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EUROPEAN COMMISSION FOR DEMOCRACY THROUGH LAW
(VENICE COMMISSION)

DRAFT LAW
ON ELECTIONS OF PEOPLE'S DEPUTIES OF UKRAINE (II)

Draft
introduced by people's deputies of Ukraine
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Section I. GENERAL PROVISIONS

Article 1. Main bases and principles of people's deputies of Ukraine

1. People's deputies of Ukraine (hereinafter referred to as "deputies") shall be elected by the citizens of Ukraine for a period of four years on the basis of universal, equal and direct suffrage by secret vote. The participation of citizens of Ukraine in elections of deputies shall be voluntary. Nobody may be forced in any way to take or not to take part in elections.
2. The election process shall be based on free and equal nomination of candidates for people's deputies by political parties (election blocs), publicity and openness, freedom of agitation, equal election campaigning opportunities for all candidates, and unbiased attitude to candidates on the part of bodies of state power, local self-government bodies, officials and civil servants.
3. The constitutional membership of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine – 450 people's deputies of Ukraine – shall be elected from lists of candidates for people's deputies from political parties (election blocs) for the national multimandate (hereinafter referred to as "national") constituency on the basis of proportional representation. The list of candidates from each party (election bloc) shall be composed of 450 authorised representatives – candidates for people's deputies of Ukraine.

After the list of candidates from a party (election bloc) has been registered with the CEC, authorised representatives – candidates for people's deputies of Ukraine may not be withdrawn (replaced, recalled) by the political party (election bloc) or bodies thereof, except as provided for in the law or a reasoned court judgement.

Article 2. Universal suffrage

1. Citizens of Ukraine who have reached the age of eighteen by the election day shall have the right to vote at elections of deputies (the right to elect deputies).
2. The document confirming a voter's Ukrainian citizenship shall be the passport of a citizen of Ukraine, temporary identity card of a citizen of Ukraine for persons who have lost their passports, military identity card for enlisted members of the armed forces, seaman identity card, passport for travelling abroad of a citizen of Ukraine, identity card issued by a penitentiary institution for persons kept in such institutions, or another document that shall be issued by state bodies and shall contain: last name, first name, patronymic name, day, month and year of birth, the person's photograph, signature of the head and seal of the institution and citizenship and shall identify the person as a citizen of Ukraine.
3. Citizens of Ukraine who have the right to vote may participate in the work of election committees as members thereof, election campaigning, monitoring

elections of deputies and other activities as stipulated in the legislation of Ukraine in force.

4. Any direct or indirect privileges or restrictions of voting rights of citizens of Ukraine based on race, skin colour, political, religious or other beliefs, gender, ethnic and social origin, property status, residence, language or other criteria, except as provided for in the Constitution of Ukraine and this Law, shall be prohibited and prosecuted in accordance with the law.

5. Citizens who have been declared incapable by a court shall not have the right to vote.

6. A citizen of Ukraine who legally lives or is outside of Ukraine during the preparation for and conducting of elections but can identify his choice and vote via diplomatic and other official representations and institutions of Ukraine abroad, either personally or using a means of communication fixed in accordance with the legislation of Ukraine in force, shall have the right to vote at elections of people's deputies of Ukraine.

If no diplomatic or other official representation of Ukraine abroad is available, the citizen of Ukraine who legally lives or is outside of Ukraine during the preparation for and conducting of elections may vote by personal voting by mail, in which case his identity shall be verified by an authorised body of the country of stay. Personal voting by mail shall be performed to the address of the Central Election Committee within 5 days from the day of elections. The Central Election Committee at its meeting shall make a decision to count or not to count this vote.

Article 3. Equal suffrage

Every citizen of Ukraine who has the right to vote shall have one vote. A voter may use his vote only at one polling station.

Article 4. Direct suffrage

People's deputies of Ukraine shall be elected directly by voters.

Every voter shall vote personally. Voting for other persons or giving one's right to vote to any other person shall be prohibited.

Citizens with the right to vote who have health problems that may be ascertained visually or confirmed by appropriate documents and that prevent or materially complicate voting may be assisted by family members or persons authorised by the election committee, provided that the principle of secret voting shall not be breached.

Article 5. Free elections

1. Elections of people's deputies shall be free. Voters shall be ensured conditions to freely make up their mind and freely vote.

2. The use of violence, threats, deception, bribe and other actions that prevent voters from freely making up their mind and freely voting shall be prohibited and prosecuted in accordance with the law.

Article 6. Secret voting

Voting during elections of people's deputies shall be secret. Control over voting shall be prohibited and prosecuted in accordance with the law.

Article 7. The right to be elected

1. A civilly capable and legally competent citizen of Ukraine who has reached the age of twenty-one by the day of elections, has the right to vote and has resided in Ukraine for the last five years may be elected a people's deputy.

2. A citizen who has been convicted by a court for a crime for which the conviction has not been cancelled or lifted in accordance with the order established by the law and a citizen who is at an institution of confinement cannot be included in a list and elected a people's deputy of Ukraine.

Article 8. The right to nominate candidates for people's deputies

Political parties (election blocs) shall have the right to nominate candidates for people's deputies – authorised representatives and shall exercise this right by nominating authorised representatives – candidates for people's deputies as stipulated in this Law.

Article 9. Principles and organisation of the election process

1. The election process shall be based on:

1. lawfulness and prohibition for anybody to interfere in this process;
2. political pluralism (multi-party system);
3. publicity and openness of the election process;
4. equal rights of parties (election blocs) that are subjects of the election process, including their rights concerning nominating candidates for people's deputies;
5. equal rights of all authorised representatives – candidates for people's deputies, including their rights concerning election campaigning;
6. freedom of election campaigning and equal access to mass media;
7. unbiased attitude to parties (election blocs) and their authorised representatives – candidates for people's deputies on the part of bodies of state power, local self-government bodies, officials and civil servants thereof, and heads of enterprises, institutions and organisations.

2. The beginning of the election process shall be announced by the Central Election Committee within the terms determined in the Constitution of Ukraine and this Law.
3. The election process shall consist of the following stages:
 1. forming election committees;
 2. making registers of voters;
 3. nominating and registering candidates for people's deputies included in the voting lists of parties (election blocs);
 4. election campaigning;
 5. voting;
 6. counting the votes and determining the results of voting and elections of people's deputies.
4. The election process shall end with the official announcement of the results of elections of people's deputies by the Central Election Committee.

Article 10. Publicity and openness of the election process

1. The preparation for and conducting of elections of people's deputies shall be open and public.
2. Election committees shall inform citizens of their membership, location and business hours, the forming of territorial constituencies and election districts, basic rights of voters, including the right to appeal against wrongful decisions, acts or inaction of election committees, bodies of state power, local self-government bodies or officials that restrict their rights as voters, ensure access for citizens to registers of voters, voting lists of political parties (election blocs), election programmes of political parties (election blocs), the procedure of filling subscription lists and ballots and results of voting and elections of deputies and shall provide such other information as provided for in this Law.
3. Unless otherwise stipulated in the legislation in force, decisions of bodies of state power and local self-government bodies concerning elections of deputies and election committees shall be reported in mass media or otherwise made public within five days from adoption.
4. Except as provided for in laws of Ukraine, members of mass media shall be guaranteed free access to all events related to elections on the conditions established in Paragraph 9 of Article 21 of this Law. Election committees, bodies of state power, local self-government bodies and officials and civil servants thereof shall, within their powers and competence, provide them with information about the preparation for and conducting of elections.

