village, settlement or city mayor. During the vote counting, each member of the precinct election commission shall be entitled to check or recount the respective ballot papers. The results of the counting of votes of voters for candidates for member of councils or candidates for village, settlement or city mayor at the election precinct shall be announced and entered into the protocol on vote counting in the election precinct in the respective election district.

If voting is conducted in an election precinct for more than one election district, the precinct election commission shall carry out the actions provided for in this Code and establish the respective information separately for each multi-member district in which voting took place at the election district. The respective information shall as it is being established be entered into the protocol of the precinct election commission on vote counting in the election precinct in the respective multi-member district. In this case, the precinct election commission shall distribute the ballots to be taken into account according to the multi-member election districts in which voting was conducted at the election precinct. The establishment of the voting results is carried out for each such multi-member election district separately in the order of their numbers.

41. When counting votes of voters cast at the election precinct for candidates for local council, candidates for village, settlement or city mayor, a precinct election commission shall check whether the number of voters who took part in the voting at the election precinct is equal to the sum of the numbers of invalid ballot papers at the election precinct and ballot papers with votes cast for candidates at an election precinct in this election district. In case of a discrepancy of these data, the precinct election commission shall draw up an act, stating the reason for such discrepancy established by the precinct election commission's decision, which shall be signed by the precinct election commission members present. The signatures shall be affixed with the election commission's seal. The aforementioned act may be signed by the candidates for local council in the respective multi-member election district present, candidates for village, settlement or city mayor, their agents, and official observers.

42. Following the counting of votes of voters cast at the election precinct for candidates for local council, candidates for village, settlement or city mayor, the ballot papers with votes of voters cast for each candidate shall be packaged separately. The inscriptions shall be made on the packages with an indication of a candidate last name and initials, the name of the election, indication and/or the number of the election district, the number of the election precinct, the number of packaged ballot papers, the date and time of packaging; the packages shall be signed by the precinct election commission members present and affixed with the commission's seal.

## **Article 251. Protocols of Precinct Election Commission on Vote Counting**

1. At its meeting, the precinct election commission shall draw up a protocol on the counting of votes at the election district from each local election in each election district in which voting took place at the election district.

The form of the protocol of the precinct election commission on the counting of votes at the election district shall be approved by the Central Election Commission not later than thirty days before the day of the next local elections.

It is prohibited to draw up protocols of precinct election commissions on the counting of votes at the election precinct in a manner other than that determined by the Central Election Commission in accordance with this Code.

The protocol of the precinct election commission on the counting of votes at the election precinct may be prepared by technical means. The procedure for drawing up and requirements to the protocols of the precinct election commission on the counting of votes at the election precinct shall be established by the Central Election Commission.

2. The protocol of a precinct election commission on the counting of votes casts for territorial electoral lists of candidates for the Verkhovna Rada of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, an oblast, rayon, rayon in city, as well as city, village or settlement council (of a territorial community with 10,000 or more voters) at the election precinct shall contain the following data, entered in numbers:

- 1) the number of ballot papers received by the precinct election commission;
- 2) the number of unused ballot papers stamped accordingly by the precinct election commission;
- 3) the number of voters included in the voter list for the election precinct (by the end of the voting);
- 4) the number of voters included in the excerpt from the voter list at the election precinct for voting at the place of voters' stay;
- 5) the number of voters who received ballot papers in the premises for voting;
- 6) the number of voters who received ballot papers at the place of their stay;
- 7) the total number of voters who received ballot papers;
- 8) the number of ballot papers that are not subject to counting;
- 9) the number of voters who took part in the voting at the election precinct;
- 10) the total number of ballot papers declared invalid at the election precinct;
- 11) the number of votes of voters who supported territorial electoral lists of candidates for local council from each party organization;
- 12) the number of votes of voters who supported the territorial electoral list from each party organization;
- 13) the number of votes of voters who supported each candidate included in the territorial electoral list from each party organization;
- 14) the number of votes of voters who supported the entire territorial list from each party organization, without supporting a specific candidate from this list.

The protocol of a precinct election commission on the counting of votes cast for candidates in a multi-member election district or for candidates for the position of the village, settlement or city mayor shall contain the following data, entered in numbers:

- 1) the number of ballot papers received by the precinct election commission;

- 2) the number of unused ballot papers stamped accordingly by the precinct election commission;
- 3) the number of voters included in the voter list for the election precinct (by the end of the voting);
- 4) the number of voters included in the excerpt from the voter list at the election precinct for voting at the place of voters' stay;
- 5) the number of voters who received ballot papers in the premises for voting;
- 6) the number of voters who received ballot papers at the place of their stay;
- 7) the total number of voters who received ballot papers;
- 8) the number of ballot papers that are not subject to counting;
- 9) the number of voters who took part in the voting at the election precinct;
- 10) the total number of ballot papers declared invalid at the election precinct;
- 11) the number of votes for each candidate.

3. The protocol on the counting of votes from each local election for each election district, in which the voting took place at the election precinct, shall be drawn up by the precinct election commission in four copies. The copies of the protocols shall be numbered and shall have equal legal force.

4. The protocols of the precinct election commission on vote counting at the election precinct shall specify the date and time (hours and minutes) of their signing by the precinct election commission members. Each copy of the protocols shall be signed by the chair, deputy chair, secretary, and other members of the precinct election commission present at the election commission's meeting. If a member of the commission disagrees with the vote-counting results entered in a protocol, that member shall sign the protocol with a note "With dissenting opinion." A written dissenting opinion shall be attached to the protocol of the precinct election commission on vote counting at the election precinct. Failure or refusal of individual members of the precinct election commission to sign a vote-counting protocol at the election precinct shall entail no legal consequences for the validity of the protocol. In case of the absence of a signature of a precinct election commission member in a vote-counting protocol at the election precinct, the reasons for the absence of the signature shall be indicated next to his or her last name. Such protocol shall be signed by the precinct election commission members and affixed with the precinct election commission's seal only after it has been fully completed.

The first and second copies of the protocol on the counting of votes at the election precinct may also be signed by candidates, their agents, authorized persons of party organizations and official observers present at the meeting of the precinct election commission during the counting of votes.

5. It shall be prohibited to fill out the protocols of the precinct election commission on vote counting at the election precinct by pencil or to make any changes thereto without a decision of the respective commission, as well as to sign it and certify it with the seal of the precinct election commission until it has been fully completed.

6. If after the signing of the protocols of the precinct election commission on vote counting at the election precinct in the respective election district, the precinct election commission discovers inaccuracies (a writing mistake or an erroneous number), it shall consider the issue of introducing changes to the protocol by completing a new protocol; such protocol shall be marked "Corrected." The ballot papers shall not be re-counted. A protocol marked "Corrected" shall be completed in the order and the number of copies specified in this Article.

7. The first and second copies of the protocol of the precinct election commission on the counting of votes at the precinct for the respective local elections in the respective district and if available – also the respective copies of the protocol marked "Corrected", and the act of issuing copies of the protocol shall be packed into packages. The package shall bear the inscription "Protocol on vote-counting," the

name of the local elections, an indication and/or a number of the district the number of the election precinct, the date and time of packing, the signatures of the members of the district election commission present and the seal of the commission. The third copy of the protocol of the precinct election commission on the counting of votes cast at the precinct in the respective local elections in the respective election district, as well as the protocol marked "Corrected" (if drawn up), shall be kept by the secretary of the precinct election commission, the fourth copy (marked "Corrected", in case it is drawn up)– shall immediately be posted for public review in the premises of the precinct election commission.

8. Members of the precinct election commission, candidates, their agents, authorized persons of party organizations and official observers present during the counting of votes at the election precinct shall, at their request, be immediately provided with copies of the protocol, specified in this Paragraph, for the respective local election and the respective election district, including the ones marked "Corrected", which shall be certified by the chair and secretary of the precinct election commission and affixed with the commission's seal, in the amount of not more than one copy of each protocol to each member of the commission, each local party organization that nominated candidates in the unified multi-member election district and each candidate. Copies of the protocol of the precinct election commission on the counting of votes at the election precinct may be made by technical means.

9. The precinct election commission shall prepare an act, in a form approved by the Central Election Commission, recording the issuance of copies of the protocols of the precinct election commission on vote counting. The act shall contain the list of persons who received copies of the respective protocol, the date and time of the receipt of such copies, and the signatures of such persons. The act shall be signed by the chair and the secretary of the precinct election commission and affixed with the precinct election commission's seal. The act shall be packed in the package together with the first and second copies of the protocol of the precinct election commission on vote counting at the election precinct.

10. After the end of the election commission's meeting, the packages with the protocols of the precinct election commission on vote counting at the election precinct, the ballot papers, counterfoils and items, voter lists, and also written dissenting opinions of election commission members (if any), acts, applications, complaints and decisions adopted by the election commission shall be delivered to the respective territorial election commission, in a manner specified by Article 253 of the Code.

**Article 252.** Declaration by a Precinct Election Commission of the Invalidity of Voting at the Election Precinct

1. A precinct election commission shall be entitled to declare the voting in an election precinct invalid if it establishes that there have been violations of the requirements of this Code that make it impossible to determine the true results of the expression of the voters' will, only under the following circumstances:

- 1) discovery of cases of illegal voting (filling in, depositing the ballot into the ballot box for a voter by another person, except for the cases provided for in parts five and ten of Article 248 of this Code; voting by persons who do not have the right to vote in the respective elections; voting by persons not included into the list of voters at the election precinct or included in it unwarrantedly; voting by a person more than once) in the amount exceeding 5 percent of the number of voters who received ballot papers at the election precinct for the respective local election;
- 2) destruction of or damage to a ballot box (ballot boxes) that makes it impossible to establish the content of the ballot papers, if the number of such ballot papers is exceeding five percent of the number of voters who received ballot papers at the election precinct for the respective local election;
- 3) discovery in the ballot boxes of ballot papers in a number that exceeds more than ten percent of the number of voters who received ballot papers at the election precinct for the respective local election.



2. If the circumstances provided for by Part One of this Article are discovered, the precinct election commission shall, in each case, write an act thereon, which shall be signed by all present members of the precinct election commission present and certified by the seal of the election commission. Such an act (acts) shall be the basis for consideration by the precinct election commission of the issue of declaring the voting at the election precinct from the respective local election in the respective election district as invalid.

3. Should a decision be made on declaring the voting in a specific local election at the election precinct invalid, all ballot papers found in the ballot boxes at the election precinct shall not be subject to counting. In this case, the protocol of the precinct election commission on the counting of votes cast at the precinct for territorial electoral lists of candidates for the Verkhovna Rada of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, an oblast, rayon, rayon in city, as well as city, village or settlement council (of a territorial community with 10,000 voters and more) must contain only the information specified in paragraphs two to nine of part two of Article 251 of this Code, and the protocol of the precinct election commission on the counting of votes cast at the election precinct for candidates in the multi-member district, or for the position of village, settlement or city mayor – the information specified in paragraphs seventeen to twenty-four of the second part of Article 251 of this Code. In the other places, a dash shall be inserted. The protocols of the precinct election commission on vote counting shall be completed by the precinct election commission in accordance with the procedure prescribed by Article 251 of this Code.

4. If a precinct election commission adopts a decision to declare voting in a specific local election at the election precinct invalid, the ballot papers shall be packed. The inscription “Ballot papers” shall be made on the package, with an indication and/or the number of the election district, the number of the election precinct, the number of the packed ballot papers, the date and time of packaging; the package shall be signed by the precinct election commission members and affixed with the election commission’s seal.

5. The decision of a precinct election commission to declare voting at the election precinct invalid and the act (acts) on the basis of which such decision was adopted shall be attached to the first copy of the protocol of the precinct election commission on the vote counting at the election precinct for the respective local election.

**Article 253.** Procedure for Transportation and Delivery of Election Documents to a Territorial Election Commission

1. Transportation of the documents specified in Part ten of Article 251 of this Code shall be transported by the chair or deputy chair of the precinct election commission and two other members of this election commission representing different subjects of nomination to the respective precinct election commission. During the transportation of election documents, members of the precinct election commission are accompanied by police officers and, if necessary, at the request of the territorial election commission, by employees of the Security Service of Ukraine, who must provide security during transportation. Other members of the precinct election commission not engaged in the transportation of election documents, candidates, their agents, authorized persons of local party organizations and official observers may also accompany the transportation of such documents at their request. Other persons shall be prohibited from accompanying the transportation of the election documents. Unpacking the packages with the ballot papers and the other election documents during transportation shall be prohibited.

If simultaneously with the local elections other elections are held such as presidential, parliamentary elections or a national referendum, the election documents related to such local election shall be transported to the respective territorial election commission by members of the precinct election commission who will not participate in transporting the election documents related to the presidential, parliamentary elections or national referendum.

If the election precinct held voting simultaneously for several types of local elections, for which the precinct election commission need to transport election documents provided for in this article to different territorial election commissions, the precinct election commission shall decide on the appointment of at least three members of the commission, who shall represent different subjects of

nomination to the respective precinct election commission as responsible for transportation and transfer of election documentation to each territorial election commission to which transportation will be carried out.

Transportation of election documentation to the respective territorial election commissions is carried out immediately after the completion of the protocols on the counting of votes from all local elections in all election districts in which voting was organized by the precinct election commission.

2. A precinct election commission of an election precinct established in the territory of a village, settlement or city shall deliver to the village, settlement or city election commission the following:

- 1) the protocol on vote counting at the election precinct in the election of members of the Verkhovna Rada of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea or an oblast council in the territorial election district, respectively;
- 2) the protocol on vote counting at the election precinct in the election of members of a rayon council in the territorial election district;
- 3) the protocol on vote counting at the election precinct in the election of members of the village, settlement or city council in the territorial district (of a territorial community with 10,000 or more voters) or in the multi-member district (a territorial community with up to 10,000 voters), respectively;
- 4) the protocol on vote counting at the election precinct in the election of the village, settlement and city mayor, respectively.

3. A precinct election commission of an election precinct established in the territory of a city with rayon division in which city rayon councils were not established shall deliver the protocols as follows:

- 1) to the city election commission:
  - a) the protocol on vote counting at the election precinct in the elections of members of the Verkhovna Rada of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea or an oblast council in the territorial election district, respectively;
  - b) the protocol on vote counting at the election precinct in the election of members of a rayon council in the multi-member election district.
- 2) to a city rayon election commission:
  - a) the protocol on vote counting at the election precinct in the elections of members to the city council in a territorial election district (of a territorial community with 10,000 or more voters) or in a multi-member election district (of a territorial community with up to 10,000 voters);
  - b) the protocol on vote counting at the election precinct in the election of the city mayor.

4. The precinct election commission of an election precinct established in the territory of a city rayon in which city rayon councils were established shall deliver the protocols as follows:

- 1) to the city election commission:
  - a) the protocol on vote counting at the election precinct in the elections of members of the Verkhovna Rada of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea or an oblast council in the territorial election district, respectively;
  - b) the protocol on vote counting at the election precinct in the elections of members of a rayon council in the multi-member election district.
- 2) to the rayon in city election commission:
  - a) the protocol on vote counting at the election precinct in the elections of members to the city council in the territorial election district (of a territorial community with 10,000

or more voters) or in the multi-member election district (of a territorial community with up to 10,000 voters);

- b) the protocol on vote counting at the election precinct in the election of the city mayor;
- c) the protocol on vote counting at the election precinct in the elections of members of rayon in city council in the multi-member election district

5. The protocol on vote counting at the election precinct and other documents of the precinct election commission shall be handed over to the respective territorial election commission at its meeting by the members of the precinct election commission who transported the election documentation in accordance with part one of this article.

6. During the transportation of election documents, the seal of the precinct election commission and blank forms of protocols of the precinct election commission on the counting of votes at the election precinct shall be kept in a safe (metal cabinet) on the premises of the precinct election commission.

If the respective territorial election commission decides to correct the identified shortcomings by completing a protocol on the counting of votes at the election precinct marked "Corrected," the precinct election commission shall consider amending the respective protocol at its meeting and completing a protocol marked "Corrected" after the return of the members of the commission who carried out the transportation of election documents, within the period determined by the territorial election commission. The protocol marked "Corrected" shall be transported to the territorial election commission immediately after its completion in accordance with the procedure specified in this article.