Article 11. Legislation on elections of people's deputies of Ukraine

The preparation for and conducting of elections of people's deputies of Ukraine shall be regulated by the Constitution of Ukraine, this Law. Law of Ukraine *On the Central Election Committee* and other laws of Ukraine.

Section II. KINDS OF ELECTIONS OF PEOPLE'S DEPUTIES OF UKRAINE, PROCEDURE AND TIME OF SETTING THEM

Article 12. Kinds and procedure of setting of elections of people's deputies of Ukraine

1. Elections of deputies may be regular and extraordinary.
2. Regular elections of deputies shall be held by reason of the end of the term of constitutional powers of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine and shall not need a special decision to set.
3. Extraordinary elections of deputies shall be set by the president of Ukraine as stipulated in the Constitution of Ukraine.

Article 13. Terms of elections

1. Regular elections of deputies shall be held on the last Sunday of September of the fourth year of the authority of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine.
2. The Central Election Committee shall announce the beginning of the election process of regular elections of deputies 180 days prior to the day of elections.
3. Extraordinary elections to the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine shall be set by the president of Ukraine and held within sixty days from the making public of the decision of early termination of the authority of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine.

Section III. CONSTITUENCIES AND ELECTION DISTRICTS

Article 14. National and territorial constituencies

1. A national multimandate constituency, which shall include the entire territory of Ukraine, shall be formed in order to hold elections of people's deputies.
2. In order to hold elections of people's deputies, the territory of the national constituency shall be divided by the Central Election Committee into 450 territorial constituencies with an approximately equal number of voters in each such district, taking into account Ukraine's administrative-territorial system.
3. The Central Election Committee shall form territorial constituencies at least 120 days prior to regular elections.
4. A territorial constituency may include one or more rayons, cities (of oblast and, in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, republican jurisdiction), city

districts or parts thereof. Constituencies shall not be formed of territories that are not contiguous.

5. The Central Election Committee shall, within three days from its decision to form territorial constituencies, publish information on the forming of such districts stating their numbers, limits, centres and approximate number of voters in each district in state-owned mass media.

Article 15. Election districts

1. In order to prepare for and conduct voting and the counting of votes, a territorial constituency shall be divided into election districts.

2. Election districts shall be formed by territorial election committees on the submission of village, settlement, city (for cities where there are no district councils) or city district councils, and in the absence of such suggestions, on the submission of village, settlement or city mayors, chairmen of city district councils or officials that perform their functions in accordance with the law. A territorial election committee shall determine the limits of each election district and location of the district election committee and establish unified numeration of election districts within a territorial constituency.

3. In hospitals, on ships that are in a voyage under the national flag of Ukraine on the election day, on Ukraine's polar stations and in other places of temporary stay of voters where, as a result of the above-mentioned factors, voting possibilities are limited, election districts shall be formed by territorial election committees of the place where such establishments or institutions are located or where the ship or polar station is registered.

4. Military personnel shall vote at polling stations located outside of military formations (units). Election districts may be formed on the territory of military formations (units) as an exception by a decision of the Central Election Committee on the submission of the appropriate territorial election committee.

5. Election districts at diplomatic and other official representations and consular offices of Ukraine abroad and in military formations (units) dislocated outside of Ukraine shall be formed by the Central Election Committee on the submission of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine, Ministry of Defense of Ukraine or the central executive agency for emergencies, respectively, defining the territorial constituencies to which such election districts belong.

6. Election districts shall be formed with a number of voters between 20 and 3000. If a territory has less or more voters than the range indicated above or such voters (or excess thereof) cannot be registered in another election district or it is impossible to form an additional election district on such territory, the election district may be formed with a smaller or greater number of voters than the range indicated above.

7. Election districts shall be formed at least 60 days prior to the election day. In exceptional cases, which shall be determined by the Central Election Committee,

election districts shall be formed by the Central Election Committee at least five days prior to the election day.

8. The decision of a territorial election committee to form election districts, stating their numbers, limits and locations of district election committees, shall be published in mass media or otherwise within five days from such decision, and in exceptional cases mentioned in Paragraph 7 of this article, at least two days prior to election day.

Section IV. ELECTION COMMITTEES

Article 16. System of election committees

1. The system of election committees that prepare and hold elections of deputies shall consist of:

1. the Central Election Committee;
2. territorial election committees;
3. district election committees.

2. The powers of election committees with regard to preparing and conducting elections of deputies shall apply to:

1. the Central Election Committee – the entire territory of Ukraine;
2. a territorial election committee – the territory of a territorial constituency;
3. an district election committee – the territory of an election district.

Article 17. Status of election committees

1. The status of the Central Election Committee shall be determined by the Constitution of Ukraine, Law of Ukraine *On the Central Election Committee*, this Law and other laws. The Central Election Committee shall be formed in accordance with the Constitution of Ukraine and Law of Ukraine *On the Central Election Committee*. The Central Election Committee shall be a higher-level committee to all territorial and district election committees provided for in this Law.

2. The status of territorial and district election committees shall be determined by this Law.

3. Territorial election committees shall be legal entities. A territorial election committee shall be a higher-level committee to all district election committees on the territory of the territorial district for elections of people's deputies of Ukraine.

4. A district election committee shall not be a legal entity. A district election committee shall have its own seal, which shall be according to the sample approved by the Central Election Committee.

Article 18. Procedure of forming a territorial election committee

1. A territorial election committee shall be formed by the Central Election Committee from representatives of political parties (election blocs) that are subjects of the election process, whose lists of authorised representatives – candidates for deputies have been registered, at least 75 days prior to the election day and shall consist of the chairman, deputy chairman, secretary and other members.
2. Citizens of Ukraine who have the right to vote and reside within the respective territorial constituency or city on whose territory such district is located may be members of a territorial election committee as representatives of political parties (election blocs) that are subjects of the election process.
3. A territorial election committee shall be formed with at least 10 members. A committee shall include (subject to the presence of an appropriate suggestion) not more than two representatives from one party (election bloc) that is a subject of the election process.
4. Authorised representatives – candidates for people’s deputies from parties (election blocs), officials and civil servants of bodies of state power and local self-government bodies, heads of institutions, organisations and enterprises of all forms of ownership, citizens who have been convicted by a court for a crime for which the conviction has not been cancelled or lifted in accordance with the order established by the law and citizens who are at an institution of confinement may not be members of an election committee.
5. Governing bodies of republican (of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea), oblast, and Kyiv and Simferopol city organisations of political parties (election blocs) and parties that are subjects of the election process shall, at least 85 days prior to the election day, submit to the Central Election Committee the list of candidatures from the party (election bloc), either members of this party (parties that are members of the election bloc) or independent, to be included in specific territorial election committees, stating the proposed candidatures for the chairman, deputy chairman and secretary of the committee and signed by the leader of the party (leaders of the parties that are members of the election bloc). Attached to the list shall be applications of the persons proposed as members of the territorial election committee stating their consent to participate in its work.
6. The chairman, deputy chairman and secretary of a territorial election committee must represent different political parties (election blocs) that are subjects of the election process. Each party (election bloc) shall have the right to a proportional share of leading positions in territorial election committees.
7. The Central Election Committee shall develop regulations on the procedure of electing the chairmen, deputy chairmen and secretaries of territorial election committees by sortition subject to the requirements of this Law and the principle of equal rights of political parties (election blocs) that are subjects of the election process. The procedure of sortition shall be coordinated with authorised

representatives of political parties (election blocs) that are subjects of the election process, and sortition shall be conducted publicly in their presence and in the presence of mass media representatives.

8. If no suggestions from political parties (election blocs) regarding the composition of a territorial election committee have been received within the time stipulated in Paragraph 5 of this article or if the number of candidatures proposed for members of the election committee from parties (election blocs) is less than 10, the territorial election committee shall be formed by the Central Election Committee on the submission of its chairman, subject to the suggestions from political parties (election blocs) received by the committee, and shall have 3 members.

9. Persons included at the initiative of the Central Election Committee may not hold leading positions in territorial election committees.

10. The chairman and secretary of a territorial election committee must know the official language.

11. The decision to form a territorial election committee shall be published in mass media in its region within five days from the day of such forming.

Article 19. Procedure of forming a district election committee

1. A district election committee shall consist of the chairman, deputy chairman, secretary and other members and shall be formed by the respective territorial election committee from representatives of political parties (election blocs) that are subjects of the election process, whose lists of authorised representatives – candidates for deputies have been registered, at least 40 days prior to the election day on the submission of at least two rayon, city (city district) or higher-level cells (organisations) of the party (cells (organisations) of parties that are members of the election bloc), except as provided for in Paragraphs 11, 12 and 13 of this article.

2. Citizens of Ukraine who have the right to vote and reside within the respective territorial constituency may be members of a district election committee as representatives of political parties (election blocs) that are subjects of the election process.

3. A district election committee shall be formed with at least 8 members. The district election committee in election districts where the number of voters does not exceed 50 may consist of the chairman, secretary and 2-4 members.

4. Persons mentioned in Paragraph 4 of Article 18 of this Law, may not be members of a district election committee, except district election committees formed as stipulated in Paragraphs 9, 10 and 11 of this article.

5. On the submission of at least two rayon, city (city district) or higher-level cells (organisations) of the party, (cells (organisations) of parties that are members of the election bloc) that are subjects of the election process shall, at least 50 days

prior to the election day, submit to the respective territorial election committee the list of candidatures from the party (election bloc), either members of this party (parties that are members of the election bloc) or independent, to be included in specific district election committees, stating the proposed candidatures for the chairman, deputy chairman and secretary of the committee, signed by the leaders of such cells (organisations) of the party (leaders of the cells (organisations) of parties that are members of the election bloc) and sealed with a seal(s). Attached to the list shall be applications of the persons proposed as members of the district election committee stating their consent to participate in its work.

6. A district election committee shall include (subject to the presence of appropriate suggestions) not more than two representatives from one party (election bloc).

7. The chairman, deputy chairman and secretary of a district election committee may not represent the same political party (election bloc) that is a subject of the election process. Each party (election bloc) shall have the right to a proportional share of leading positions in district election committees.

8. The Central Election Committee shall develop regulations on the procedure of electing the chairmen, deputy chairmen and secretaries of district election committees by sortition subject to the requirements of this Law and the principle of equal rights of political parties (election blocs) that are subjects of the election process. The procedure of sortition shall be coordinated with authorised representatives of political parties (election blocs) that are subjects of the election process, and sortition shall be conducted publicly in their presence and in the presence of mass media representatives.

9. If no suggestions regarding the composition of district election committees have been received within the time stipulated in Paragraph 5 of this article or if the number of candidatures proposed for members of a district election committee is less than 8, the district election committee shall be formed by the territorial election committee on the submission of its chairman, subject to the suggestions from political parties (election blocs) received by the committee, and shall have 8 members.

10. Persons included at the initiative of territorial election committees may not hold leading positions in district election committees.

11. On a ship that is in a voyage under the national flag of Ukraine on the election day and on a polar station, the district election committee shall be formed by the territorial election committee of the place of registration or belonging of the ship or polar station on the submission of the ship's captain or head of the station within the time stipulated in Paragraph 1 of this article.

12. The district election committee at a representation of Ukraine abroad and in a military formation (unit) dislocated outside of Ukraine shall be formed by the Central Election Committee on the submission of the head of the representation or

commander of the formation (unit) within the time stipulated in Paragraph 1 of this article.

13. The Central Election Committee shall develop regulations on the special procedure of electing the chairmen, deputy chairmen and secretaries of district election committees on a ship that is in a voyage under the national flag of Ukraine on the election day, on a polar station, at a representation of Ukraine abroad and in a military formation (unit) dislocated outside of Ukraine by sortition subject to the requirements of this Law and the principle of equal rights of political parties (election blocs) that are subjects of the election process. The procedure of sortition shall be coordinated with authorised persons of political parties (election blocs) in the Central Election Committee.

14. In exceptional cases, district election committees shall be formed by the Central Election Committee as stipulated in Paragraph 7 of Article 15 of this Law.

15. The chairman and secretary of a district election committee must know the official language.

16. The decision to form a district election committee shall be published in mass media or otherwise within three days from the day of such forming.

Article 20. Powers of the Central Election Committee

1. Powers of the Central Election Committee with regard to preparing and conducting elections of deputies shall be determined by this Law, Law of Ukraine *On the Central Election Committee* and other laws of Ukraine.

2. In addition to the powers determined by Law of Ukraine *On the Central Election Committee*, the Central Election Committee shall:

1. provide legal, organisational, methodological and technical assistance to election committees and give explanations concerning questions of application of this Law, which shall be binding on election committees;
2. if necessary, convene at its own initiative meetings of a lower-level election committee;
3. control the use by election committees of the funds of the state budget of Ukraine, involving in the audits the personnel of the bodies of the Ministry of Finance of Ukraine and the personnel of the bodies of the State Control and Auditing Commission of Ukraine;
4. establish the norms and list of equipment and implements for the rooms of an election committee and voting rooms and the kinds of services and works that may be rendered to election committees;
5. stop the movement of funds on the accounts of territorial election committees in banking institutions after the end of the term of the committees or if they breach financial discipline; decide on transferring the balance on the account of the Central Election Committee;

6. determine, in accordance with this Law and other laws of Ukraine, the procedure of using mass media to conduct election campaign;
7. provide for the making of informational placards of parties (election blocs) that are subjects of the election process;
8. control the receipt and use of the means of election funds of parties (election blocs) and involve the banking institution in which the respective accounts are operated in selective audits;
9. provide for the making of the forms of the relocation certificate of the right to participate in elections of people's deputies (hereinafter referred to as the "relocation certificate");
10. provide for the centralised making of the necessary quantity of ballots and deliver them to territorial election committees;
11. within three months from the day of official publishing of the results of elections, send to the Chamber of Accounts a report on the spending of the funds of the state budget of Ukraine allocated for the preparation for and conducting of elections;
12. exercise other powers in accordance with this Law and other laws of Ukraine.