**Article 254. Procedure for Receipt and Consideration of Election Documents of Precinct Election Commissions by a Territorial Election Commission**

1. Immediately after the end of voting, a territorial election commission shall convene a continuous meeting that shall continue uninterrupted until the results of the voting in the election district are established. During this period of time, the members of the territorial election commission shall not be engaged in any activities other than participation in the election commission's meeting.

2. The territorial election commission's meeting specified in Part one of this Article shall be officially recorded in the minutes of the continuous meeting that shall be signed by the chair or the meeting chairperson, as well as the secretary of the election commission and/or the member of the election commission that at the said meeting performed the duties of the secretary. The protocol shall be appended with written dissenting opinions (if available) of members of the election commission who took part in the meeting and who disagree with the decision adopted by the territorial election commission.

3. At the territorial election commission's meeting specified in Part one of this Article, the chair of the territorial election commission or a member of the election commission designated by him or her shall receive the sealed packages with the protocols of the precinct election commissions on vote counting; unseal them and announce the content of the protocols of the precinct election commissions on vote counting at the respective election precincts; he or she shall also receive the sealed packages with the other election documents specified by Part ten of Article 251 of this Code. The time of the receipt by the territorial election commission of the protocols of the precinct election commission on vote counting, the list of the received election documents, and the data entered into the protocol on vote counting at the election precinct shall be recorded in the minutes of the territorial election commission's meeting.

4. When receiving the documents of a precinct election commission, the territorial election commission shall verify the completeness of the documents and the integrity of all packages containing election documents. During this verification, each member of the commission shall have the right to examine each package containing election documents.

5. Based on the results of the consideration of the documents of a precinct election commission and complaints concerning violations of the requirements of this Code during the conduct of voting and

vote counting at the election precinct, as well as during the transportation of the election documents to the territorial election commission, that had been received by the territorial election commission prior to the receipt of the documents of the precinct election commission, the territorial election commission shall adopt one of the following decisions:

- 1) to include the data contained in the protocols on vote counting at the election precinct, when establishing the results of voting;
- 2) to oblige the precinct election commission to correct the revealed defects by completing a protocol marked “Corrected”;
- 3) to conduct a recount of votes at the election precinct in accordance with procedures provided for by this Code.

6. A decision provided for by Part five of this Article shall be adopted through a vote of members of the territorial election commission by an absolute majority of the votes of all members of the commission and shall be recorded in the minutes of the territorial election commission’s meeting.

7. If any corrections, mistakes or inaccuracies are discovered in the protocols of the precinct election commission on vote counting at the election precinct, which can be eliminated without recounting the votes, the territorial election commission may adopt a decision to oblige a precinct election commission to amend the mistakes by completing a protocol with the mark “Corrected,” in accordance with clause two of Part five of this Article (if the content of such corrections, errors and inaccuracies cannot be updated and eliminated without completing a protocol marked “Corrected” by the precinct election commission), which shall be recorded in the protocol of the territorial election commission’s meeting. During the consideration of this issue by the precinct election commission, copies of the protocol on vote counting at the election precinct, the ballot papers and other election documents specified in Part ten of Article 251 of this Code shall be kept in the territorial election commission.

If any corrections, mistakes or inaccuracies are discovered, which can be eliminated without recounting the votes and which do not require completing a protocol marked “Corrected,” the territorial election commission shall make a decision provided for in paragraph 1 of part five of this article, indicating the detected corrections, errors and inaccuracies. Such a decision shall be attached to the minutes of the precinct election commission.

8. A precinct election commission shall be obliged, within the time limit established by the territorial election commission, to consider an issue about introducing changes to the respective protocol on vote counting without a recount of ballot papers. The protocol with the mark “Corrected” shall be completed in the manner pursuant to this Code in which a protocol of a precinct election commission on the counting of votes at the election precinct that needs to be corrected is completed, and shall be transported and handed over to the territorial election commission in the manner prescribed by Article 253 of this Code. The time of the receipt by the territorial election commission of a protocol of a precinct election commission with the mark “Corrected” and the data entered therein shall be recorded in the minutes of the territorial election commission’s meeting.

9. If there are applications or complaints, supported by acts duly drawn up by candidates for local council, candidates for the position of village, settlement or city mayor, their agents, the party organization’s authorized persons, official observers or voters relating to violations of the requirements of this Code during the conduct of the voting and/or vote counting at the election precinct that raise doubts about the vote-counting results at such election precinct, the territorial election commission may adopt a decision on a recount of the votes at the election precinct.

10. If there is an act or an application in writing submitted by persons specified in Part one of Article 253 of this Code, on violations of the requirements of this Code during the transportation of the protocol on vote counting at the election precinct as well as other documents to the territorial election commission, the territorial election commission may, or, in case if there are clear signs that the packages with the election documents have been tampered with, as well as in case of

impossibility to eliminate inaccuracies in the protocol of the precinct election commission without the recount, shall be obliged to adopt a decision ordering a recount of votes at such election precinct.

A decision of a territorial election commission to order the conduct of a recount of votes in case the violation of the integrity of the packages with packed documents is revealed following the acceptance of the election documents from a precinct election commission, shall not be allowed.

11. The protocols of a precinct election commission on vote counting at the election precinct as well as the sealed packages with other election documents of precinct election commissions shall be stored in the premises where the territorial election commission's meeting is being held until the votes at the election precinct have been recounted by the territorial election commission.

12. The recount of votes at the election precinct in the respective election district from the respective local elections shall be carried out by the territorial election commission after the consideration and adoption of protocols and other documents from all precinct election commissions. All members of this precinct election commission have the right to participate in the recount of the votes of voters at the election precinct by the territorial election commission, as well as candidates for local council, candidates for the position of village, settlement or city mayor, their agents, authorized persons of party organizations and official observers.

The recount of votes at the election precinct for the respective local election shall be carried out by the members of the territorial election commission in accordance with a procedure established by the Central Election Commission, taking into account the provisions of Article 250 of this Code.

13. Based on the results of the recount of votes at the election precinct, a territorial election commission shall draw up a protocol on the recount of votes at the respective election precinct in a form established by the Central Election Commission. The protocol on the recount of votes at the election precinct may be prepared by technical means.

14. The protocol on recounting of votes at the respective election precinct shall be drawn up by the territorial election commission in four copies. The copies of the protocols shall be numbered and shall have equal legal force. All copies of the protocols shall be signed by the chair, deputy chair, secretary, and other members of the territorial election commission present at the commission meeting and by the precinct election commission members who took part in the re-counting of votes at the respective election precinct. All copies of the protocols shall be affixed by the territorial election commission's seal. The information contained in the protocol shall be announced. Candidates to local councils, candidates for the position of village, settlement or city mayor, their agents, authorized persons of party organizations or official observers in this elections who were present during the recounting of votes, shall have the right to sign the first copy of the protocol. If a member of the commission disagrees with the information entered in a protocol, that member shall be obliged to set out in writing his or her dissenting opinion, which shall be attached to the protocol.

Failure or refusal of some members of the election commission to sign a vote-counting protocol at the election precinct shall entail no legal consequences for the validity of the protocol.

15. A territorial election commission may adopt a decision declaring the voting at the election precinct invalid only if circumstances specified in Part one of Article 252 of this Code are discovered during the recounting of votes at the respective election precinct.

16. Should a decision be made during the recounting of votes on declaring the voting at the election precinct invalid, all ballot papers that were used for voting at the respective election precinct shall not be subject to counting. In this case, the protocol of the territorial election commission on the recount of votes from the respective elections at this election precinct shall be drawn up in accordance with the procedure established by parts thirteen and fourteen of this article and shall contain only the information specified in paragraphs two to nine of part 251 of the Code or in paragraphs seventeen to twenty-four of the second part of Article 251 of this Code. In other places, a dash shall be inserted.

17. The first copy of the protocol of a territorial election commission on the recounting of votes at the respective election precinct, together with the respective protocol of the precinct election

commission on vote counting at the election precinct and the decision of the territorial election commission to declare the voting at the election precinct invalid, shall be attached, respectively, to the protocol of the territorial election commission on the voting results in the respective multi-member election district (if a protocol on the results of voting is not drawn up at the respective local election – to the protocol on the results of the respective elections). The second copy of the protocol of a territorial election commission on recounting of votes at the respective election precinct shall be kept by the secretary of the territorial election commission; the third copy of the protocol shall be delivered to the respective precinct election commission; the fourth copy shall be immediately placed in the premises of the territorial election commission for public review. The information contained in the protocol of a territorial election commission on the recounting of votes at the respective election precinct shall be announced.

18. Members of the territorial election commission, candidates for local councils, candidates for the position of village, settlement or city mayor, their agents, authorized persons of party organizations and official observers in the respective local elections, who were present at the recount, shall immediately receive upon their request copies of the protocol specified in this Article, which are certified by the chair and the secretary of the territorial election commission and affixed with the election commission's seal, in the amount of no more than one copy of the protocol for each member of an election commission, a candidate for local council and each official observer. Copies of the protocol on the recount of votes at the election precinct may be made by technical means.

The respective territorial election commission shall transfer the information on the voting results in the multi-member election district to the Central Election Commission, pursuant to the procedure and in a form established by the Central Election Commission.

#### **Article 255. Tabulation of the Results of Voting in the Local Elections**

1. Territorial election commissions shall establish the results of voting by completing the corresponding protocol for the following local elections:

- 1) the Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea or the oblast election commission – the protocol on the results of the voting in the respective elections of members of the Verkhovna Rada of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea or the oblast council within the territorial election district based on the protocols of the respective village, settlement or city election commissions on the results of voting within this district;
- 2) city election commission (of a city with 10,000 or more voters) – the protocol on the results of the voting in the elections of members of the city council within the territorial election district on the basis of protocols of the rayon in city election commissions on the results of voting within a part of this district;
- 3) village, settlement or city:
  - a) the protocol on the results of the voting in the respective election of members of the Verkhovna Rada of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea or the oblast council;
  - b) the protocol on the results of the voting in the elections of members of the respective rayon council within this territorial election district;
- 4) the rayon in city election commission:
  - a) the protocol on the results of the voting in the elections of members of the city council in the territorial election commission or its part (in a city territorial community with 10,000 or more voters) or in multi-member election districts (in a city territorial community with up to 10,000 voters)
  - b) the protocol on the results of voting in the election of the mayor.

Protocols on the results of the voting in the elections of members of the village, settlement, or city (cities without rayon division) council in the respective multi-member election districts or the village, settlement or city (cities without rayon division) mayor shall not be drawn up by a territorial

election commission which establishes the results of the elections. The protocol on the results of the elections shall, in this case, be drawn up directly on the basis of the protocols of the precinct election commissions on the counting of votes for the respective local elections.

2. The territorial election commission shall, after the adoption and consideration of protocols (including those marked “Corrected”) of precinct election commissions on the counting of votes at the respective election precincts, on the basis of these protocols, and in case of a recount of votes – on the basis of protocols of the territorial election commission on the counting of votes at the respective election precincts no later than on a ninth day from the day of voting (and in case of repeat voting – no later than on the third day from the day of repeat voting) establish and enter into the protocol on the results of the voting for each election district in the respective local elections the following information:

- 1) the number of ballots received by precinct election commissions;
- 2) the number of unused ballots cancelled by precinct election commissions;
- 3) the number of voters included in the voter lists at election precincts;
- 4) the number of voters who received ballots;
- 5) the number of voters included in the excerpts from the voter list for voting of voters at their place of stay at the election precincts;
- 6) the number of voters who received ballots in the premises for voting;
- 7) the number of voters who received ballots at their place of stay;
- 8) the number of voters who took part in voting in the place for voting;
- 9) the number of voters who took part in voting at the premises for voting;
- 10) the number of voters who took part in voting;
- 11) the number of ballots which shall not be counted unveiled at the election precincts;
- 12) the number of ballots declared invalid;
- 13) the percentage of the total number of ballots declared invalid in relation to the total number of voters who took part in the voting.

3. In the protocol of the territorial election commission on the results of the voting in the respective multi-member election district or the unified single-member election district for the respective local elections, in addition to the information specified in part two of this article, members of the respective commission shall enter, in figures and words, information on the number of votes cast for each candidate for the position of village, settlement or city mayor.

4. The protocol of the territorial election commission on the results of the voting in the territorial election district for the elections of members of the Verkhovna Rada of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea or the oblast, rayon, rayon in city, as well as city, village or settlement council (of a territorial community with 10,000 or more voters), except the information specified in part two of this article, shall also include, in figures and words, the following information:

- 1) the total number of votes of voters who supported the territorial electoral lists of all party organizations within the territorial election district (part of the territorial election district);
- 2) the number of votes of voters who supported the territorial electoral list from each party organization within the territorial election district (part of the territorial election district);
- 3) the number of votes of voters who supported each candidate included in the territorial electoral list from each party organization within the territorial election district;
- 4) the number of votes of voters who supported the entire territorial electoral list, without supporting a specific candidate from this list, from each party organization within the territorial election district.

5. The protocol of the territorial election commission on the results of the voting in the respective

election district shall contain the information specified in part two of this article and the information specified in parts three or four of this article, respectively.

6. Information on the results of voting within the election district shall be entered in figures in the protocol of the territorial election commission on the results of the voting in the respective local elections for each election precinct and summarized for the election district (part of the election district).

7. The protocol on the results of the voting in the respective election district (part of the election district) shall be drawn up by the territorial election commission in three copies. Copies of the protocols are numbered and have the same legal force. The protocol of the territorial election commission on the results of voting may be prepared by technical means.

8. It is prohibited to fill in the protocol on the results of voting with pencil, to make any corrections to it without a corresponding decision of the territorial election commission, as well as to sign it and certify it with the seal of the territorial election commission until its final completion.

9. The protocol shall specify the date and time (hour and minutes) of the signing thereof by the members of the territorial election commission. Each copy of the protocol shall be signed by the chair, deputy chair, secretary and other members of the territorial election commission present at the election commission's meeting. A member of a territorial election commission present at a meeting of the commission is obliged to sign the protocol on the results of the voting. In case of disagreement with the actions of the commission or the results of the voting recorded in the protocol on the results of the voting, the member of the commission shall sign the protocol with the indication "With a dissenting opinion." A written statement of a dissenting opinion shall be attached to the respective protocol on the results of the voting. In case of absence of the signature of the member of the territorial election commission in the protocol on results of voting next to his surname, the reason for the absence of the signature is specified. The protocol shall be signed and certified by the seal of the territorial election commission only after its final completion. Candidates, agents of candidates, authorized persons of party organizations and official observers who were present at the meeting of the territorial election commission, also have the right to sign the first and second copies of the protocol on the results of the voting in the respective local elections. Failure to sign the protocol by individual members of the election commission shall entail no legal consequences for the validity of the protocol.

10. A member of the respective territorial election commission, a candidate, his/her agent, an authorized person of the party organization and an official observer who was present at the meeting during the drawing up of the protocol shall, upon their request, be immediately issued a copy of the protocol of the territorial election commission on the results of voting (including those marked "Corrected") in the amount of one protocol copy for a member of the commission, a candidate and each party organization, and one protocol copy for an official observer (a group of observers) from each public organization, foreign state or international organization. These copies shall be signed on each page by the chair and secretary of the territorial election commission and affixed with seal of the election commission. Copies of the protocol of the territorial election commission on the results of voting may be made by technical means.

11. If an election commission after the signing of the protocol and before it is transferred to the election commission, which establishes the results of the elections, finds inaccuracies in it (a miscalculation or error in the figures), it shall consider at its meeting the issue of amending the protocol by drawing up a new protocol marked "Corrected." The protocol marked "Corrected" is drawn up and signed in the manner and in the number of copies established by this article.