Article 21. Powers of a territorial committee

1. The powers of a territorial election committee shall commence on the day of the decision to form it and end ten days after the official publishing of the results of elections by the Central Election Committee.
2. A territorial election committee shall:
 1. provide for the preparation for and conducting of elections of deputies in the territorial constituency;
 2. within the territorial constituency, exercise control over the observance and application of the legislation on elections of deputies by voters, district election committees, bodies of state power, local self-government bodies, officials and civil servants thereof, enterprises, institutions, organisations and officials thereof, parties (election blocs) and other subjects;
 3. provide legal, organisational, methodological and technical assistance to territorial election committees and organise the training of members thereof in the organisation of election process;
 4. form election districts and establish the limits and unified numeration thereof within the constituency;
 5. form district election committees in accordance with this Law;
 6. if necessary, convene at its own initiative meetings of a district election committee;

7. decide on the questions of distribution of funds between district election committees in accordance with the order established by the Central Election Committee;
8. control the activities of bodies of executive power and local self-government bodies with regard to providing voting premises, transportation, means of communication and equipment and, within its competence, consider and decide on other questions of logistical support of elections on its territory;
9. together with appropriate bodies of executive power and local self-government bodies, assist in the organisation of meetings of authorised representatives – candidates for people’s deputies and authorised persons of parties (election blocs) with voters at enterprises, institutions and organisations of all forms of ownership and, when provided for in this Law, organise such meetings;
10. deliver to district election committees forms of relocation certificates and ballots;
11. provide for the making of seals and stamps and deliver them to district election committees;
12. determine the results of voting in the territorial constituency;
13. announce voting at a polling station invalid in the events provided for in Article 60 of this Law;
14. consider and decide on appeals, petitions and complaints relating to the preparation for and conducting of elections in the territorial constituency;
15. hear reports of district election committees, local bodies of executive power and local self-government bodies on questions related to the preparation for and conducting of elections;
16. keep records of official observers working in the territorial constituency;
17. provide for the depositing in an appropriate state archive institution of election and other documentation in accordance with the order established by the Central Election Committee;
18. exercise other powers in accordance with this Law and other laws of Ukraine.

Article 22. Powers of a local committee

1. The powers of a district election committee shall commence on the day of the decision to form it and end ten days after the official publishing of the results of elections by the Central Election Committee.
2. A district election committee shall:
 1. within the election district, exercise control over the observance and application of the legislation on elections of deputies;

2. specify, provide for public examination and, when provided for in this Law, amend registers of voters;
3. ensure a possibility for voters to examine the voting lists and election programmes of political parties (election blocs) and decisions published by the Central Election Committee and territorial election committee, its own decisions and announcements;
4. send or deliver in advance to each voter individual invitations stating the date of elections, address of the voting premises and time of beginning and end of voting;
5. provide for the preparation of voting premises and ballot boxes;
6. when provided for in this Law, amend the ballot in accordance with the decision of the Central Election Committee;
7. organise voting at the polling station;
8. count the votes cast at the polling station;
9. announce voting at a polling station invalid in the events provided for in Article 60 of this Law;
10. consider and, within its competence, decide on appeals, petitions and complaints relating to the preparation for and conducting of elections and organising voting at the polling station;
11. exercise other powers in accordance with this Law and other laws of Ukraine.

Article 23. Organisation of work of election committees

1. The main form of work of an election committee shall be a meeting, which shall be convened by the committee's chairman or, in the absence thereof, by the deputy chairman or, in the absence of both the chairman and deputy chairman, by the committee's secretary and at the request of one third of the committee's members.
2. If necessary, a committee's meeting may be convened by the decision of the territorial election committee or the Central Election Committee.
3. The first meeting of an election committee shall be convened within three working days from the day of its forming, and the next meetings shall be convened as necessary; in the events provided for in Paragraph 7 of Article 15 of this Law, the first meeting of a committee shall be convened not later than the first working day following the day of its forming.
4. A meeting of an election committee shall be valid if attended by at least two thirds of the committee's members.
5. A meeting of an election committee shall be convened with mandatory notification of all members of the committee of the time, place and agenda of the meeting.

6. Draft decisions of the committee and necessary materials shall be sent to the committee's members, as a rule, at least one day prior to the day of the meeting.

7. A meeting of an election committee shall be presided upon by the committee's chairman or deputy chairman; if they do not perform this function, the committee shall determine the chairman of the meeting from among its members.

8. At the request of one third of its members or if a higher-level election committee shall so decide, an election committee, except a district election committee, shall consider questions that relate to its powers at its meeting at least three days prior to the day of elections, and on the day of elections, without delay. A district election committee shall consider questions that relate to its powers at its meeting without delay if so requested by one third of the committee's members or if a higher-level election committee shall so decide. The results of consideration of questions at the meetings of election committees shall be announced on the day of the meeting.

9. Only authorised representatives – candidates for people's deputies, authorised persons, official observers from parties (election blocs) that are subjects of the election process (not more than two persons total from one party (election bloc)), official observers from foreign states and international organisations and mass media representatives (not more than two persons from one mass media outlet) shall have the right to be present at the meetings of an election committee and in the voting room in a polling station without the committee's invitation.

10. A committee may make a reasoned decision to deprive persons mentioned in Paragraph 9 of this article the right to participate in a meeting if they impede the conducting of such meeting. Such decision shall be taken by two thirds of the committee's members. A committee may not deprive such persons of such right for their actions performed with the purpose of carrying out their obligations provided for in this Law. Members of law enforcement bodies shall not have the right to use physical force against such persons.

11. Minutes shall be kept at a committee's meeting and shall be signed by the meeting's chairman and the committee's secretary (or acting secretary, which shall be determined at the meeting).

12. Except as otherwise provided for in this Law, a decision of an election committee shall be adopted in the form of a resolution by open vote by the majority of votes of the committee's members. In the event of a tie vote, the decision voted for by the meeting's chairman shall be adopted.

13. The decision of an election committee on a question considered at its meeting shall contain: the committee's name; decision's name; date, place and number of the decision; a declarative part stating reasons behind the decisions with reference to why the question was considered at the meeting; reference to specific provisions of regulations or decisions of a higher-level election committee or a court that guided the committee in its decision; an operative part; the decision

shall be adopted in the form of a resolution and shall be signed by the meeting's chairman.

14. A member of an election committee who participates in its meeting and disagrees with its decision shall have the right to express a separate opinion in writing, and such opinion shall be attached to the minutes of the committee's meeting.

The separate opinion shall be considered at a meeting of a higher-level election committee when it decides on the question to which such opinion is related.

15. A decision of an election committee adopted within its powers shall be binding on all subjects and other participants of the election process. Except as otherwise provided for in the law, nobody shall have the right to intervene in the activity of election committees.

16. A decision of an election committee that contradicts the legislation of Ukraine or exceeds the committee's powers may be revoked by a higher-level election committee or judicially. The higher-level election committee shall have the right to adopt a decision if at least three fourths of the committee's members vote in favour of such decision. Such decision of the higher-level election committee may be appealed against in court.

17. Appeals, petitions and complaints received by an election committee shall be registered in accordance with the procedure established by the Central Election Committee.

18. An election committee may involve appropriate experts and technical personnel in order to provide organisational, legal and technical assistance to the committee in exercising the powers provided for in this Law.

Article 24. Status of a member of an election committee

1. The status of a member of the Central Election Committee shall be determined by Law of Ukraine *On the Central Election Committee*.