12. The first copy of the protocol of the territorial election commission on the results of the voting in the respective local elections in the respective election district (part of the election district), and if available – the respective copy of the protocol marked "Corrected", are packaged. The package shall be marked "Protocol on Voting Results" and shall indicate the name of the respective elections, an indication and/or the number of the election district, the date and time of packaging, the number of packaged documents, the signatures of all members of the territorial election commission present and the seal of the territorial election commission.



The second copy of the protocol of the territorial election commission on the results of the voting in the respective local elections in the respective election district, as well as the protocol marked "Corrected" (if available), shall be kept by the secretary of the territorial election commission. The third copy of the protocol, as well as the protocol marked "Corrected" (if available), shall be immediately posted for public review in the premises of the territorial election commission.

13. The first copy of the protocol of the territorial election commission on the results of voting within the election district (part of the election district), and in case of amendments to this protocol – also the protocol in which inaccuracies were made (miscalculations or errors in figures), together with the respective protocols and acts of precinct election commissions, decisions adopted on the basis of these acts, and (if available) protocols of the territorial election commission on the recounting of votes at the respective election precinct, dissenting opinions of members of the territorial election commission set out in writing, applications and complaints about violations by the territorial election commission of the procedure for establishing the results of voting and the decisions adopted by the election commission based on the results of their consideration, shall be transported by the territorial election commission to the election commission that establishes the results of the respective elections.

14. The territorial election commission, at a meeting at which the results of the voting in the respective election districts for the respective local elections are established, shall make a decision on determining three or, in case it is impossible, two members of the commission to transport the election documents from the respective local elections to the territorial election commission which establishes the results of the respective elections. The members of the commission, determined by the decision of the commission for transportation of election documents to the territorial election commission, must be representatives of different subjects of nomination of members to the territorial election commission. During the transportation of election documents, the members of the territorial election commission are accompanied by police officers and, if necessary, at the request of the territorial election commission, by employees of the Security Service of Ukraine, who must provide security during transportation. At their own request, other members of the territorial election commission who are not engaged in the transportation of election documents, candidates, agents of candidates and official observers may accompany the transportation of documents. Accompanying the transportation of election documents by other persons is prohibited. During the transportation of election documents, it is prohibited to open the packages with the ballots and the other election documents.

15. During the transportation of election documents, the seal of the territorial election commission shall be kept in a safe (metal cabinet) on the premises of the territorial election commission.

If the respective territorial election commission, which establishes the results of the respective elections, decides on the obligation to correct identified deficiencies by drawing up a protocol on the results of voting marked "Corrected," the territorial election commission which establishes the results of the voting shall consider amending the respective protocol at its meeting and draw up a protocol marked "Corrected" within the period determined by the territorial election commission, which establishes the results of the election. The protocol on the results of voting marked "Corrected" shall be immediately after it is drawn up transported to the territorial election commission, which establishes the results of the election, in accordance with the procedure specified in this article.

16. If the boundaries of a territorial election district comprise several villages, settlements, cities or several rayons in city, the respective village, settlement or rayon in city election commissions shall draw up protocols on the results of the voting in the respective elections of members of the Verkhovna Rada of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, or to the oblast, rayon, city, rayon in city, settlement or village councils (of a territorial community with 10,000 or more voters) within the boundaries of a part of the territorial district – at the election precincts formed in the respective village, settlement, city or rayon in city.

If in the territory of a village, settlement, city or rayon in city in the cities of Kyiv and Sevastopol more than one territorial or multi-member election district is formed, the respective election commission shall draw up protocols on the results of voting within all such districts after the receipt and consideration of the documents of the respective precinct election commissions in the village, settlement, city or rayon in city.

If the mandate of the territorial election commission, which establishes the results of voting within the territorial election district, extends to part of the respective territorial election district, the results of voting within the respective district as a whole shall be established by the territorial election commission, defined by this article, on the basis of the protocols of the territorial election commissions on the results of voting within a part of the territorial election district (at election precincts formed in the territory of the respective rayon, city or rayon in city of the cities of Kyiv and Sevastopol).

The territorial election commission is obliged to establish the results of voting within the territorial or multi-member election districts regardless of the number of election precincts in the respective district, in which the results of the voting were declared invalid or in which voting was not organized and conducted on election day, in accordance with the requirements of this Code. It is prohibited to declare voting invalid within the territorial or the multi-member election district.

If voting at all election precincts of a territorial or multi-member election district on the day of voting was not organized and conducted or was declared invalid in accordance with the requirements of this Code, the territorial election commission shall establish that voting within the respective election district did not take place. In this case, the protocol of the territorial election commission on the results of voting within the respective election district (part of the election district) for the respective local elections shall contain only the information specified in paragraphs 1 to 5 of part two of this article. In place of other information, a dash is put.

The protocol on the results of the voting shall be adopted by the territorial election commission, which shall establish the results of the respective local elections in accordance with the procedure provided for in Article 254 of this Code.

**Article 256.** Establishing Results of Elections of Members of the Verkhovna Rada of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, the Oblast, Rayon and Rayon in City, as well as City, Village and Settlement Council (in a Territorial Community with 10,000 or more Voters)

1. The Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea or an oblast, rayon, rayon in city, city, village or settlement election commission shall at its meeting no later than the twelfth day after the day of voting, based on the protocols on the results of the voting (including those marked “Corrected”) in the territorial election districts in the respective local election, establish the results of the election in the unified multi-member election district by drawing up a protocol on the results of the elections.

The territorial election commission is obliged to establish the results of the elections of the council members regardless of the number of election precincts or election districts, in which or within which voting was not organized and conducted in accordance with the requirements of this Code.

The territorial election commission may extend, but no more than by one day, the indicated time period, if necessary, for the territorial election commission to submit a protocol with the mark “Corrected.”

Should a territorial election commission fail to draw up, or fail to draw up properly, a protocol on the voting results (including with the mark “Corrected”), within the time limit established by this Code, or should it fail to deliver it to the Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea or an oblast, rayon, rayon in city, city, village or settlement election commission (of a territorial community with 10,000 or more voters), the Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea or an oblast, rayon, rayon in city, city, village or settlement election commission (of a territorial community with 10,000 or more voters) shall exercise the powers of a territorial election commission with regard to establishing the voting results in the respective territorial election district (or part of the territorial election district). In this case, the Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea or the oblast, rayon, rayon in city, city, village or settlement election commission (of a territorial community with 10,000 or more voters) shall demand the territorial election commission to submit the election documents specified in Part ten of Article 251 of this Code and ensure the transportation thereof, and may also require other documents.

The following data shall, in words and in figures, be entered into the protocol on the results of the election of the members of the Verkhovna Rada of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea or an oblast,

rayon, rayon in city, as well as city, village or settlement council (of a territorial community with 10,000 or more voters):

- 1) the number of ballot papers printed at the request of the territorial election commission;
- 2) the number of ballot papers received by precinct election commissions;
- 3) the number of the unused ballot papers invalidated by precinct election commissions;
- 4) the number of voters included in the voter lists for election precincts;
- 5) the number of voters who received ballot papers;
- 6) the number of ballot papers at the election precincts that were not subject to counting;
- 7) the number of voters who took part in the voting;
- 8) the number of ballot papers declared invalid;
- 9) the total number of votes of voters who supported territorial electoral lists of candidates of each party organization, in each territorial district;
- 10) the number of votes of voters who supported each candidate included into the electoral list of candidates of each party organization, in each territorial district;
- 11) the number of votes of voters who supported the entire territorial list of candidates from each party organization, without supporting a specific candidate from this list, in each territorial district;
- 12) the total number of votes of voters who supported all territorial electoral lists of candidates from each party organization in all territorial districts within the unified multi-member district;
- 13) the total number of votes of voters who supported all territorial electoral lists of candidates from all party organizations in all territorial districts within the unified multi-member district;
- 14) the percentage of the total number of votes of voters who supported all territorial electoral lists of candidates from each party organization in all territorial districts within the unified multi-member election district (paragraph 12 of this part) in ratio to the total number of votes supported by all territorial electoral lists of candidates from all party organizations in all territorial districts within the unified multi-member district (paragraph 13 of this part).

The protocol on the results of the elections of members of the Verkhovna Rada of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea or an oblast, rayon, rayon in city, as well as city, village or settlement council (of a territorial community with 10,000 or more voters) shall also contain the information provided by Articles 257 to 259 of this Code.

2. Information on the results of voting shall in figures be entered in the protocol of the territorial election commission on the results of the elections. The information specified in paragraphs 2 to 8 of part one of this article shall be entered for each territorial election district and in total for the unified multi-member election district, and the information specified in paragraphs 9 to 11 of part one of this article – for each territorial election district. In this case, the information specified in paragraph 14 of part one of this article shall be determined to the nearest hundredth of a percent. The protocol on the results of the elections of members shall be drawn up in two copies, signed by the chair, deputy chair, secretary, and other members of the territorial election commission present at the meeting of the respective election commission and certified by the seal of this election commission. The protocol shall indicate the date and time (hour and minutes) of its signing by the members of the respective election commission. In case of disagreement with the established election results recorded in the protocol of the territorial election commission, the member of this election commission shall sign the protocol marked "With a dissenting opinion." A written statement of a dissenting opinion shall be attached to the protocol of the results of the

elections of members. If the protocol do not contain the signature of a member of the territorial election commission, the reason for the absence of a member of this election commission at its meeting shall be indicated next to his or her surname. Candidates and representatives of parties in the territorial election commission present during the establishment of the results of elections of members have the right to sign the first copy of the protocol. The content of the protocol shall be immediately published on the official website (if any) of the territorial election commission, the website of the Verkhovna Rada of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea or of the respective local council (if available) or in another manner determined by these commissions and may be published on the website of regional or territorial bodies of the Central Election Commission.

Information on the results of the elections to the Verkhovna Rada of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea or an oblast, rayon, rayon in city, as well as city, village or settlement council (of a territorial community with 10,000 or more voters) shall be immediately transferred to the Central Election Commission in accordance with the procedure established thereof.

3. The territorial election commission, based on the information specified in paragraph 12 of part one of this Article, shall determine the organizations of parties that have the right to participate in the distribution of seats. The right to participate in the distribution of seats is granted to party organizations, the territorial electoral lists of which received five or more percent of the total number of votes of voters who supported territorial electoral lists from all party organizations within the unified multi-member election district.

#### **Article 257.** Electoral Quota

1. The Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea or an oblast, rayon, city, rayon in city, village or settlement election commission enters in the protocol on the election results information on the organizations of parties which in accordance with part three of Article 256 of this Code have the right to participate in the distribution of seats in the respective local elections.

2. The territorial election commission shall establish the total number of votes cast in support of all territorial electoral lists of party organizations eligible to participate in the distribution of seats within the unified multi-member election district. This number is entered in figures in the protocol on the results of the election of council members.

3. The territorial election commission shall establish the number of votes of voters necessary to obtain one local council seat (the electoral quota). The electoral quota is calculated as an integer of the result of the division of the total number of votes of voters cast in support of the territorial lists of party organizations that are entitled to participate in the distribution of member seats established in accordance with Part two of this Article, by the number established by subtracting the total number of seats guaranteed for each party according to Article 260 of this Code from the total number of members of the Verkhovna Rada of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea or an oblast, rayon, rayon in city, as well as city, village or settlement council (of a territorial community with 10,000 or more voters).

#### **Article 258.** Establishing the Number of Seats Received by Territorial Electoral Lists of Candidates from Party Organizations

1. In each territorial election district, seats are distributed among the territorial electoral lists of candidates from party organizations entitled to participate in the distribution of seats, in proportion to the number of votes cast in support of the respective territorial electoral list, in the number determined in accordance with parts two to four of this article.

2. In order to determine the number of council members' seats obtained by the territorial electoral list of candidates from a party organization, the number of votes cast in the territorial district in support of the respective territorial electoral list (paragraph 9 of part one of Article 256 of this Code) shall be divided by the electoral quota according to part three of Article 257 of this Code. An integer of the received quotient shall be considered the number of seats to be granted to candidates included in the respective regional electoral list from this party organization.

3. The territorial election shall establish the number of votes of voters cast in support of the territorial electoral list of the respective party organization which remain unused as a result of the distribution of seats in this territorial election district (hereinafter, the number of unused votes of voters cast in the territorial district), by way of subtracting from the number of votes of voters cast in support of the respective territorial electoral list (paragraph 9 of the first part of Article 256 of this Code) the product of the electoral quota multiplied by the number of seats received by candidates included in the respective territorial electoral list from this party organization.

4. The territorial election commission summarizes the number of seats received by candidates included in the territorial electoral lists of all party organizations in the respective territorial district, establishing thereby the total number of seats distributed in the respective territorial district

5. Repealed.

6. The territorial election commission shall in figures enter in the protocol on the results of the election of council members in each territorial district the following information:

- 1) the number of seats received by candidates included in each territorial electoral list of each party organization entitled to participate in the distribution of seats determined in accordance with part two of this Article;
- 2) the total number of council seats distributed in each territorial district, determined in accordance with part four of this article;
- 3) the number of unused votes of voters cast in the territorial election district in support of the electoral list of each party organization entitled to participate in the distribution of seats determined in accordance with part three of this article.

7. If, as a result of the elections in the respective district, the number of seats received by the party organization is greater than the number of persons included in the territorial electoral list by the respective party organization, the entire remainder of unused votes (including those forming an integer part of the electoral quota) is added to the votes cast in the unified multi-member district in support of the respective electoral list of this party organization.

**Article 259.** Establishing Council Members Elected in Territorial Election Districts

1. The Territorial Election Commission shall establish the order of candidates in each territorial electoral list of each party organization, established on the basis of due consideration of the results of voting by voters in the respective territorial election district, in accordance with Part two of this Article.

2. The candidates, who received the number of votes of voters that is equal or exceeds 25 percent of the amount of the electoral quota, determined in accordance with Part three of Article 257 of this Code, shall be placed at the beginning of the territorial electoral list of the respective party organization in the descending order of the percentage of votes of voters, who supported the respective candidate. When two candidates received an equal percentage of votes, the candidate placed higher in the territorial electoral list of candidates from a party organization shall take the higher place. Following the candidates, who received the number of votes of voters that is equal to, or exceeds 25 percent of the amount of the electoral quota, other candidates shall be placed in the territorial electoral list in the order determined by the party organization when nominating candidates.

The territorial election commission shall enter in the protocol on the results of the elections the territorial electoral lists of candidates from each party organization in each territorial district according to the sequence of candidates established in accordance with Part two of this Article, in the protocol on the results of the election of council members, as well as a mark that they are elected.

3. Council members elected from a party organization in the respective territorial election district shall be considered the candidates in the number that corresponds to the number of seats received by candidates included in the territorial electoral list of this party organization, as stipulated by clause one of Part six of Article 258 of this Code, according to the sequence of

candidates in the territorial electoral list of this party organization determined in accordance with Part two of this Article.

4. The territorial election commission shall in the protocol on the results of the elections with regard to all council member elected specify the following information:

- 1) last name, first name (all first names), patronymic name (if any);
- 2) year of birth;
- 3) educational background;
- 4) job position (occupation), place of work;
- 5) party membership;
- 6) place of residence;
- 7) the territorial election district, in which a council member is elected;
- 8) the name of the party organization, from which a council member was elected.

**Article 260.** Establishing Number of Seats and Determining Council Members Elected in the Unified Multi-Member Election District

1. The number of council seats to be distributed in the unified multi-member election district shall be established by way of subtracting the number of seats distributed in territorial districts from the total number of seats equal to the number of members of the Verkhovna Rada of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea or an oblast, rayon, city, rayon in city, village or settlement council.

A local organization of a political party that has received the right to participate in the distribution of seats in the respective local elections is guaranteed to receive one seat, which is distributed in order of priority according to the unified electoral list approved by the party.

2. Based on the information specified in clause three of Part six of Article 258 of this Code, the territorial election commission shall establish the total number of unused votes of voters cast in the unified multi-member election district in support of the electoral list of each party organization.

3. In order to determine the number of local council seats received by a unified electoral list of candidates from a party organization, the total number of unused votes of voters cast in the unified multi-member election district in support of the electoral list of candidates from the respective party organization, determined in accordance with Part two of this Article, shall be divided by the electoral quota determined in accordance with Part three of Article 257 of this Code. An integer of the received quotient shall be deemed the number of council seats to be granted to candidates included in the respective unified electoral list from this party organization. Fractional reminders up to three decimal places shall be taken into consideration when distributing the remaining seats in accordance with Part Four of this Article.

4. Party organizations, whose unified electoral lists have larger fractional reminders, as a result of the division performed in accordance with Part three of this Article, shall receive one additional mandate each beginning with the unified electoral list of candidates of the party organization, which has obtained the larger fractional reminder. If two or more electoral lists of party organizations' candidates have equal fractional reminders, the first to receive an additional mandate shall be the electoral list of the party organization, the candidates of which received the higher number of votes of voters in the unified multi-member election district.

The distribution of additional seats, which are determined in accordance with part one of this article and are subject to distribution in the unified multi-member district, shall be deemed terminated after the total number of seats has been exhausted.

5. The council members elected from a party organization shall be deemed the candidates included in the unified electoral list of this party organization in a number that corresponds to the number of seats determined in accordance with Parts three and four of this Article, according to

the sequence of candidates in the unified electoral list of this party organization. In this case, the candidates that are deemed elected in the territorial election districts shall not be taken into account when distributing seats in the unified multi-member election district.

6. The territorial election commission shall in figures enter the following information in the protocol of the results of the election of local council:

- 1) the number of seats to be distributed in the unified multi-member election district;
- 2) the total number of unused votes of voters cast in the unified multi-member election district in support of the electoral list of candidates from each party organization, which takes part in the distribution of seats, determined in accordance with part two of this article;
- 3) the number of seats received by candidates included in the unified electoral list of candidates from each party organization, which takes part in the distribution of seats, determined in accordance with parts three and four of this article.

If a person, in case of simultaneous voting in a unified single-member district for the election of village, settlement or city mayor and a multi-member district for the election of a local council, is recognized as elected in the unified single-member election district, such person may not be registered as a council member.

7. The territorial election commission shall indicate the following information in the protocol of results of the elections of council members as regards each elected in the unified multi-member election district:

- 1) last name, first name (all first names), patronymic names (if any);
- 2) year of birth;
- 3) educational background;
- 4) job position (occupation), place of employment;
- 5) party membership;
- 6) place of residence;
- 7) the unified multi-member election, in which a council member was elected;
- 8) the name of the party, from which a council member was elected.

In territorial electoral lists it shall be necessary to put a mark as regards local council members elected in the unified multi-member election district on them being elected in this district.

Articles 261 – 267. *Repealed.*

**Article 268.** Establishing the Results of Elections of Village, Settlement and City Council (of a Territorial Community with up to 10,000 Voters) and Elections of Village, Settlement and City Mayor

1. The territorial election commission shall establish the results of the voting in the respective local elections on the day of voting (the day of repeat voting) in the following order:

- 1) the village, settlement or city (of a city without rayon division) election commission – based on the protocols of precinct election commissions on the counting of votes at election precincts for the respective local elections establishes:
  - a) the results of the voting in elections of the village, settlement and city council – in multi-member districts;
  - b) the results of the voting in the elections of village, settlement and city mayor – in the unified single-member district;

- 2) the rayon in city election commission (in cities where rayon in city councils are formed) – shall establish the voting results of the elections of rayon in city councils based on the protocols of precinct election commissions on the counting of votes at election precincts;
- 3) the rayon election commission – shall establish the voting results on the elections of the rayon council in the respective multi-member districts based of the protocols of village, settlement and city election commissions on the results of the voting;
- 4) the city election commission in a city with rayon division – based on the protocols of the rayon in city election commissions on the voting results, shall establish:
  - a) the results of the voting in the elections of the city council;
  - b) the results of the voting for the city mayor.

The protocols of precinct election commissions on the counting of votes at the election precinct and of territorial election commissions on the results of the voting shall be adopted by the territorial election commission that establishes the results of the respective local elections in accordance with Article 254 of this Code.

2. The respective territorial election commission based on the protocols specified in part one of this article (including protocols marked "Corrected"), and in case of a recount of votes – based on protocols of the respective territorial election commission on recounting votes at the election precinct, shall no later than on the twelfth day from the day of voting (and in case of repeat voting – no later than on the fifth day from the day of repeat voting) establish the results of the voting in the respective local elections of village, settlement or city mayor or council members in multi-member election districts on election day (day of repeat voting) and draws up the protocol on this.

The following information shall in figures be entered in the protocol on the results of the voting in the respective multi-member or unified single-member district for the respective local elections:

- 1) the number of ballot papers produced upon order of the election commission;
- 2) the number of ballot papers received by precinct election commissions;
- 3) the number of the unused ballot papers invalidated by precinct election commissions;
- 4) the number of voters included in the voter lists for election precincts;
- 5) the number of voters who received ballot papers;
- 6) the number of ballot papers at the election precincts that were not subject to counting;
- 7) the number of voters who took part in the voting;
- 8) the number of ballot papers declared invalid;
- 9) the number of votes cast for each candidate;
- 10) the surname, first name (all first names) and patronymic (if any) of the candidate for the local council or candidate for the position of village, settlement or city mayor who received the largest number of votes, as well as the percentage of votes cast for him, in relation to the number of voters who took part in the voting in the respective district.

3. The protocol of the territorial election commission on the results of the voting in the elections of local council members in a multi-member district or a village, settlement or city mayor shall be drawn up in two copies. The minutes shall be signed by the chair, deputy chair, secretary, and other members of the election commission present at its meeting and certified by the seal of the commission. The protocol shall indicate the date and time (hour and minutes) of its signing by the members of the election commission. The protocol of a territorial election commission on the voting results may be prepared by technical means.

4. A member of the territorial election commission present at the meeting is obliged to sign the protocol on the results of the voting in the elections of local council members in the multi-member district or the village, settlement or city mayor. In case of disagreement with the established voting



results recorded in the protocol of the territorial election commission, a member of the territorial election commission shall sign the protocol marked "With a dissenting opinion." A written statement of a dissenting opinion shall be attached to the protocol on the results of the voting in the respective local elections. If the protocol does not contain the signature of a member of the territorial election commission, the reason for the absence of the signature shall be indicated opposite his or her surname. Failure to sign the protocol by individual members of the election commission shall not entail legal consequences for the validity of the protocol.

5. The first copy of the protocol may be signed by candidates, their agents, representatives or authorized persons of party organizations and official observers who were present during the establishment of the results of the voting in the elections of council members in a multi-member district or a village, settlement or city mayor.

6. The second copy of the protocol shall be immediately posted for public review on the premises of the territorial election commission.

7. A member of the respective territorial election commission, a candidate, his agent or a representative or authorized person of the party organization or an official observer who was present at the meeting during the drawing up of the protocol shall at their request immediately receive protocols (including those marked "Corrected") in the amount of one copy of the protocol for a member of the commission, a candidate and each party organization, and one copy of the protocol for an official observer (a group of observers) from each public organization, foreign state or international organization. These copies shall be signed on each page by the chair and secretary of the territorial election commission and affixed with the election commission's seal. Copies of the protocol of a territorial election commission on the results of voting may be made by technical means.

8. If inaccuracies are found in the protocols after it has been signed, the territorial election commission at its meeting shall consider the issue of making changes to the protocol by drawing up a new protocol, which shall be marked "Corrected." The protocol marked "Corrected" is drawn up and signed in the manner and in the number of copies established by this article.

**Article 269.** Decision of a Territorial Election Commission Based on Voting Results in Elections of Village, Settlement or City Council (of a Territorial Community with up to 10,000 Voters) in a Multi-Member District

1. A village, settlement or city election commission in the respective elections of a village, settlement or city council (of a territorial community with up to 10,000 voters) shall when establishing the results of the elections in the respective multi-member election district adopt one of the following decisions:

- 1) to recognize local council members as elected in the respective multi-member election district;
- 2) to appoint a repeat voting in the respective multi-member election district;
- 3) to declare the elections in the respective multi-member election district invalid;
- 4) on calling repeat elections in a multi-member district as regard the number of remaining seats.

2. The territorial election commission in the respective election shall recognize those council members elected in the multi-member election district (in a number that is equal to the number of seats in the multi-member election district) who based on the voting results in the respective multi-member election district obtained the highest number of votes of voters compared to other candidates registered in the same election district.

3. In the event, if based on the voting results in the respective multi-member election district, two or more candidates for local council, who have received the same number of votes, are entitled to claim the last seat available in this election district, the territorial election commission shall adopt a decision to appoint repeat voting as regards those candidates.

4. If according to the results of the voting in the respective multi-member district, the number of council members elected is smaller than the number of seats in that district, the territorial election commission shall decide to call repeat elections in that district regarding those seats that remain vacant.

5. If only one candidate was on the ballot paper in a multi-member district, the candidate shall be considered elected if more than half of the votes of the voters who took part in the voting are cast for him.

6. If there are grounds specified in Article 280 of this Code, the territorial election commission shall make a decision to recognize the election as not having taken place and to call repeat elections of the village, settlement or city council (of a territorial community with up to 10,000 voters) in the respective multi-member district;

Articles 270 – 277. *Repealed.*

**Article 278.** A Decision of a Territorial Election Commission Based on Voting Results in Elections of Village, Settlement and City Mayor

1. A village, settlement or city election commission based on the protocol on the results of the voting in the elections of a village, settlement or city mayor shall make one of the following decisions:

- 1) to declare a person elected as village, settlement or city mayor;
- 2) to appoint repeat voting for an election of a village, settlement or city mayor;
- 3) to declare an election of a village, settlement or city mayor as not having taken place and to appoint repeat elections because of this.

2. The territorial election commission of the respective elections shall declare elected as village, settlement or city mayor (of a city with up to 75,000 people) the candidate who received the highest number of votes compared to other candidates.

3. A city (of a city with 75,000 or more voters) territorial election commission based on the results of voting on election day shall declare elected as mayor the candidate supported by more than half of the votes of voters who took part in the voting.

4. If, as a result of voting on election day, two or more candidates received the largest and, at the same time, an equal number of votes, a territorial election commission shall decide to call a repeat voting for these candidates.

5. If only one candidate was included in the ballot paper for the election of village, settlement or city mayor, he or she shall be declared elected if the number of votes cast for him or her exceeds 50 percent of the number of voters who took part in the voting.

6. The city (in a city with 75,000 or more voters) territorial election commission decides to hold a repeat voting if more than two mayoral candidates were included in the ballot for the mayoral election, and none of the candidates received more than half of the votes cast on the election day.

7. If there are grounds specified in Article 280 of this Code, a territorial election commission shall make a decision to declare the election as not having taken place and to call repeat elections of a village, settlement or city mayor.

Article 279. *Repealed.*

**Article 280.** Grounds for Calling Repeat Elections

1. A territorial election commission may adopt a decision to declare the elections of local council members in a multi-member district or a village, settlement or city mayor as such that have not taken place, and a decision to call repeat elections if:

- 1) only one candidate was included on the ballot for the day of elections or for the day of repeat voting of local council members in a multi-member district or a village, settlement or city mayor and the number of votes of voters cast in his or her support of him constitutes no

more than 50 percent of the number of voters who took part in the voting;

- 2) two candidates for city mayor were included in the ballot in the election of a city mayor (of city with 75,000 and more voters), and, based on the voting results, none of the candidates received in their support more than half of the votes of voters who took part in the voting;
- 3) two or more candidates were included in the ballot for voting on the day of repeat voting, and according to the results of the repeat voting, two or more candidates received the largest and, at the same time, an equal number of votes in their support;
- 4) as a result of the elections in a multi-member district there are vacant seats (the number of persons elected in a multi-member district is less than the number of seats distributed in this election district). Repeat elections in such election district shall be called for the number of seats remaining vacant;
- 5) as of the day of voting there are no candidates for local council or candidates for the position of a village, settlement or city mayor left in the ballot paper;
- 6) the voting on the day of voting (the day of repeat voting) was declared invalid or was not organized and held in accordance with this Code at all election precincts of the respective district;
- 7) a person after his or her election did not obtain the local council seat or the powers of a village, settlement or city mayor in accordance with the procedure established by this Code, on the grounds specified in paragraphs 3 to 6 of part one and part four of Article 231 of this Code;
- 8) a person elected as village, settlement or city mayor is considered having renounced his or her seat or the position of village, settlement or city mayor;
- 9) the election process of local elections was suspended due to the imposition of martial law or a state of emergency in Ukraine or in certain localities of it.

2. The territorial election commission may adopt a decision to declare elections to the Verkhovna Rada of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea or oblast, rayon, rayon in city, as well as city, village or settlement councils (of territorial communities with 10,000 or more voters) such that have not taken place, and a decision to call a repeat elections if:

- 1) there is not a single electoral list of a party organization left on the ballot in the unified multi-member election district on the day of voting;
- 2) based on the election results, it is impossible to form two-thirds of the composition of the Verkhovna Rada of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea or the respective local council;
- 3) the election process of local elections was suspended due to the imposition of martial law or a state of emergency in Ukraine or in certain localities of it.

**Article 281.** Repeat Voting for Members of Village, Settlement and City Council (of a Territorial Community with up to 10,000 Voters), or for Village, Settlement and City Mayor

1. A territorial election commission shall appoint repeat voting in the respective election district if:

- 1) in the election district on the day of voting two or more candidates for local council or for village, settlement or city mayor received the largest and, at the same time, an equal number of votes in their support;
- 2) two candidates for a city mayor (in a city with 75,000 and more voters) were included in the ballot on the day of voting, and, based on the voting results, none of the candidates received in their support more than half of the votes of voters who took part in the voting;

Repeat voting shall be scheduled on a Sunday – within three weeks after the date of the decision to appoint repeat voting.

The territorial election commission shall inform the Central Election Commission, the respective local council and the State Voter Register maintenance body and notify the public of the decision to hold repeat voting no later than the day after its adoption.

2. Preparation for and conduct of repeat voting, the vote counting, and the establishment of the results of the voting and the results of the respective elections in the respective election district shall be performed in accordance with the procedure stipulated by this Code, with the peculiarities established by this Article.

3. A ballot paper for repeat voting called in accordance with clause 1 of Part one of this Article shall include the candidates for local council in a multi-member district or village, settlement or city mayor who received the highest and, at the same time, an equal number of votes of voters except for candidates, who, following the day of voting, have withdrawn.

4. A ballot paper for repeat voting called in accordance with clause 1 of Part one of this Article shall include the two candidates for a city mayor, who, based on the voting results in the election of a city mayor, received the largest number of votes, except for those candidates who after the day of voting have withdrawn.

5. The text of the ballot papers shall be approved by the territorial election commission simultaneously with the decision on the calling the repeat voting.

6. If no later than five days prior to the day of repeat voting all candidates included on the ballot for repeat voting except one have applied to withdraw in accordance with clause 1 of Part one of Article 231 of this Code, or have been withdrawn in accordance with Part four of Article 231 of this Code, a territorial election commission shall adopt a decision to cancel the repeat voting and to declare the candidate, who among the candidates included in the ballot for repeat voting elected did not file the said application, elected.

7. For repeat voting, voter lists at regular election precincts shall be prepared by the State Voter Register maintaining bodies and submitted to precincts election commissions no later than two days before the day of repeat voting in accordance with the procedure established by this Code.

Voter lists for repeat voting at special election precincts established in inpatient health care facilities shall be prepared by the respective precinct election commissions no later than two days before the day of repeat voting on the basis of information provided by the heads of these institutions.

The list of voters for repeat voting in elections of local council members in a multi-member district shall include only voters whose electoral address belongs to the respective multi-member district.

The form of the voter list for repeat voting shall be established by the Central Election Commission.

Invitations shall be submitted by the State Voter Register maintenance bodies to the respective precinct election commissions of ordinary election precincts no later than five days before the day of repeat voting.

The precinct election commission shall send or otherwise deliver to each voter a personal invitation no later than three days before the day of repeat voting.