2. The status of a member of a territorial or district election committee shall be determined by this Law.

3. By the decision of an election committee, which shall be approved by a higher-level election committee, the chairman, deputy chairman, secretary or, if they decline, other members of a territorial election committee (being not more than three in number) or district election committee (being not more than two in number) may exercise their powers as members of the election committee on a continuing basis during the entire term or a part of the term of the election committee. Such persons shall be relieved from their production or official duties at their main place of work.

4. A member of an election committee shall have the right to:

1. take part in the preparation of questions brought before the election committee;

2. speak at the election committee's meetings, ask other participants of the meeting questions regarding the items of the agenda and put forward proposals on questions that are within the committee's powers;
 3. audit the activities of lower-level election committees if so instructed by an appropriate election committee;
 4. examine documents of his election committee and lower-level election committees on its territory;
 5. be compensated, as stipulated by the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine, for damage caused to his life, health or property in connection with the carrying out of his duties as a member of the election committee.
5. A member of an election committee shall:
1. observe the Constitution of Ukraine, this Law and other laws of Ukraine on the preparation for and conducting of elections;
 2. participate in the meetings of the election committee;
 3. carry out the election committee's decisions and his duties on the committee.
6. A member of an election committee shall have other rights and duties in accordance with this Law and other laws of Ukraine.
7. When carrying out his duties, a member of an election committee shall not campaign for or against parties (election blocs) and authorised representatives – candidates for people's deputies included in the voting lists of parties (election blocs) and shall not publicly evaluate the activity of parties (election blocs) that are subjects of the election process.

Article 25. Termination of the powers of an election committee and a member thereof

1. The powers of a territorial or district election committee may be terminated early at the initiative of the election committee that formed it or by a court decision passed on the submission of a body of the Office of Public Prosecutor.
2. The powers of a member of a territorial or district election committee shall terminate simultaneously with the termination of powers of the election committee.
3. The powers of a member of a territorial or district election committee shall be terminated early by the election committee that formed it:
 1. the committee member sends in his resignation;
 2. the committee member is recalled by his party (election bloc);
 3. the committee member's Ukrainian citizenship is terminated;
 4. the party (election bloc) on the submission of which the person became a member of the election committee loses the status of a subject of the election process;

5. the committee member leaves the limits of the territorial constituency or population aggregate until the election day and is therefore unable to carry out his committee duties;
 6. the committee member is registered as a candidate for deputy to the local council or candidate for village, settlement or city mayor;
 7. the committee member systematically fails to carry out his duties, provided that at least two thirds of the committee's members vote in favour of such decision;
 8. the committee member is registered as an authorised person of a party (election bloc), agent of a candidate for deputy to the local council or a candidate for village, settlement or city mayor, or observer from a party (election bloc);
 9. the committee member is in systematic or gross violation of election legislation of Ukraine in force, which has been established by a court decision or the decision of a higher-level election committee, provided that at least two thirds of the committee's members vote in favour of such decision;
 10. a conviction for a premeditated crime takes effect against the committee member;
 11. the committee member is declared legally incapable or missing;
 12. the committee member dies.
4. If an election committee's powers are terminated early or the number of its members decreases to below the limit established in Article 19 of this Law, the appropriate higher-level election committee shall, within seven days from such event but at least one day prior to the election day, approve a new membership of the committee or introduce other members in place of those whose powers have been terminated.
5. An election committee that has early terminated the powers, decreased the membership or found reasons to terminate the powers of an election committee shall, not later than the next day, notify the subjects of the election process at whose suggestion the persons whose powers have been early terminated were introduced as the committee's members.
6. The subject of the election process at whose suggestion a person whose powers have been early terminated was introduced as the committee's member shall have the right of priority to propose a candidature to introduce as the committee's member in place of such person. Such proposal made in accordance with the requirements of this Law may not be rejected.
7. A territorial or district election committee may apply to the election committee that formed it with a reasoned decision to replace its chairman, deputy chairman, secretary or another member in accordance with Item 7 of Paragraph 3 of this article if at least two thirds of the committee's members have voted in favour of

such decision. The decision shall be considered within the time stipulated in Paragraph 4 of this article.

6. In the event of circumstances provided for in Items 1, 3, 4, 6, 8 and 10-12 of Paragraph 3 of this article, the powers of the member of the committee shall be terminated effective on the moment when such circumstances arise, and in the event of circumstances provided for in Items 2, 5, 7 and 9, on the moment when the termination decision is adopted.

Article 26. Remuneration of labour of members of an election committee and persons involved in its work

1. The labour of a member of an election committee who exercises his powers on a continuing basis in accordance with Paragraph 3 of Article 24 of this Law shall be remunerated as stipulated by the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine from the funds of the state budget of Ukraine allocated for the preparation for and conducting of elections.

2. The size of pay of a member of an election committee who has been relieved from his production or official duties at his main place of work may not be lower than the average wage at his main place of work but may not be higher than the pay of a people's deputy of Ukraine.

3. One-time monetary allowance may be calculated and paid to members of election committees in accordance with the order established by the Central Election Committee within the general saving of the wage fund provided for in the election committee's budget of expenditure for the preparation for and conducting of elections of deputies.

4. The work of members of election committees, except those who have been relieved from their production or official duties at their main places of work (including pensioners and temporary unemployed persons), on the day of elections of deputies and on the days of determining the results of voting shall be remunerated as stipulated by the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine.

5. The work of persons mentioned in Paragraph 18 of Article 23 of this Law shall be remunerated within the funds of the state budget of Ukraine allocated for the preparation for and conducting of elections and the approved budget.

Article 27. Appealing against decisions, acts or inaction that breach the legislation of Ukraine on elections of people's deputies of Ukraine

1. Voters, parties (election blocs) and authorised representatives – candidates for people's deputies from a party (election bloc) shall have the right to appeal against decisions, acts or inaction of subjects mentioned in Paragraphs 2 and 3 of this article that breach the legislation of Ukraine on elections of people's deputies, and election committees shall have the right to appeal against decisions, acts or inaction of subjects mentioned in Paragraph 2 of this article.

2. Decisions, acts or inaction of bodies of state power, local self-government bodies, enterprises, institutions and organisations and officials and civil servants thereof that breach the legislation of Ukraine on elections may be appealed against in court.

3. Decisions, acts or inaction of bodies of election committees and members thereof may be appealed against in a higher-level election committee or in court.

4. Decisions, acts or inaction of bodies of an election committee and members thereof shall be appealed against in a local court at the place where the election committee is located (for district election committees) or in an appeal court at the place where the election committee is located (for territorial election committees and members thereof).

5. Decisions, acts and inaction of the Central Election Committee and members thereof shall be appealed against in the Supreme Court of Ukraine.

6. An appeal may be lodged with an appropriate election committee or court within seven days from the decision, act or inaction appealed against. An appeal against infringements that took place before elections may be lodged at the latest at 24 o'clock of the day immediately preceding the election day. An appeal against infringements that took place during elections may be lodged with an appropriate election committee at the latest at 24 o'clock of the election day, and to a higher-level election committee or court, at the latest at 24 o'clock of the day immediately following the election day.

7. An appeal shall contain:

1. the name of the election committee or court appealed to;
2. the following information about the appellant: last name, first name, patronymic name and place of residence for a citizen of Ukraine or the accurate name and location for a political party (legal entity);
3. fact of the matter;
4. the appellant's demands;
5. circumstances of the case and reasons for the appellant's demands;
6. signature of the the appellant (representative of the appellant that is a legal entity) and date.