8. Preparation for and conduct of repeat voting shall be performed by precinct election commissions of election precincts, having the same composition of the same members as the ones who conducted the voting in the respective elections.

#### **Article 282. Official Promulgation of Results of Local Elections**

1. The territorial election commission for the respective local elections shall no later than on the fifth day of the day of establishing the results of the elections promulgate the results of the elections of the Verkhovna Rada of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea or an oblast, city, rayon in city, rayon, settlement or village council, or a village, settlement or city mayor, as well as place them on the official website of the commission or the respective council (if any), and on the official website of a regional or territorial body of the Central Election Commission (in case of their formation).

2. The results of the elections of the Verkhovna Rada of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the local councils for the publication specified in Part one of this Article shall be in the form of a list of all elected members of the respective local councils, alphabetically listing the last names, first names (all first names), patronymic names (if available) of all candidates, their date, month and year of birth, educational background; party membership; place of employment (occupation), job position; place of residence, the district in which the council member is elected, the number of votes cast in his or her support, and the name of the local organization of the political party from which the council member was elected (or marked "Nominated through self-nomination").

The announcement on the results of the elections and the elected village, settlement or city mayor shall include the last name, first name (all first names), patronymic name (if available) of the candidate elected, his or her date, month and year of birth, educational background; party membership; place of employment (occupation), job position; place of residence, the number of votes cast in his or her support, and the name of the local organization of the political party from which the village, settlement or city mayor was elected (or marked "Nominated through self-nomination").

3. The official promulgation by the territorial election commission of the results of the respective election of the village, settlement or the city mayor shall serve the grounds for dismissal (of a position) or termination of activity incompatible with the position of a member of the Verkhovna Rada of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea or village, settlement or city mayor, and/or the decision to terminate another representative mandate of a person elected as local council member or as village, settlement or city mayor.

#### **Article 283.** Registration of Elected Council Members and Village, Settlement and City Mayor

1. A person elected as a member of the Verkhovna Rada of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, an oblast, rayon, city, rayon in a city, village or settlement council or a village, settlement or city mayor is obliged to submit to the territorial election commission for the respective local elections within twenty days from the date of the official promulgation of the election results an application for registration as council member or as village, settlement or city mayor, and in case her or she possesses another representative mandate – a copy of the registered application for termination of another representative mandate submitted either to the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine, the Verkhovna Rada of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea or the respective local council.

A person elected as a member of the Verkhovna Rada of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea or as village, settlement or city mayor also submits a document on dismissal or termination of activities incompatible with the mandate of a member of the Verkhovna Rada of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea or the position of village, settlement or city mayor.

If such a person does not hold a position or does not carry out activities that are incompatible with the respective mandate or the position of village, settlement or city mayor, and/or does not have any other representative mandate, this shall be stated in the application for registration.

2. If a person who is elected council member or village, settlement or city mayor addresses a territorial election commission stating a presence of valid reasons that prevent him or her from complying with the requirements of Part one of this Article, the territorial election commission may adopt a decision either to accept the reasons as valid and establishing a different deadline for complying with the aforementioned requirements or refusing to accept the reasons.

3. Upon receipt of the documents specified in Part one of this Article, the territorial election commission shall, no later than on the fifth day, adopt a decision to register the elected person as a local council member or village, settlement or city mayor.

4. If a person elected as a council member in a multi-member district or as village, settlement or city mayor fails to comply with the requirements of Part one of this Article before the deadlines specified in Parts one and two of this Article, the territorial election commission shall adopt a decision declaring this person as one who has refused to accept the mandate or the position of village, settlement or city mayor, and shall adopt a decision to call a repeat voting of a council member in the multi-member district or of a village, settlement or city mayor.

In case of occurrence (discovery) before the registration of circumstances specified in clause 3-6 of part one and part four of Article 231 of this Code, the respective territorial election commission shall make a decision on declaring the respective person as not having obtained the local council seat or the powers of village, settlement or city mayor and appoint repeat voting.

5. If a person elected as a council member on an electoral list of a local party organization fails to comply with the requirements of Part one of this Article before the deadlines specified in Parts one and two of this Article or this person submits to the election commission an application of withdrawal of the mandate, or if circumstances specified in paragraphs 3-6 of part one and part four of Article 231 of this Code occur (or are discovered), the election commission shall decide to recognize him or her as not having acquired a mandate and to declare as the elected member of the Verkhovna Rada of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea or of the oblast, rayon, rayon in city, as well as city, village, settlement or council (of a territorial community with 10,000 or more voters) the next candidate in the respective territorial or unified multi-member electoral list of candidates from the respective party organization, which nominated the person who did not obtain the mandate.

In case of the exhaustion of the respective territorial electoral list, the order of obtaining the seat shall be transferred to the unified multi-member electoral list of the same party organization. If the unified electoral list of the party organization is exhausted, such a seat remains vacant.

6. The decisions of the territorial election commission on registration of a council member or a village, settlement or city mayor are announced at the plenary session of the respective village, settlement, rayon in city, city or oblast council or the Verkhovna Rada of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and are grounds for acquiring the powers of a council member or village, settlement or city mayor.

7. Copies of decisions of the territorial election commission adopted in accordance with Parts three and four of this Article shall be immediately sent to the Central Election Commission in accordance with the requirements established thereof.

#### **Chapter XXXI. REPLACEMENT OF COUNCIL MEMBERS, EXTRAORDINARY, REPEAT, BY-, SUPPLEMENTARY AND FIRST LOCAL ELECTIONS**

##### **Article 284.** Replacement of Local Council Members whose Powers were Terminated Early

1. In the case of early termination of powers of members of the Verkhovna Rada of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea or an oblast, rayon, rayon in city, or a city, village or settlement council (of a territorial community with 10,000 or more voters) on the grounds and in the manner prescribed by the Constitution and the Laws of Ukraine, the Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea or an oblast, rayon, rayon in city, city, village or settlement election commission shall declare such candidate elected as a council member who is placed next on the list in the respective territorial or unified electoral list of candidates from this party organization pursuant to the procedure provided for by Part five of Article 283 of this Code.

2. Registration of a person specified in part one of this article as a member of the Verkhovna Rada of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea or an oblast, rayon, rayon in city, or city, village, settlement council (of a territorial community with 10,000 or more voters) shall be carried out by the respective territorial election commission in accordance with the procedure provided for in Article 283 of this Code.

##### **Article 285.** By-Election of Members of a Village, Settlement and City Council (of a territorial community with up to 10,000 voters) in a Multi-Member Election District

1. In the event if a member of a village, settlement or city council (of a territorial community with up to 10,000 voters) who was elected in a multi-member election district has terminated his or her powers early, or if his or her powers was terminated early on the grounds and in the manner prescribed by the Constitution and the Laws of Ukraine, a territorial election commission may adopt a decision to call a by-election in the respective election district.

A by-election for local council shall be called by a territorial election commission within ten days from the day of receipt by the commission of a notification from the respective local council on the early termination of powers of a council member, but no later than sixty days before a forthcoming by-election determined in accordance with Article 5 of this Code.

In other cases, a by-election of a local council member shall not be called and shall not be held.

2. A by-election for local council in the multi-member districts shall be held in the manner and in accordance with the time frame provided for by this Code.

When calling elections, the territorial election commission shall determine the number of seats that will be distributed in such elections in the multi-member district. A single council member may be elected in a by-election in a multi-member district.

If, after a by-election are appointed but before the respective election process in a multi-member district begins, the powers of another council members elected in the same election district are terminated, the territorial election commission shall change the number of seats to be distributed in the by-election in such election district. Such a decision shall be made no later than the day preceding the day of the beginning of the election process of the respective local elections.

3. By-elections shall be held twice a year – on the last Sunday in March and the last Sunday in October. In the year of ordinary local elections, by-elections shall not be called and shall not be held unless, in connection with the early termination of the powers of a local council member, the composition of the respective local council has become invalid.

#### **Article 286. Conduct of Repeat Elections**

1. A repeat election shall be called in the cases, in the manner and in accordance with the time frame stipulated by this Code.

2. A repeat local election shall be held in the same election districts and at the same election precincts, in the manner and in accordance with the time frame stipulated by this Code.

3. Repeat elections shall be held in accordance with the same electoral system as was used in the elections, which were declared not having taken place.

4. If, in a multi-member election district for the elections of village, settlement or city council (of a territorial community with up to 10,000 voters), council members were elected in a number less than the number of seats in that election district, repeat elections in such election district shall be held for the number of seats that remained vacant as a result of the elections.

#### **Article 287. Conduct of Extraordinary Local Elections**

1. Extraordinary elections of the Verkhovna Rada of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, a local council, a village, settlement or city mayor, or head of village or settlement shall be held in the manner and in accordance with the time frame stipulated by this Code for local elections.

2. The Verkhovna Rada of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, a local council or a village, settlement or city mayor elected in extraordinary elections shall exercise their powers until a new composition of the council, a new village, settlement or city mayor, or a new village or settlement head is elected in the next ordinary local elections held in accordance with the procedure specified by the Constitution of Ukraine and the Laws of Ukraine.

3. In the year of ordinary local elections, extraordinary elections of council members or village, settlement or city mayors shall not be appointed and shall not be held, unless the powers of a village, settlement or city mayor have been terminated more than nine months before the ordinary local elections.

4. The Verkhovna Rada of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea or a local council shall immediately notify the respective territorial election commission of the early termination of powers of a member of the Verkhovna Rada of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea or a local council member.

**Article 288.** The First Local Elections

1. The first elections of members of local councils, village, settlement or city mayors are called in case of amalgamation of territorial communities, the formation of new administrative-territorial units, other changes of the administrative-territorial structure or changes as a result of which a new local self-government body is formed.

First local elections shall be held in the manner and within the time frame specified by this Code, with the observance of the following:

- 1) a territorial election commission is formed in case of appointment of first elections of members of a local council or a village, settlement or city mayor in the order established by this Code, no later than fifty-five days prior to election day on the basis of submissions filed not later than sixty days before election day;
- 2) a territorial election commission in accordance with this Code shall form election districts and precinct election commissions in accordance with the procedure and terms provided for by this Code;
- 3) members of a local council or a village, settlement or city mayor shall be elected at the first local elections for a term until the next ordinary elections of the local council and the village, settlement or city mayor.
- 4) In the year of holding ordinary local elections, first elections of members of local councils and respective village, settlement or city mayors shall be held simultaneously with the ordinary local elections.

2. In the event of voluntary amalgamation of territorial communities or other changes of the administrative-territorial structure, the powers of the respective territorial election commissions shall be terminated after the powers of the respective local councils, for the preparation and conduct of elections of which they were formed, have been terminated.

**Article 289.** Supplementary Elections of Members of Village or Settlement Council in a Territorial Community that Joined another Territorial Community

1. Supplementary elections of members of village and settlement councils shall be held in accordance with the procedure and terms provided for by this Code for holding ordinary local elections.

The determination of the number of multi-member districts in supplementary elections shall take into account the approximate average number of voters that corresponded to each seat in the last elections of the village or settlement council of the respective territorial community to which others have joined, and the total composition of the village, settlement council of the territorial community, according to the requirements of parts three and five of Article 197 of this Code.

2. Members of village or settlement councils elected in a supplementary election shall exercise their powers until a new composition of the local council is elected in the next ordinary local election held in accordance with the procedure specified by the Constitution of Ukraine and the Laws of Ukraine.

3. In the year of holding ordinary local elections, supplementary elections of village and settlement councils shall not be held. Ordinary elections of the respective village or settlement council of a territorial community to which territorial communities have joined shall be held throughout the territory of the territorial community, including the territory of the territorial communities that joined.

4. The powers of the territorial election commission of a territorial community that are joining a territorial community shall be terminated after the powers of the respective local council, for the preparation and conduct of the elections of which it was formed, has been terminated, The powers regarding the preparation and conduct of supplementary elections shall be exercised by the territorial election commission established in the territory of a territorial community, which are being joined by another territorial community.



## Chapter XXXXII. FINAL AND TRANSITIONAL PROVISIONS

1. This Code shall come into force on January 1, 2020, except subclause 3 of clause 3 of this Chapter, which shall come into force on July 1, 2020, and subclauses 2 and 3 of clause 3 of this Chapter referring to the exercise of powers of the State Voter Register administration and maintenance bodies by the regional and territorial representative offices of the Central Election Commission, which shall come into force on the day following the day, when the Central Election Commission adopts a decision on the commencement of the work of its regional and territorial representative offices.

2. The following Laws shall expire as of the day when this Code comes into force:

- 1) the Law of Ukraine “On Election of the President of Ukraine” (Vidomosti Verkhovnoi Rady Ukrainy, 1999, No. 14, p. 81, with subsequent amendments);
- 2) the Law of Ukraine “On Election of Members of Parliament of Ukraine” (Vidomosti Verkhovnoi Rady Ukrainy, 2012, No. 10-11, p. 73, with subsequent amendments), except the provisions regarding preparation for and conduct of a by-election with the purpose to replace MPs of Ukraine, elected in the nationwide election district, whose powers were terminated early, for the time period until the next ordinary or extraordinary elections of MPs of Ukraine;
- 3) the Law of Ukraine “On Local Elections” (Vidomosti Verkhovnoi Rady Ukrainy, 2015, No. 37- 38, p. 366, with subsequent amendments), except the provisions as regards preparation for and conduct of a repeat election, a by-election or a supplementary election with the purpose to replace local council members, elected in a multi-member election district, whose powers were terminated early, for the time period until the next ordinary or extraordinary elections of local council members.

3. To make amendments to the following Laws of Ukraine:

- 1) Article 1 of the Law of Ukraine “On Advertising” (Vidomosti Verkhovnoi Rady Ukrainy, 2004., No. 8, p. 62, with subsequent amendments) shall be amended with a new paragraph following paragraph eight, which shall read as follows:

“political advertising shall be considered information in any form, disseminated in any manner, with the purpose to promote and draw attention to activities of a political party (party organization), as well as the political party’s position on issues of the national (local) importance. Political advertising shall also be considered the use of symbols or logos of political parties (party organizations), messages about the support by a political party (party organization) of entertainment events or other public events, or highlighting the participation of the political party (party organization) in such events”.

Accordingly, paragraphs nine through twenty-one shall be deemed, respectively, paragraphs ten through twenty-two;

- 2) In the Law of Ukraine “On Central Election Commission” (Vidomosti Verkhovnoi Rady Ukrainy, 2004, No. 36, p. 448 with subsequent amendments):
  - a) Part, seven of Article 3, shall read as follows:

“7. The Commission shall be independent, which shall be guaranteed by the , this Law and other laws of Ukraine.

The independence of the Commission shall be ensured by:

- 1) a special procedure for the appointment and dismissal of members of the Commission established by the Constitution of Ukraine and this Law;
  - 2) guarantees for the Commission’s activity provided for by this Law and other laws of Ukraine;
  - 3) special procedure for financial, material and technical support of the Commission established by this Law”;
- b) Article 4 shall be appended with Part seven, which shall read as follows:

“7. The Commission shall have an official website, on which the Commission shall post its decisions, information on elections, referendums, other materials about activities of the Commission, information on the rights as well as procedures for ensuring the exercise of electoral rights of citizens, as well as other materials provided for by this Law.

The official website must meet the technical requirements as regards the creation (modernization) of the official websites established by the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine for unimpeded access of users with visual and auditory disabilities”;

c) Part two and seven of Article 6 shall read as follows:

“2. The President of Ukraine, when preparing the submission of candidates for members of the Commission, shall take into consideration proposals received from parliamentary factions and groups established in the Verkhovna Rada of the current convocation, as well as the moral qualities of persons that are nominated to the Commission, their professional, academic or civic experience in the area of preparation and conduct of elections or referendums, and the electoral legislation”;

“7. The Commission shall work on a permanent basis. A member of the Commission shall be considered a civil servant. The legal status of a member of the Commission shall be established by this Law”;

d) in Article 11:

Part one shall be complemented with paragraph two, which shall read as follows:

“The meetings of the Commission shall be held at the location of the Commission. If necessary, field meetings of the Commission may be held”;

Part four shall read as follows:

“4. A meeting of the Commission shall be considered plenipotentiary if no less than eleven members of the Commission take part in it.

It shall be possible for a member of the Commission to participate in the meeting of the Commission, using technical means in the manner prescribed by the Commission”;

e) Article 12 shall be appended with Part nine, which shall read as follows:

“9. Resolutions of the Central Election Commission shall be immediately posted on its official website with the possibility of viewing, copying and printing the information therefrom; the information shall be organized in the form of data set having a format, which allows automated data processing by electronic means (machine reading) so that they can be re-used”;

f) in Article 14:

Part one shall be amended with paragraph two, which shall read as follows:

“The language of submissions filed with the Commission and the language of their consideration shall be determined by the Law of Ukraine “On Ensuring the Functioning of the Ukrainian Language as the State Language”;

Parts four and five shall read as follows:

“4. Complaints related to elections or referendums and/or filed within the time frame of the respective election process or the referendum process shall be submitted to the Commission in accordance with the procedure and within the time frame established by the respective Law.

Complaints not related to elections or referendums and/or filed not within the time frame of the respective election process or the referendum process shall be submitted to the Commission in accordance with the procedure and within the time frame established by the Law of Ukraine “On Citizens’ Addresses” and other Laws of Ukraine, with due observance of the peculiarities established by Part ten of this Article.

5. An application may be filed with the Commission in written form (in paper form or in the form of an electronic document) or in an oral form. Applications may be submitted in an oral form during a

personal reception [of citizens] by members of the Commission and shall be recorded in the manner established by the Commission”;

Parts ten and eleven shall read as follows:

“10. A complaint which is not related to the election or referendum and/or filed outside the time frame of such election process or the referendum process shall be submitted to the Commission in a written form on paper and shall contain the following information:

- 1) the name of the Commission to which it is submitted;
- 2) last name, first name, patronymic name (name) of the complainant, his or her place of residence or official contact address (legal or postal address), as well as the number of the means of communication or e-mail address, if any;
- 3) last name, first name, patronymic name (name) of the subject of the complaint, his or her place of residence or official contact address (legal or postal address), as well as the number of the means of communication or e-mail address, if any;
- 4) the essence of the raised issue (the topic of the complaint);
- 5) clearly stated requirements with an indication of the essence of the decision, the adoption of which is required from the Commission, in accordance with its powers;
- 6) description of circumstances and evidence, used by the complainant to support his, her or their requirements;
- 7) a list of attached documents and materials;
- 8) the signature of the complainant or of a person authorized to represent the interests of the respective complainant, with the indication of the date of signing thereof;
- 9) the date of signing the complaint.

A complaint may contain information on interested persons whose involvement, in the opinion of the complainant, is necessary for the consideration of the complaint.

If a copy of the complaint is received by e-mail (in electronic form), a complaint shall be processed by the Commission in the manner prescribed by the Law.

11. A complaint not related to the election or referendum and/or filed within the time frame of the election process or the referendum process drawn up not in compliance with the requirements of Part ten of this Article shall be returned to the complainant without consideration by the Chair of the Commission or, upon his or her instruction, by another member of the Commission, with the respective clarifications, no later than the day following the day of receipt thereof”;

g) Parts two, three, and four of Article 15 shall read as follows:

“2. Applications which are submitted to the Commission during the election process or the referendum process and which are related to this process shall be considered by the Commission within five days from the day of submission thereof. The day of submission of the application shall be considered the day of its actual receipt by the Commission.

3. Applications and other addresses that are not related to the election process or referendum process, or which are submitted not during such process, shall be considered by the Commission on general terms established by the Law of Ukraine “On Citizens’ Appeals” and other Laws of Ukraine.

4. Complaints related to the election or referendum and submitted during an election process or a referendum process shall be considered by the Commission in the manner and within the time frame established by the respective Law on elections or Law on referendums.

If the consideration of issues raised in the complaint does not fall within the scope of powers of the Commission, such a complaint, by a decision of the Commission, shall be left without consideration on the merit of the issue.

Complaints not related to an election or referendum and/ or filed outside an election process or a referendum process shall be considered by the Commission on general terms established by the Law of Ukraine “On Citizens’ Appeals” and other laws of Ukraine”;

h) in Article 16:

in clause 1 of Part Two, the words “election commissions, referendum commissions” shall be removed;

the Article shall be appended with Part three, which shall read as follows:

“3. If necessary, in order to ensure compliance with a lawful course of the election process or the referendum process, the protection of citizens’ electoral rights or restoring citizens’ violated electoral rights, the Commission may, upon its own initiative, consider activities of the lower-level election commissions or referendum commissions and, based on the results of the consideration thereof, adopt one of the following decisions:

- 1) to recognize a decision or some parts thereof, as well as actions or inaction of the election commission or of the referendum commission, or some parts of such decision, as well as actions or inaction as such that do not comply with the requirements of the Laws on elections or referendums, violate citizens’ electoral rights, the rights to participate in a referendum or the rights and legitimate interests of electoral subjects or subjects of the referendum;
  - 2) to cancel a decision of the election commission or the referendum commission;
  - 3) to adopt a decision on the merit of the issue;
  - 4) to oblige a lower level election commission to re-consider the issue that has become the topic of consideration by the Commission;
  - 5) to oblige the election commission or the referendum commission to perform actions provided for by the Laws that regulate preparation for and conduct of an election or a referendum;
  - 6) to oblige an election commission, a referendum commission to refrain from certain actions;
  - 7) to oblige a subject of a complaint to perform actions provided for by the legislation regulating preparation for and conduct of elections and referendums, based on the fact of canceling a decision, or recognizing actions or inaction illegitimate;
  - 8) restore in another manner the violated electoral rights of citizens, the right to participate in the referendum or the rights and legitimate interests of the electoral subjects or subjects of the referendum process”;
- i) to remove clause 7 of Article 17;
- j) in Article 18, clause 13 shall read as follows:  
“13) shall adopt a decision on cancellation of registration of candidates for the President of Ukraine in the manner prescribed by Law”;  
in clause 17, to remove the words “The Law of Ukraine “On the Election of the President of Ukraine”;
- k) in Part two of Article 26:  
in clause 7, to replace the word “staff” with the words “staff number”;  
clause eight shall read as follows:

“8) shall appoint and dismiss chairs or deputy chairs of the Secretariat of the Commission and the State Voter Register Administration”;

l) clause 5 of Part two of Article 29 shall be removed;

m) Article 31 shall read as follows:

**“Article 31. Early Termination of Powers of the Chair, Deputy Chairs and the Secretary of the Commission**

1. The Commission may, by its decision, terminate the powers of the Chair, Deputy Chair, Secretary of the Commission without dismissing such persons from the positions of member of the Commission, based on an application submitted by such Commission member or upon the initiative of the majority of the Commission members.

2. The powers of the Commission Chair, Deputy Chair, or Secretary may be terminated early without dismissal of the respective person from the position of a member of the Commission, upon his or her application by a decision of the Commission supported by the majority of the Commission members.

The powers of the Chair, Deputy Chair, or Secretary of the Commission shall be terminated early without dismissal of the respective person from the position of the Commission member upon the initiative of the majority of the Commission members, for which no less than 13 members of the Commission voted.

Decisions on issues specified in this Part shall be adopted by secret voting.

3. The procedure for holding a meeting on the issues specified in Part two of this Article shall be determined by the Rules of Procedure of the Commission

A meeting of the Commission on early termination of powers of the Chair, Deputy Chair and Secretary of the Commission without dismissal of the respective person from the position of a member of the Commission upon the initiative of the majority of the Commission members shall be convened at their written request.

4. The decision of the Commission specified in Part two of this Article shall come into force after approval by the Commission of the protocol of the counting commission on the results of the secret voting.

5. If less than the established number of members of the Commission has voted in favor of the decision referred to in Part 2 of this Article, the issue of early termination of powers of the respective official may not be included in the agenda of the Commission meeting earlier than after six months.

The Commission may not consider the issue of early termination of powers of the Chair of the Commission, Deputy Chair of the Commission, Secretary of the Commission during the election process of ordinary national elections, ordinary local elections or the process of an all-Ukrainian referendum”;

n) Part two of Article 32 shall read as follows:

“2. Rules of Procedure of the Central Election Commission and changes thereto shall be approved by Resolution of the Commission”;

o) name of Chapter V shall read as follows:

**“Chapter V**

**THE SECRETARIAT OF THE COMMISSION AND SERVICES OF THE COMMISSION.  
ADVISORY AND OTHER AUXILIARY BODIES OF THE COMMISSION”;**

p) Part three of Article 33 shall read as follows:

“3. The Chair and other staff members of the Secretariat of the Commission, the Administration of the State Voter Register, the regional and territorial representative offices of the Commission shall be civil servants, except staff members of the patronage service and employees who perform service functions in accordance with the Law of Ukraine “On Civil Service”;

q) Article 35 shall read as follows:

**“Article 35. Regional and territorial representative offices of the Commission**

1. To solve questions related to the Commission’s powers, the Commission shall establish its territorial representative offices, which shall also exercise the powers of the State Voter Register maintenance bodies. The Commission may establish its own regional and territorial representative offices. Financial support of the regional and territorial representative offices of the Commission shall be provided from the State Budget.

2. The Commission may, by its decision, establish regional and territorial representative offices of the Commission as legal entities of law, or structural units of the Secretariat of the Commission.

Regional and territorial representative offices may be established in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, oblasts, the cities of Kyiv and Sevastopol, rayons, city rayons, cities of oblast or republican subordination (in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea) and interregional territorial bodies with the power to cover several administrative-territorial units.

3. Activities of regional and territorial representative offices of the Commission and their power shall be regulated by the provisions on such representative offices approved by the Commission.

4. Chairs and deputy chairs of the regional and territorial representative offices of the Commission shall be appointed and dismissed by the Chair of the Commission.

Other civil servants and staff members of the regional and territorial representative offices of the Commission shall be appointed and dismissed by the chairs of the regional and territorial representative offices of the Commission.

5. The structure of the Commission’s regional and territorial representative offices shall be approved by the Commission. The staff list and budget for the regional and territorial representative offices of the Commission shall be approved by the Chair of the Commission Secretariat.

6. The regional and territorial representative offices of the Commission shall be entitled, in accordance with the organizational structure and staff list, to involve relevant specialists, experts and technical workers, with the purpose of the organizational, legal, information and technical support in the exercise of the powers provided for by the regulations on such representative offices”;

r) Chapter V shall be appended with Article 35<sup>1</sup> that shall read as follows:

**“Article 35<sup>1</sup>. Training Center for Participants of Electoral Processes**

1. In order to ensure the exercise of the Commission’s powers with the purpose of improving the legal culture of participants of an election process and an referendum process, the Training Center for participants of electoral processes have been established.

2. Activities of the Training Center shall be governed by the regulations approved by the Commission”;

s) Part one of Article 36 shall read as follows:

“1. The Commission, the Secretariat of the Commission, the patronage service, the Administration of the State Voter Register and regional and territorial representative offices of the Commission shall be financed at the expense of funds of the State Budget”;

t) in the text of the Law the words “the Law of Ukraine “On the Election of Members of Parliament of Ukraine” in all cases shall be replaced with the words “the Election Code of Ukraine” in the appropriate case, whereas the words “on the principles of preventing and combatting corruption” shall be replaced with the words “on preventing corruption”;

3) in the Law of Ukraine “On the State Voter Register” (Vidomosti Verkhovnoi Rady Ukrainy, 2011, No. 5, p. 34 with the subsequent amendments):

a) in part one of Article 2:

in clause 2, the words “members of the Verkhovna Rada of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, local councils, village, settlement or city mayors or all-Ukrainian” shall be replaced with the words “local elections or all-Ukrainian”;

shall be amended with a clause 3, which shall read as follows:

“3) registration of election precincts that exist on a permanent basis;

b) in Article 3:

in Part four, the words “and integrity” shall be removed;

Part ten, after the words “from illegal use,” shall be amended with the word “destruction”;

c) in clause 6 of Part one of Article 6, the words “passport of a citizen of Ukraine” to be replaced with the words “an identity document confirming the citizenship of Ukraine”;

d) in Article 7:

clause 2 of Part one shall be removed;

Parts two and three shall be removed by three new Parts that shall read as follows:

“2. A number of an election precinct to which a voter belongs shall be determined on the basis of the information about his or her electoral address.

3. At the request of a voter who has the right to vote in the respective national election or an all-Ukrainian referendum, including a voter as regards whom there is a mark in the Register certifying his or her departure from the respective territory, a State Voter Register maintenance body may temporarily (for the duration of the time period of the election process, or the referendum process) change a voter’s place of voting (an election precinct or a referendum precinct) without change of his or her electoral address. The procedure for submission and consideration of an application regarding a temporary change of a voter’s place of voting shall be established by the Central Election Commission.

A procedure for a temporary change of a voter’s place of voting shall not be applied to special election precincts.

4. In local elections, the procedure of temporary change of a voter’s place of voting without a change of his or her electoral address shall not be applied”;

e) in Article 8:

Part two shall read as follows:

“2. A voter’s electoral address shall be considered an address at which his or her place of residence has been registered, in accordance with the Law of Ukraine “On Freedom of Movement and Free Choice of Residence in Ukraine,” unless otherwise has been provided by this Article”;

after Part two, it shall be amended with the Article, which shall read as follows:

“3. At a motivated request of a voter, the State Voter Register maintenance body may determine a electoral address of a voter, other than the one established under Part two of this Article”.

Accordingly, Parts three through seven shall be considered Parts four through eight;

f) in clause 7 of Part one of Article 9, the words “with an indication of the number and date of issuance to a voter of a document certifying such change” shall be removed;

g) in Article 10:

in Part one:

clause 2, after the words “to receive” shall be amended with the words “in the manner

prescribed by this Law”;

in clause 4, the words “at any time” shall be removed;

in clause 5, the words “with a motivated request” shall be replaced with the words “with an application”;

in clause 7, the words “by means” shall be replaced with the words “by ways”;

in Part three, the words “appearing possibility” shall be removed; the Article shall be amended with Part four, which shall read as follows:

“4. The administrator of the Register shall provide for the voters’ interaction with the Register by introducing online electronic services”;

h) in Article 11:

in Part one:

the words “in coordination with the State Service of Special Communication and Information Protection of Ukraine” shall be removed;

it shall be amended with paragraph two, which shall read as follows:

“To ensure the protection of information for restricted use, which is contained in the Register, it shall be necessary to use the means for confidential information protection”;

in Part two:

in the first sentence, the words “upon approval” shall be replaced with the words “in coordination”;

the second sentence shall read as follows: “The Administrator of the Register, in order to provide for the Register data protection, shall establish a mandatory procedure for persons, which are granted access to the Register database, in compliance with the requirements of this Law”;

i) in Part two of Article 12, the word “general” shall be removed;

j) in Part five of Article 13:

in the first sentence, the words “based on the Register administrator’s decision” shall be removed; the second sentence after the number “20” shall be amended with the number “20<sup>1</sup>”;

k) in Article 14:

clause 3 of Part one shall be removed;

in clause 6 of Part Two, the words “the right of access to the Register maintenance bodies” shall be replaced with the word “access”;

Part five shall read as follows:

“5. Powers of the Register maintenance body shall be exercised by the representative offices of the Central Election Commission established in accordance with the Law of Ukraine “On the Central Election Commission”;

Parts six, nine, ten and eleven shall be removed;

In Part 12, the words “and a regional body of the Register maintenance” shall be removed;

l) Article 16 shall be amended with Part four, which shall read as follows:

“4. If it is impossible for the Register maintenance body to update the Register database as regards records on voters, the electoral addresses of which belong to the territory, which is covered by this



body, in accordance with its scope of powers, in this case updating the database shall be performed in accordance with the procedure established by the Register administrator”;

m) clauses 2 and 3 of Part five of Article 17 shall read as follows:

“2) finding in the database of the Register of a record as regards a person who is not a voter (except cases specified in Part six of this article), which is confirmed by the documents submitted to the Register maintenance body in the prescribed manner;

3) finding in the database of the Register a redundant record as regards a voter (multiple inclusion of a voter in the Register), which is confirmed by the documents submitted to the Register maintenance body in the prescribed manner;

n) in Article 19:

Parts two through four shall read as follows:

“2. A person referred to in Part one of this Article shall submit a written application to the Register maintenance body in a form established by the Register administrator, with an indication of the information about himself or herself specified in Part one of Article 6 and clause 1 of Part one of Article 7 of this Law. Such an application may be submitted to the Register maintenance body in person or through an authorized person whose powers shall be duly certified in accordance with the Law. An application may also be sent by a person in electronic form with a signature, which is considered equivalent to a handwritten signature, in accordance with the Law, using the Internet in the manner prescribed by the Register administrator.