8. An appeal received by an appropriate election committee or court shall be considered within five days from receipt but not later than the two days immediately preceding the election day, and on the election day or on the day immediately following it, without delay. A reasoned decision on the appeal shall be made and announced on the same day, and the appellant shall be notified of such decision without delay.

9. An appeal that does not comply with the requirements of Paragraph 7 of this article shall be returned to the appellant (representative of the appellant that is a legal entity) with an explanation of the reasons of such return not later than the next day after the receipt of the appeal. After making necessary amendments, the

appellant (representative of the appellant that is a legal entity) shall have the right to lodge the appeal following the common procedure but not later than the next day after the end of the term for appealing if the appellant received the explanation on the last day of such term.

10. If during consideration of an appeal an election committee determines that an examination of the circumstances described in the appeal by law enforcement bodies is necessary, such bodies shall, if so instructed by the election committee, examine such circumstances and take appropriate measures in order to stop violation of the law within the time prescribed by the election committee but not later than five days after the receipt of such instruction, and if the instruction was received less than five days prior to the election day, on the election day or on the day immediately following it, then without delay.

11. Except as provided for in Paragraph 9 of this article, the term for appealing established in this Law shall not be extended or renewed. Appeals lodged after the end of the term for appealing shall not be considered.

12. If an appeal that has been accepted by a court for consideration is then lodged with an election committee and it has the same subject and reasons, the election committee shall suspend consideration of such appeal until such time as the court's decision shall have taken effect. The court shall notify such election committee and a higher-level election committee of the receipt of an appeal or of the taking of effect of its decision within two days from the receipt of the appeal or the taking of effect of its decision.

13. If a decision of an election committee has been revoked by a court, the decision on this question shall be taken by election committee whose decision has been revoked or by a higher-level election committee on the grounds of a court decision.

14. A higher-level election committee may, on the grounds of an appeal or court decision or on its own initiative, revoke the decision of a lower-level election committee and make a decision on the merits or oblige the lower-level election committee to reconsider the question.

15. Judicial consideration of appeals against decisions, acts and inaction that breach the legislation of Ukraine on elections of people's deputies of Ukraine shall be collective.

16. Courts, bodies of the Office of Public Prosecutor and election committees shall organise their work during the election process, including on days off and the election day, in such a way as to ensure consideration of appeals within the time stipulated in this Law.

17. Having established that decisions, acts or inaction are inconsistent with the legislation on elections of people's deputies of Ukraine, a court shall allow the appeal, revoke the decision or announce the acts or inaction unlawful, oblige the subject of the appeal to comply with the appellant's demands or to otherwise restore the infringed voting rights of citizens or the rights and lawful interests of

the subject of the election process, or oblige the subject of the appeal and/or another body, legal entity, official or functionary to carry out the actions envisaged by the laws regulating the organisation and procedure of elections of people's deputies of Ukraine that ensue from the fact of revocation of the decision or announcing the acts or inaction appealed against unlawful.

18. A court shall dismiss an appeal if it establishes that the decisions, acts or inaction appealed against were lawful and within the powers provided for in the law.

19. The decision of a court shall be carried out promptly.

20. The decision of a court shall be final and shall not be subject to appeal, except when newly discovered and exceptional circumstances that indicate breach of the legislation on elections of people's deputies of Ukraine by decisions, acts or inaction are presented as provided for in the legislation of Ukraine in force. The cases of such newly discovered and exceptional circumstances shall be considered by appropriate courts collectively with the participation of the court president without delay, including the cases when an improper person took the oath of a people's deputy of Ukraine.

21. After the court's decision has been announced, its copy shall be promptly issued or sent to the appellant, subject of the appeal and respective election committee.

Section V. REGISTERS OF VOTERS

Article 28. The procedure of making registers of voters

1. In order to prepare for and hold elections, executive bodies of village, settlement, city (for cities where there are no district councils) or city district councils or bodies (officials) that perform the functions thereof in accordance with the law shall, by the 1st of September of the year immediately preceding the year of regular elections, make general registers of voters that live on the territory of such village, settlement, city or city district, based on information about their permanent residence, in accordance with the form established by the Central Election Committee. Information about permanent residence of citizens possessed by local bodies of the Ministry of Internal Affairs, Ministry of Justice and State Tax Administration may be used in order to make general registers of voters. Heads of these bodies shall provide information necessary to make general registers of voters if requested by the village, settlement or city mayor or chairman of the city district council.

2. After the forming of election districts, executive bodies of village, settlement, city (for cities where there are no district councils) or city district councils or bodies (officials) that perform the functions thereof in accordance with the law shall, based on appropriate registers of voters mentioned in Paragraph 1 of this article, make registers of voters for each election district (except election districts

mentioned in Paragraphs 3-5 of Article 15 of this Law) in accordance with the form established by the Central Election Committee, specify these registers and, at least 30 days prior to the election day, deliver them, signed by the village, settlement or city mayor or the person that performs the functions thereof in accordance with the law, to district election committees.

3. Military personnel, their family members and other voters that live within the location of military formations (units) and will vote at polling stations located outside of the military formations (units) shall be included in the registers of voters of such polling stations based on the information submitted by the commanders of the military formations (units) to the bodies that make the registers of voters at least 45 days prior to the election day. In order to ensure free voting by enlisted members of the armed forces, they shall be given a leave for at least four hours on the election day.

4. In election districts formed in hospitals, on ships that are in a voyage under the national flag of Ukraine on the election day, on Ukraine's polar stations, at representations of Ukraine abroad, in military formations (units) dislocated outside of Ukraine, in penitentiary institutions and in other places of temporary stay of voters with limited movement possibilities, registers of voters shall be made in accordance with the same form by appropriate district election committees based on the information that shall be submitted without delay by the heads of respective establishments, institutions, representations, ship captains, commanders of military formations (units), etc. at least thirty days prior to the election day.

5. Personnel of representations of Ukraine abroad, their family members and other citizens of Ukraine lawfully living on the territory of the foreign state shall be included in the registers of voters in election districts formed at such representations on the basis of their written requests stating their permanent residence or presentation of the relocation certificate provided for in Paragraph 4 of Article 29 of this Law and presentation of the passport for travelling abroad of a citizen of Ukraine or seaman identity card.

6. In exceptional cases provided for in Paragraph 7 of Article 15 of this Law, registers of voters shall be made by an district election committee at least four days prior to the election day based on the information submitted by the heads of respective establishments, institutions, etc.

7. Included in the registers of voters shall be citizens of Ukraine who have reached or will by the election day have reached the age of eighteen and have the right to vote and who on the day of making the registers of voters reside (for election districts formed in accordance with Paragraph 2 of Article 15 of this Law) or will be (for election districts formed in accordance with Paragraphs 3, 4 and 5 of Article 15 of this Law) on the territory of the election district.

8. A register of voters shall state the voter's last name, first name, patronymic name, year of birth (date and month of birth for persons that in the year of

elections on the election day reached or reach the age of eighteen) and permanent address. If no information about the citizen's date and month of birth is available, he shall be considered to have been born on the 1st of January of the appropriate year. Voters shall be included in the register in the order that shall be convenient for voting.

9. Officials that signed registers of voters shall be responsible for their authenticity, completeness and timely delivery to district election committees.