The application to include a voter in the Register shall be appended with a copy of a voter’s identity document confirming his or her citizenship of Ukraine, such as a passport of a citizen of Ukraine or a temporary certificate of a citizen of Ukraine (if a person has recently acquired the citizenship of Ukraine).

The information about a voter’s permanent inability to move independently (if there are grounds) shall be indicated in the application, which shall be appended with a document (a copy of the document), confirming the respective fact.

The application sent using the Internet must contain an e-mail address to which notice may be sent to the applicant, in accordance with this Article.

3. A person who acquired the right to vote and resides or, as of the time when he or she has acquired the right to vote, stays outside Ukraine, may, in person, apply to a foreign diplomatic institution of Ukraine at the place of his or her residence or stay with an application as regards his or her inclusion in the Register drawn up in a form specified in Part two of this Article.

The application as regards a voter’s inclusion in the Register shall be appended with a copy of the voter’s identity document confirming his or her citizenship of Ukraine, such as a passport of a citizen of Ukraine for traveling abroad, a diplomatic passport, a service passport or a temporary certificate of a citizen of Ukraine (if a person has been recently granted the citizenship of Ukraine).

The head of a foreign diplomatic institution of Ukraine shall immediately transfer the application to the Register maintenance body in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine.

An application together with a copy of the said identity document confirming a person’s citizenship of Ukraine may be sent by this person to the Register maintenance body in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine in electronic form with a signature, which is equivalent to a handwritten signature, in accordance with the Law of Ukraine “On Electronic Trust Services,” using the Internet in the manner prescribed by the Register administrator.

4. The electoral address of a voter who has submitted an application as regards his or her inclusion in the Register shall be determined in accordance with Parts two, four through seven of Article 8 of this Law”;

in Part five the word “respective” shall be removed;

in Part seven:

the first sentence after the words “the Register maintenance body” shall be amended with the words “shall hand over to a voter, or”;

it shall be amended with a paragraph two, which shall read as follows:

“Such notice shall be sent in electronic form to the e-mail address specified by an applicant using a qualified electronic signature by the head of the Register maintenance body”;

Part eight shall read as follows:

“8. In the case if a voter has been already included in the Register, he or she shall be given or sent a notice specified in Part seven of this Article to the address indicated in his or her application as a voter’s electoral address, or to the e-mail address specified by him or her”;

the second sentence of Part ten shall read as follows: “Such notice shall be given to a person or sent to the address indicated in his or her application as a voter’s electoral address, or to the e-mail address specified by him or her”;

o) Article 20 shall read as follows:

**“Article 20.** Procedure for a Voter to Address the Register Maintenance Body upon His or Her Own Initiative as Regards Changing His or Her Personal Data

1. Each voter, in the case of change of his or her personal data specified in Part one of Article 6 and clauses 1 and 4 of Part one of Article 7 of this Law, shall be entitled to address the Register maintenance body, in accordance with his or her electoral address, with an application as regards making changes to his or her personal data in the Register in a form established by the Register administrator. Such an application may be submitted to the Register maintenance body in person, or through an authorized person whose powers shall be duly certified in accordance with the Law. An application may also be sent by this person in electronic form with a signature, which is equivalent to a handwritten signature, in accordance with the Law of Ukraine “On Electronic Trust Services,” using the Internet in the manner prescribed by the Register administrator.

The application shall be amended with documents (copies of documents) confirming the respective changes.

A voter who resides or stays outside Ukraine shall submit an application to the respective foreign diplomatic institution of Ukraine, which shall immediately transfer the application together with the documents (copies of documents) appended thereto, to the Register maintenance body in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine. Such application together with copies of the respective documents may be sent by this person to the Register maintenance body in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine in electronic form with a signature, which is equivalent to a handwritten signature, in accordance with the Law of Ukraine “On Electronic Trust Services,” using the Internet in the manner prescribed by the Register administrator.

2. In the case, if a voter applies to change his or her electoral address, he or she shall submit to the Register maintenance body, in the place of his or her new electoral address, an application which shall be appended with documents (copies of documents) that confirm the change of a voter’s electoral address.

3. The application to change a voter’s electoral address specified in Part three of Article 8 of this Law may be submitted by the voter to the Register maintenance body, the powers of which extend to the territory, in which a voter’s electoral address is located or to which his or her current electoral address will be changed, no later than the fifth day from the day of commencement of the election process in the election or the referendum which is held in the territory within which the voter requests to determine his or her electoral address. If several elections (referendum) are held simultaneously in the respective territory, such application may be submitted no later than the fifth day of the day of commencement of the election process in the election (referendum), the voting in which is held earlier than the voting in other elections that are taking place simultaneously.

In the case of receipt of a voter's application as regards the change of his or her electoral address later than the fifth day after the day of commencement of the election process in the respective election or referendum (taking into account the peculiarities as regards elections and referendum that are taking place simultaneously, as provided for by paragraph one of this Part), the Register maintenance body shall adopt a motivated decision to refuse to make changes to a voter's electoral address, a copy of which shall be sent to a voter, no later than the next day following the day when the respective decision was made, together with the simultaneous notification to inform the voter of the possibility to submit an application as regards the change of his or her electoral address after the end of the election process of the respective election.

In the case provided for in the second paragraph of this Part, or in the case if the time periods of the election processes in the respective elections (the referendum process) fully or partially coincide, a voter shall be entitled to submit an application as regards the change of his or her electoral address after the end of the election process of the election, the voting in which is held last.

4. In the case, if the voter submits an application as regards the change of his or her electoral address, based on Part three of Article 8 of this Law, the voter shall be obliged to append the application specified in Part two of this Article with a copy of a document confirming the actual residence of the voter at the address indicated by him or her.

A voter shall substantiate the change of his or her electoral address using one of the documents, a list of which is provided in part five of this Article.

5. The documents confirming a voter's actual residence at the address specified in the application provided for in Part two of this Article and duly substantiating the change of his or her electoral address on the grounds provided for in Part three of Article 8 of this Law shall include the following:

- 1) a house rental agreement at the address which a voter asks to determine as his or her new electoral address;
- 2) a document issued by an executive body or a local self-government body certifying the voter's entrepreneurial activities performed at the address of residence, which a voter asks to determine as his or her new electoral address;
- 3) a document certifying the right of ownership of housing which a voter asks to determine as his or her new electoral address;
- 4) a certificate of his or her registration as an internally displaced person;
- 5) a document certifying a voter's care for a person, the place of residence of which is registered in accordance with the Law of Ukraine "On Freedom of Movement and Free Choice of Place of Residence in Ukraine" at the address, which the voter asks to determine as his or her new electoral address;
- 6) a document certifying that a voter is married or is in a family relationship with a person, the place of residence of which is registered in accordance with the Law of Ukraine "On Freedom of Movement and Free Choice of Place of Residence in Ukraine" at the address, which the voter asks to determine as his or her new electoral address.

6. The procedure for consideration of a voter's application provided for in Part three of Article 8 of this Law shall be established by the Central Election Commission.

7. The Register maintenance body shall be entitled to conduct a verification of change of a voter's personal data specified in the application by way of addressing the bodies, establishments or institutions specified in Article 22 of this Law. If there are grounds specified in Part three of Article 17 of this Law, the head of the Register maintenance body shall issue a resolution on making the respective changes in a voter's personal data in the Register (except the case provided for in Part eight of this Article).

8. In the case, if a voter submits an application as regards the change of his or her electoral address, the Register maintenance body shall examine if the application is justified. Based on the results of the application examination, the head of the Register maintenance body may adopt one of the following decisions:

- 1) issue a resolution to make changes to the Register as regards the change of a voter's electoral address (if the electoral address is changed within the territory which is covered by the specified Register maintenance body, according to its scope of powers);
- 2) address, using the means of the automated information and telecommunication system of the Register, the Register maintenance body at the location of the previous electoral address of a voter, in connection with the need to make changes to a voter's electoral address (if the previous electoral address of a voter does not belong to the territory which is covered by the specified Register maintenance body, according to its scope of powers);
- 3) refuse a voter in making changes to his or her electoral address.

9. In the case of making changes to a voter's personal data in the Register, the Register maintenance body, which has made the changes, shall hand the respective notification over to a voter, or send it to his or her electoral address. A notification shall be signed by the head of the Register maintenance body and affixed with the seal of the respective body.

Such notification shall be sent in the electronic form to the e-mail address specified by the applicant using a qualified electronic signature of the head of the Register maintenance body.

10. The head of the Register maintenance body shall refuse a voter's application specified in Parts one and two of this Article, on the following grounds:

- 1) if it has been established that a person who submitted an application has not been included in the Register;
- 2) if, as a result of verification conducted as per Part seven of this Article, it has been established that there is a discrepancy in the information indicated in the application and in the data provided by the respective body, establishment or an institution;
- 3) if a voter's application to change his or her electoral address has been deemed groundless;
- 4) if it has been established that the respective changes have already been made to the Register.

11. A person who has submitted an application specified in Parts one or two of this Article shall be informed in writing on the refusal of his or her application with an indication of an exhaustive list of the grounds for refusal. Such notification shall be given to a voter or sent to his or her electoral address. In the case of refusal to change the electoral address of a voter, the aforementioned notification shall be handed over to him or her, or sent to his or her electoral address, in accordance with the data of the Register and to the address which the voter asked to be determined as his or her electoral address. The notification in electronic form shall be sent to the address specified by an applicant using a qualified electronic signature.

12. In the event, if the voter who has submitted an application specified in Parts one or two of this Article turn out not to be included in the Register, the Register maintenance body shall verify the information specified in the application by sending inquiries to bodies, establishments, and institutions specified in Article 22 of this Law. A decision as regards including this voter in the Register shall be made in accordance with a procedure specified by Parts six and seven of Article 19 of this Law. Prior to adopting such a decision, the Register maintenance body shall be entitled to address the voter in order to verify or clarify the information regarding him or her.

13. A voter, whose electoral address has been determined in accordance with Part three of Article 8 of this Law, shall be entitled to address the Register maintenance body with a new

application regarding change of his or her electoral address on the grounds specified by Part three of Article 8 of this Law, no sooner than in 180 days after the date of making the last change of this voter's electoral address in the Register.

14. If, as of the date of submitting an application to the Register maintenance body by a voter specified in Part thirteen of this Article, the election process in the election of the President of Ukraine, the election of MPs of Ukraine, a local election or the process of an all-Ukrainian referendum has begun, the electoral address of such a voter shall not be changed until the completion of the respective election process or the referendum process. In the event, if the time periods of the election processes in the respective elections (referendum) fully or partially coincide, the electoral address of such a voter shall not be changed until the completion of the election process of the election or the referendum, the voting in which is held last.

15. If the application of a voter specified in Part three of Article 8 of this Law was submitted to the Register maintenance body prior to the appearance of the grounds for the change of a voter's current electoral address, as provided by Article 22 of this Law, the electoral address of such a voter shall be determined in accordance with the procedure specified by Article 22 of this Law”;

p) shall be amended with Article 20<sup>1</sup> which shall read as follows:

**“Article 20<sup>1</sup>.** Procedure for a Voter to Address the Register Maintenance Body upon His or Her Own Initiative as Regards Inaccuracies of Data in the Register in Relation to Another Person

A voter who has discovered that another person has not been included, or unlawfully included, in the Register, or has discovered incorrect data in the Register as regards another person, shall be entitled, at his or her own initiative, to submit a written application to the Register maintenance body at the electoral address of such a person to correct inaccuracies in the Register. A voter shall be entitled to submit an application to the Register maintenance body as regards inaccuracies in the Register in relation to a person, the electoral address of which is located outside Ukraine, as well as to the respective foreign diplomatic institution of Ukraine, which shall immediately submit the application to the Register maintenance body in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine. Such an application may also be sent by a person in electronic form with a signature, which is equivalent to a handwritten signature, in accordance with the Law of Ukraine “On Electronic Trust Services,” using the Internet in the manner prescribed by the Register administrator. The application sent using the Internet must contain an e-mail address to which a notification may be sent to the applicant informing him or her of the results of consideration thereof.

1. An application provided for in Part one of this Article shall contain the following information:

- 1) last name, first name, patronymic name, and place of residence of a voter submitting an application;
- 2) last name, first name (all first names), patronymic name of a person as regards which an application has been submitted, his or her electoral address as well as the date and place of birth of that person (if such information is known to the applicant);
- 3) the essence of the question raised;
- 4) content of the request;
- 5) a voter's signature and the date of filing thereof.

The application shall be appended with documents (copies of documents) confirming the information specified therein (if available).

2. The Register maintenance body, to which an application has been submitted as regards inaccuracies in relation to another person, shall update the personal data included in the Register in accordance with Article 23 of this Law.

Such update shall not necessarily be made as regards a deceased person, provided that a person submitting the application presents a death certificate or other document certifying the death of a person in question issued by a competent authority of a foreign state. A copy of such document shall be appended to the said application, which shall serve the basis for issuing a resolution as regards making respective changes to the database of the Register”;

q) Article 21 shall read as follows:

**“Article 21. Voter’s Inquiry to the Register Maintenance Body**

1. A voter shall be entitled to personally address any Register maintenance body, presenting a passport of a citizen of Ukraine, or a temporary certificate of a citizen of Ukraine (if a person has been recently granted citizenship of Ukraine), with a written inquiry, with an indication of the last name, first name (all first names), patronymic name, date and place of birth, mailing address as regards the following:

- 1) the content of his or her personal data in the Register provided for by Part one of Article 6, Part one of Article 7 of this Law;
- 2) last names, first names, patronymic name, date of birth of all voters included in the Register at his or her own electoral address (except electoral addresses determined in accordance with Parts three through five of Article 8 of this Law).

2. A voter who is permanently unable to move independently shall be entitled to authorize another person, whose powers have been executed in accordance with the Law, to submit a written inquiry on his or her behalf.

3. A voter residing or staying outside of Ukraine may submit, in person, an inquiry specified in Part one of this Article, to a foreign diplomatic institution of Ukraine at the place of his or her residence or stay, presenting a passport of a citizen of Ukraine for traveling abroad, a diplomatic passport or a service passport or a temporary certificate of a citizen of Ukraine (if a person has recently acquired the citizenship of Ukraine). A foreign diplomatic institution of Ukraine shall immediately transfer the inquiry to the Register maintenance body within the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

4. A voter may submit an inquiry specified in Parts one and three of this Article to the Register maintenance body in electronic form, using a signature, which is equivalent to a handwritten signature, in accordance with the Law of Ukraine “On Electronic Trust Services,” using the Internet in the manner prescribed by the Register administrator. Such an inquiry shall contain an e-mail address.

5. The Register maintenance body shall respond to the inquiry no later than the fifth day following the day of receipt thereof. The requested data shall be certified by the signature of the head of the Register maintenance body and affixed with the seal of this body.

The response in electronic form shall be sent to an e-mail address specified by the voter, using a qualified electronic signature of the head of the Register maintenance body.

1. In the case of a discrepancy between the personal identification data of a voter who submitted an inquiry, contained thereof, and the respective data of that voter contained in the Register, the Register maintenance body shall refuse the inquiry, indicating the grounds for refusal”;

r) in Article 22:

Parts two, three, six, and eight shall read as follows:

“2. The data provided by this Article shall be submitted in accordance with this Article:

to the respective Register maintenance body, monthly, before the fifth day of each month;

to the Register administrator, in accordance with a procedure established by the Register administrator.