Article 29. Policy for finalisation of the register of voters and its presentation to the voters

1. A district election commission shall finalise the register of voters and amend it, if requested by individuals, or based on applications from government agencies and officials, specified in Paragraphs 1, 3, and 4 of Article 28 of this Law; the register of voters shall be signed by the chairperson and secretary of the commission, and stamped with the stamp of the commission, and thereafter are presented to the general public within 15 days, or, under exceptional circumstances as provided for in Paragraph 7 of Article 15 of this Law, within 3 days as the latest prior to the election day. Every and each voter shall be provided with the opportunity to get familiarised with the register of voters at the premises of the district election commission, and check the data included in the list for accuracy.

2. District election commission, if requested by the member of the commission, authorised representative - candidate for people's deputy, or authorised person of a party (election block), has the right to inquire for familiarisation at respective government agencies and local self-government agencies any documents containing information on place of permanent residence of the citizens, which served as basis for compilation of the registers of voters.

3. Voter may be included to the register of voters in one electoral district at a time only.

4. A voter leaving the village/town, in which he is included to the register of voters, 15 days prior to or on the election day may apply to the district election commission to exclude him from the register of voters. Based on such application and presentation of the document specified in Paragraph 2 of Article 2 of this Law, the district election commission shall issue a relocation certificate to the voter. The register of voters must state the date of issuance and sequence number of the relocation certificate; signatures of a voter who received the certificate and a commission member who issued it are affixed. The issuance of relocation certificates is terminated one day prior to the election day. In case a voter loses his relocation certificate it shall not be issued again.

5. Relocation certificates have consistent numbering throughout the whole territory of Ukraine, and are registered documents. The form of the relocation certificate shall be approved by the Central Election commission.

6. The order of relocation certificates manufacturing, delivery to the constituency and district election commission, withdrawal and cancellation of not used relocation certificates is set up by the Central Election commission. Relocation certificate forms are delivered to the district election commissions within 25 days prior to the election day as the latest, or, under exceptional circumstances as provided for in Paragraph 7 of Article 15 of this Law, on the day of the first meeting of the election commission.

7. A voter who arrives prior to, or on, the election day to the settlement other than that of his permanent residence, and, as provided for in Paragraph 4 of the Article herein, who is excluded from the register of voters, shall be included into the register of voters by the chairperson, deputy chairperson, or secretary of the district election commission, on the basis of his application, the document as specified in Paragraph 2 of Article 2 of this Law, and relocation certificate, which should be attached to the register of voters.

8. Before the district election commission receives relocation certificate forms as provided for in Paragraph 6 of the Article herein, a voter leaving prior to the election day to stay outside the settlement where he is included into the register of voters, may, by 12.00 am on the day preceding the election day as the latest, apply to the district election commission of the place of his temporary stay requesting in writing to include him to the register of voters, having stated his address of permanent residence. Based on such application, and presentation of the document specified in Paragraph 2 of Article 2 of this Law, the district election commission shall make decision about including the voter to the register of voters for electoral district.

9. District election commission, when including to the register of voters individuals as provided for in Paragraphs 4 through 6 of Article 28 of this Law, and Paragraph 8 of the Article herein, based on data provided by senior officials of respective establishments, institutions, missions, captains of the vessels, commanders of military formations (units), as well as based on data stated in the application of the voter requesting to include him to the register of voters, shall within one day or, if on the day preceding the election day, immediately notify the constituency election commission of the territorial constituency, to which the electoral district belongs (or Central Election commission in the instances as provided for in Paragraph 5 of Article 28 of this Law), about having included to the register of voters an individual who has not produced the relocation certificate, as well as about the address of his permanent residence.

10. Constituency election commission (or Central Election commission in the instances as provided for in Paragraph 5 of Article 28 of this Law) which has received notification as provided for in Paragraph 9 of the Article herein, shall ensure rapid delivery of the above notification to the district election commission of the place of permanent residence of the voter, who has been included without relocation certificate into the register of voters of another electoral district. Following such notification, the district election commission makes decision to

exclude a voter from the register of voters for a given electoral district. If this is the case, the note "Left" is made in the field of the register of voters intended for signature of the individual concerned, and numbering of the territorial constituency and electoral district, where, according to notification the voter has been included into the register of voters, is stated, along with the date when a decision on excluding a voter from the register of voters at the electoral district has been made; the commission member who has entered the data above to the register of voters shall affix his signature.

11. Voters, parties (election blocs), authorised representatives - candidates for people's deputies, or official representatives of the parties (election blocs) during the period prior to the election day, but in any case prior to 24:00 of the day preceding the election day, have the right to appeal to the district election commission against mistakes identified in the registers of voters, including such mistakes as failure to include, and incorrect inclusion of voters to the list, or exclusion of the applying individual, or third-party individuals, from the register of voters. Complaint of the individual lodged to the district election commission, shall be considered by the commission within three-day period, with substantiated resolution of the commission made public one day before the election day, while starting from 12.00 am of the day, preceding the election day, the complaint shall be considered and decision made public immediately. District election commission is required to make necessary adjustments in the register of voters, or deliver to the applicant a copy of substantiated decision dismissing the complaint.

12. Voters, parties (election blocs), authorised representatives - candidates for people's deputies, official representatives of the parties (election blocs) have the right to appeal against inaccuracies in the registers of voters, as specified in Paragraph 11 of the Article herein, directly to the court on any day, before or on the election day.

13. Any adjustments to the registers of voters upon completion of voting are banned, and are subject to legal responsibility.

SECTION VI. FINANCIAL AND MATERIAL SUPPORT OF PREPARATION AND CONDUCT OF ELECTIONS OF PEOPLE'S DEPUTIES OF UKRAINE

Article 30. Financing of elections

Elections are financed from the funds of the State Budget of Ukraine, the election funds of parties (election blocs), as well as funds provided by individuals and legal entities.

Authorised representatives - candidates for people's deputies on behalf of political parties shall use for their election campaign election funds of political parties. Financing of other parties (election blocs) from the election fund of parties (election blocs) is prohibited.

Article 31. Financing of preparation and conduct of elections from the funds of the State Budget of Ukraine

1. Expenses related to preparation and conduct of elections of deputies, including expenses related to printing information posters of the parties (election blocs), publication of election programmes of the parties (election blocs) in mass media, TV and radio broadcasting time, manufacturing of subscription lists in compliance with the this Law, are incurred by the Central Election commission, and constituency election commissions, in compliance with expense budgets approved by the Central Election commission within funds allocated for preparation and conduct of elections of deputies in the State Budget of Ukraine.
2. Funds allocated for preparation and conduct of elections of deputies in the State Budget of Ukraine, shall be transferred to the Central Election commission within three days upon announcement of commencement of the election process.
3. The Central Election commission approves average spending rates for constituency election commissions, and average spending rates to cover needs of district election commissions.
4. Constituency election commission shall, within ten days upon its establishment, and based on average spending rates, develop aggregate spending budget for preparation and conduct of elections, with expenses of district election commissions within territorial constituency included. The budget shall be approved by the Central Election commission.
5. Funds from the State Budget of Ukraine, which have not been used by constituency election commission for preparation and conduct of elections, shall be returned to the account of the Central Election commission not later than seven days after publication of the results of elections.
6. The Central Election commission shall return funds allocated from the State Budget of Ukraine, which have not been used by election commissions for preparation and conduct of elections, to the State Budget of Ukraine within 14 days upon official publication of the results of elections as the latest.
7. Outstanding accounts payable of the territorial elections commissions, upon completion of their term, due to failure to fully finance the elections within the funds, allocated from the State Budget of Ukraine for preparation and conduct of election, shall be reimbursed by the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine before the end of the financial year.