3. An official authorized by the central executive body implementing the state policy in the field of citizenship shall provide the information on:

- 1) persons who during the previous month have acquired the citizenship of Ukraine and obtained a temporary certificate of a citizen of Ukraine or a passport of a citizen of Ukraine;
- 2) voters who during the previous month obtained a passport of a citizen of Ukraine in connection with the change of his or her last name, first name, patronymic name, date or place of birth;
- 3) persons whose citizenship of Ukraine has been terminated during the previous month;
- 4) persons who will turn 18 years of age within the next month and who have a passport of a citizen of Ukraine;
- 5) voters who during the previous month have been issued a passport of a citizen of Ukraine for the first time after they reached the age of 18”;

“6. The respective rayon (rayon in city, city or combined city and rayon) court shall provide the information about the following:

- 1) voters who were declared incapacitated during the previous month, with an indication of the validity of the decision to declare a natural person incapacitated;
- 2) persons in respect of whom during the previous month a decision to declare them incapacitated has been lifted;
- 3) persons in respect of whom a decision have been adopted during the previous month to extend the validity of the decision to declare a natural person incapacitated, with an indication of the said time period”;

“8. The head of the registration center, which in accordance with the Law shall keep records of homeless persons or the social service, which includes a structural unit for keeping records of homeless persons, shall submit the information about the following:

- 1) voters, the place of residence of which during the previous month has been registered at the legal address of the respective establishment;
- 2) voters, whose place of residence during the previous month was deregistered at the legal address of the respective establishment”;

Part eleven, after the words “healthcare establishment,” shall be amended with the words “or the respective healthcare establishment”;

Part fourteen shall be amended with paragraph two, which shall read as follows:

“The respective information may be submitted to the Register maintenance body by those persons in electronic form using a signature, which is equivalent to a handwritten signature, in accordance with the Law of Ukraine “On Electronic Trust Services.” In this case, a submission in paper form shall not be submitted”;

in Part eighteen, the words and a digit “clause 2 of Part seven” shall be removed;

s) in Article 23:

in Part one, the words “establishing the fact thereby” shall be replaced with the words “discovering thereby”; clause 2 of Part two shall read as follows:

“2) a voter’s inquiry as regards inaccuracies in the Register in relation to another person”;

in Part four, the words “respective bodies, establishments, institutions” shall be replaced with the words “bodies, establishments, institutions, which received such inquiries”;

t) in Article 24:

Part two shall read as follows:

“2. During the election process in elections of the President of Ukraine, Members of Parliament of Ukraine, ordinary local elections or a process of an all-Ukrainian referendum, the Register administrator shall, at the written request of a political party, provide a representative of this party authorized by the respective governing body of the party with the access, in the reading mode, to the information of the Register provided for in clauses 1-4 of Part one of Article 6 and Part one of Article 7 of this Law, in accordance with the procedure established by the Register administrator”;

Parts three through six shall be excluded;

u) Articles 26-28 shall read as follows:

“Article 26. Purpose of Use of the Personal Data in the Register

1. During preparation for the election of the President of Ukraine, the elections of Members of Parliament of Ukraine, local elections or an all-Ukrainian or local referendum, the personal data of the Register may be used only for the following:

- 1) compiling voter lists for the election precincts;
- 2) solving questions by the Central Election Commission in preparation and conduct of elections and referendums;
- 3) providing the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine, the President of Ukraine, the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine, other executive bodies, local self-government bodies, the Central Election Commission, the Verkhovna Rada of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, the Council of Ministers of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, the Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea or the territorial election commissions in the local elections with the statistical information on the quantitative features of the electorate in the respective territory;
- 4) production of personal invitation for voters;
- 5) verification of the information on voters provided for by Part two of this Article.

2. The personal data of the Register may be used to verify the accuracy of the information on voters who put their signatures in the signature sheets in support of the conduct of an all-Ukrainian referendum, in support of a proposal to recall a member of a local council, or a village, settlement city mayor, or a member of a village or settlement council at the popular initiative, as well as the information submitted to the respective election commission as regards candidates, authorized persons and agents, members of the referendum initiative group or candidates for members of election commissions.

3. The personal data of the Register may be used for public oversight over the maintenance of the Register in the manner and in the scope established by this Law.

4. The personal data of the Register may be used one time on the basis of the Law for the purposes of initial filling of the database of the state system of registration of natural persons after it has been established, as well as for the creation of registers of territorial communities.

5. The personal data of the Register may be used by state bodies, which under the Law were granted the right to access the automated information systems, registers, and the data of banking institutions, the holders (administrators) of which are state bodies. The use of the personal data of the Register shall be organized in compliance with the legislation on personal data protection.

6. In cases specified by the Law, the personal data of the Register may be used by the central executive body implementing the state policy in the area of citizenship, for the exercise of its powers.

7. The central executive body developing and implementing the state financial and budgetary policy, when exercising its powers as regards the verification and monitoring of state payments, shall have the right to receive information about voters from the Register, in particular information containing personal data.



The procedure for providing the information and the scope of information to be provided from the Register shall be established by the Register administrator upon approval of the central executive body developing and implementing the state financial and budgetary policy.

8. The personal data of the Register may be used for verification and identification between sets of identification data of natural persons, which are processed in national electronic information resources.

The procedure for providing the information and the scope of information to be provided from the Register shall be established by the Register administrator.

9. The use of personal data of the Register for purposes other than those specified in this Article shall be possible only by a court decision.

#### **Article 27. Compiling Preliminary Voter Lists**

1. For preparation and conduct of voting in elections or referendums, the Register maintenance body shall, for each election precinct established in its territory, which the Register maintenance body covers, according to its scope of powers, as well as for each special election precinct established in a penitentiary institution, compile a preliminary voter list based on the information contained in the Register. The Register maintenance body in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine shall compile preliminary voter lists for each out-of-country election precinct.

At special election precincts established in inpatient healthcare establishments, on ships which on the day of voting are sailing under the National Flag of Ukraine, at Ukraine's polar stations, pretrial detention centers and other places of temporary stay of voters with restricted ability to move, voter lists shall be compiled by respective precinct election commissions pursuant to the procedure established by the Law.

The information provided for in Article 22 of this Law shall be submitted by the respective bodies, establishments, institutions in ten days prior to the day of handing over preliminary voter lists to regular election precincts. The information shall be submitted for the time period from the date of the last submission of the information to the Register maintenance body until the day prior to the day of the submission thereof.

2. A preliminary voter list in an election precinct shall include citizens of Ukraine who have reached or, as of the day of voting in the election or referendum, will have reached 18 years of age and who shall have the right to vote and who belong to this election precinct, in accordance with the data of the Register.

The voter list shall not include persons whose records are contained in the database of the Register, but who, according to the personal data of the Register, shall not have the right to vote, are deceased or have left (including temporarily, as of the day of voting) from the place of their electoral address.

When a voter, whose place of voting has been temporarily changed, is included in the preliminary voter list, a note thereof shall be made in the column "Notes" next to his or her last name.

3. Preliminary voter lists shall be drawn up in a form established by the Central Election Commission in accordance with the requirements of Parts five and six of this Article.

4. Preliminary voter lists shall have continuous numbering and sheet numbering. The information on voters in the voter lists in regular election precincts shall be provided in a way that voters with the same electoral address are placed next to each other. The information on voters in the voter lists for an out-of-country election precinct shall be provided in the manner convenient for the conduct of voting.

Preliminary voter lists shall contain the following information about each voter:

- 1) last name, first name (all first names), patronymic name (if any);
- 2) date of birth;

- 3) electoral address (without indication of the postal code and the country of residence or stay);
- 4) a note on a voter's permanent inability to move independently (if there are grounds) in the column "Notes."

5. A preliminary voter list for a regular election precinct shall be made on paper in one copy, each sheet of which shall be signed by the head of the Register maintenance body and affixed with the seal of this body.

A preliminary voter list for an out-of-country election precinct shall be transferred to the respective election commission in electronic form.

6. The procedure and the deadlines for handing over the preliminary voter lists to election precincts shall be determined by the Law.

**Article 28.** Compiling Updated Voter Lists

1. The information referred to in Article 22 of this Law shall be submitted by the respective bodies, establishments, and institutions ten days prior to the day of voting. The information shall be submitted for the time period from the date of the last submission of the information to the Register maintenance body until the day prior to the day of the submission thereof.

2. A voter's submission to the precinct election commission as regards a voter's non-inclusion, incorrect inclusion in the preliminary voter list, or inaccuracies in the information about the voter shall be handed over to the respective Register maintenance body.

3. The Register maintenance body, which has received a voter's submission as regards updating the voter list, shall take measures specified in Articles 19, 20, 20<sup>1</sup> of this Law. A person who has filed a submission, as well as a person to whom it relates (if a voter's submission concerns another person) shall be notified of the results of consideration of the submission in question.

4. A precinct election commission of a special election precinct, except an election commission of an election precinct established in a penitentiary institution, shall immediately pass the information on voters included in this list (including the information submitted for updating the voter list), as well as the information on voters excluded from that list, over to the Register maintenance body at the place of its location. Such information may also be transmitted through the respective district (territorial) election commission.

5. The Register maintenance body, which has received the information specified in Part four of this Article, shall make the respective notes in the database of the Register as regards voters who will not vote at their electoral addresses due to their inclusion in the voter lists for other election precincts.

6. Updated voter lists for regular and out-of-country election precincts and special election precincts established in penitentiary institutions shall be compiled by the Register maintenance bodies in paper form in one copy in a form established by the Register administrator, in accordance with the requirements established by Parts three, five, six of Article 27 of this Law, and shall contain a column for a voter to put his or her signature certifying the receipt of the ballot paper by him or her.

7. Updated voter lists shall be handed over to respective election commissions no later than two days prior to the day of voting in the manner prescribed by the Law.

Updated voter lists for out-of-country election precincts shall also be transferred in electronic form.

8. The information on voters required in accordance with the form of a updated voter list as regards voters included therein or excluded therefrom, as well as regarding the voters in relation to which changes were made in the updated voter list, shall be passed by the precinct election commission to the respective Register maintenance body for processing in accordance with the procedure established by Article 23 of this Law";

v) in Article 29:

in Part four:

in clause 5, the word “voters” shall be replaced with the words “local referendum participants that are citizens of Ukraine that have the right to vote and are members of the respective territorial community”;

it shall be amended with clause 6, which shall read as follows:

“6) citizens of Ukraine, who have put their signatures in signature sheets in support of a proposal to recall a local council member, a village, settlement or city mayor, or village or settlement head, at popular initiative”;

w) Part five of Article 30 shall read as follows:

“5. The information on quantitative features of the electorate in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, oblasts, rayons, cities, city rayons, settlements, and villages, in the out-of-country election district, as well as the information on the number of voters who, in accordance with their electoral addresses, have been assigned to the respective election precincts, shall be posted, monthly, as of the last day of the previous month, on the official website of the Central Election Commission in the form of open data in accordance with the Law of Ukraine “On Access to Public Information.” The said information shall be maintained in the open data form on the official website of the Central Election Commission during three months”;

x) title of Chapter V shall read as follows:

#### “Chapter V

APPEALS AGAINST DECISIONS, ACTIONS OR INACTION OF THE REGISTER MAINTENANCE BODIES AND RESPONSIBILITY FOR VIOLATION OF THE ESTABLISHED PROCEDURE FOR THE REGISTER MAINTENANCE”;

y) Article 31 shall be excluded;

z) Article 32 shall read as follows:

**Article 32.** Procedure for Appealing against Decisions, Actions or Inaction of the Register Maintenance Bodies

1. A person, who has addressed the Register maintenance body as regards the inclusion of himself or herself or other persons in the Register, or as regards receiving an answer to his or her inquiry, may appeal to a court against the decision, action or inaction of the Register maintenance body in the manner prescribed by the Code of Administrative Adjudication of Ukraine.

2. A political party that has addressed the Register maintenance body in the manner prescribed by Article 24 of this Law shall be entitled to appeal to a court against a decision, action or inaction of the respective Register maintenance body in accordance with the procedure established by the Code of Administrative Adjudication of Ukraine”;

aa) in Article 33:

the title shall read as follows:

“**Article 33.** Responsibility for Violation of the Established Procedure for the Register Maintenance”;

Part one shall be amended with the words “as regards the procedure for the Register maintenance”;

Parts two, three and four shall be removed;

4) Part one of Article 8 of the Law of Ukraine “On Ensuring the Rights and Freedoms of Internally Displaced Persons” (Vidomosti Verkhovnoi Rady Ukrainy, 2015, No. 1, p. 1) shall read as follows:

“1. An internally displaced person shall exercise his or her right to vote in the election of the President of Ukraine, the election of MPs of Ukraine, local elections and referendums in accordance with the procedure specified by the Law”.

4. The following shall be established:

- 1) the election process of local elections that has begun prior to the entry into force of this Code shall be conducted in accordance with the procedure in force prior to the entry into force of this Code;
- 2) regional and territorial representative offices of the Central Election Commission shall be established by its decision on the basis of the regional State Voter Register management and maintenance bodies;
- 3) prior to the Central Election Commission making a decision on the commencement of work of its regional and territorial representative offices:

the State Voter Register maintenance bodies shall be considered the following: in a rayon, city rayon in Kyiv city, the city of Sevastopol, the respective structural unit of the management of the rayon, city rayon state administration; in a city of oblast subordination (or republican subordination, in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea) without rayon division, the respective executive body of the city council; in rayon in a city of oblast subordination with rayon division, the respective executive body of a city rayon council or the respective structural unit of an executive body of the city council established in a rayon;

the regional State Voter Register maintenance bodies shall be considered the following: in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea – the respective structural subdivision of the secretariat of the Council of Ministers of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea; in the oblast, the city of Kyiv, the city of Sevastopol – the respective structural unit of the oblast or city state administration;

functions of the State Voter Register maintenance bodies and the regional body of administration of the State Voter Register in relation to voters residing or staying outside Ukraine shall be performed by the respective structural subdivision of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine.

5. The Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine shall, within three months from the date of entry into force of this Code, do the following:

bring its regulatory instruments in compliance with this Code;

ensure the adoption of regulatory instruments provided for by this Code;

approve the amount necessary to finance expenditures related to priority actions to be performed for the implementation of this Code, upon submission of the Central Election Commission;

provide funding for the priority actions necessary for the implementation of this Code;

develop and approve accessibility criteria for persons with disabilities and other low-mobility groups as regards premises provided by local executive bodies and local self-government bodies, other bodies (officials) to precinct election commissions of regular election precincts for preparation of their work and conduct of voting;

ensure constant monitoring and assessment, as regards persons with disabilities and other low-mobility groups, of accessibility of the premises, which were provided by local executive bodies and local self-government bodies or other bodies (officials), exercising their powers in accordance with the Law, for precinct election commissions of regular election precincts to be able to prepare for and conduct the voting, and take into account the results of the above in the development and implementation of national programs to ensure the exercise of the rights of and satisfying the needs of persons with disabilities for the respective years.

6. The Central Election Commission shall:

within two months from the date of entry into force of this Code, develop and approve a list of priority actions necessary for the implementation of this Code; file with the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine a submission as regards the amount necessary to finance expenditures related to the implementation of the aforementioned actions;

from the date of entry into force of this Code until the beginning of the election process of the respective elections to bring their acts in accordance with this Code, unless otherwise provided by this Code;

ensure the adoption of legal acts provided for by this Code.

7. Executive bodies of village, settlement, city and rayon councils, other bodies (officials), which, in accordance with the Law exercise their powers, shall, within the limits of funds of the state and the respective local budgets, their own revenues, and at the expense of funds received from other sources not prohibited by the Law, by January 1, 2025, ensure the accessibility, for persons with disabilities and other low-mobility groups, of premises provided to precinct election commissions of regular election precincts for the organization of their work and conduct of voting.

President of Ukraine

V. ZELENSKY

Kyiv city

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Голос України

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