Article 32. Election fund of the party (election bloc)

1. Party (election bloc) is required to open bank account of its election fund at least 85 days prior to the election day. The basis for opening bank account of the election fund is a copy of resolution of the Central Election commission on registering voting list of this party (election bloc).
2. The order of opening and closing bank accounts of election funds of parties (election blocs) is set up by the National Bank of Ukraine and agreed with the Central Election commission at least 100 days prior to the election day.

3. Party (election bloc) opens bank account of the election fund at the office of a Ukrainian bank in the city of Kyiv, defined by the Central Election commission. The Central Election commission develops a short-list of banks, eligible to open bank accounts of election funds. Party (election bloc) is entitled to open one bank account only for its election fund, which should be denominated only in Ukrainian currency.
4. The services of a bank on opening and closing bank account of an election fund are free. The bank office does not charge nor pay interest on using funds of the accounts held by the election fund of a party (election bloc).
5. The bank shall, by the next business day following the day when the bank account of the election fund of party (election bloc) was opened as the latest, notify the Central Election commission about account opening and account details.
6. Information about opening bank account of the election fund of the party (election bloc) and the account details shall once be published by the Central Election commission in newspapers “Holos Ukrainy” and “Uriadoviy Courier” within five days upon receiving of the bank’s notification about opening bank account of the election fund. The cost of such publication shall be covered from funds, allocated from the State Budget of Ukraine for preparation and conduct of elections. Subsequent information on details of the bank account of the election fund of the party (election bloc) shall be published in the printed media at the expense of the election fund of the party (election bloc).
7. Expenditure of funds held at the bank account of the election fund of party (election bloc) shall be stopped the day before the election day.
8. The bank shall close the bank account of the election fund of party (election bloc) on the fifteenth day upon official publication of the results of elections.

Article 33. Election Fund Managers of a party (election bloc)

1. Party (election bloc) shall appoint no more than two managers of the election fund from within their authorized representatives as established in Article 44 of this Law, which have exclusive powers to disburse money from the election fund in compliance with Ukrainian legislation.
2. Election Fund Managers of election funds shall be obliged to maintain records of money receipt and disbursement of the election fund.
3. The bank office, where the bank account of the election fund of party (election bloc) is opened, shall give information about the amount and sources of contributions made to the account of the election fund of such party (election bloc) to the fund, to fund managers on a weekly basis, or immediately, if inquired by authorized representative - fund manager of the election fund of party (election bloc).
4. Fund managers of election funds of a party (election bloc) are obliged to submit the financial statement, within five days after the election day as the latest to the

Central Election commission. The Central Election commission shall approve the form of the financial statement at least 85 days prior to the election day.

Article 34. Establishment of Election Fund of a Party (election bloc)

1. The election fund of a party (election bloc) shall be raised from money of the party (or parties members to the election bloc), and charitable contributions from individuals and legal entities.
2. The Central Election commission together with the National Bank of Ukraine and central executive body on communications issues shall establish selective check over the receipt, accounting and disbursement of money of the election funds of parties (election blocs) within 100 days prior to the election day as the latest.
3. Overall amount of disbursements from the election fund of party (election bloc) is shall not be established, however, the Central Election commission shall be provided with information on the sources of proceeds, and the purpose of disbursement of the amounts beyond 3,000 minimum non-taxable personal incomes.
4. Charity contributions to the election fund of a party (election bloc) shall be prohibited from:
 1. Foreign citizens and individuals with no citizenship;
 2. Self-employed individuals who have outstanding tax liabilities as of the date of transfer to the election fund;
 3. Anonymous contributors (who do not indicate in the payment order the information as provided in the Paragraph 5 of the Article herein);
 4. Bodies of state power, state-owned businesses, institutions and organisations, and local self-government bodies;
 5. Legal entities, where the state-owned share in statutory fund is above 10 per cent;
 6. Foreign legal entities;
 7. Legal entities operating in Ukraine, where the share of foreign capital in statutory fund is above 30 per cent;
 8. International organisations and associations established outside Ukraine.
5. The amount of contribution made by an individual to the election funds of parties (election blocs) shall not exceed 70 minimum wages, and that made by legal entity, 120 minimum wages.
6. Charitable contribution of a legal entity and a citizen of Ukraine to the election fund of a party (election bloc) shall be accepted by a bank or post office, provided that the citizen presents the document as provided in the Paragraph 2 of the Article 2 of this Law. The payment document shall obligatory state a family name, name and patronymic, the date of birth and a home address of the citizen.

7. A bank, or a post office shall transfer charitable contribution to the bank account of the election fund of a party (election bloc) by the next business day upon delivery of respective payment order as the latest. Total time period for the bank transfer of the contribution to the bank account of the election fund shall not exceed one banking day.

8. A party (election bloc) retains the right to refuse money received from the contributor, by the authorised representative – the election fund manager of a party (election bloc) shall submit an application to the bank, where the account of the election fund is opened. The money shall be returned by the above-mentioned bank to the contributor, at his/ her expense, and shall not be taken into account when the maximum allowed amount of the election fund of a party (election bloc) is calculated.

9. If the contribution to the election fund of a party (election bloc) is made by an individual or a legal entity, which, according to the provisions of this Law, is not entitled to make such contributions, the money shall be transferred to the State Budget of Ukraine on a decision of the Central Election commission.

10. Control over the receipt, accounting and disbursement of money of the election funds of parties (election blocs) shall be accomplished, as provided for in the Paragraph 2 of the Article herein by the Central Election commission and the office of the bank, where the respective account is opened.

11. The resources of the election fund, not disbursed by a party (election bloc) shall be transferred to the current bank account of a party (or parties - members of the election bloc) within seven-day period upon delivery of the respective decision of a party (election bloc) made by the supreme statutory body of the party (or management body of the election bloc). The decision shall be made within three-days period upon official publication of the results of elections.

Article 35. Procurement and Logistics Arrangements for Preparation and Conduct of elections of people's deputies

1. Bodies of state power, bodies of local self-government, as well as businesses, institutions and organisations and their officials shall assist election commissions in performing their powers: provide them with required premises, ensure their security and the security for ballots and other election-related documentation; provide with vehicles, communication facilities, equipment, office supplies and facilities (to be returned upon expiration of the authority of the election commissions), in compliance with the list and quantity established by the Central Election Commission. The procedure of payment or compensation for the aforementioned services shall be established in the order provided by the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine.

2. Procurement of goods, works, and services pertinent to preparation and conduct of elections of people's deputies shall be performed by the constituency election commissions payable from funds of the State Budget in compliance with the effective laws and regulations.

SECTION VII. NOMINATION AND REGISTRATION OF CANDIDATE FOR PEOPLE'S DEPUTIES

Article 36. Procedure of the Nomination of Candidates for People's Deputy
Authorised representatives - candidate for people's deputies on behalf of a political party (election bloc) shall be nominated in compliance with the charter of the party (election bloc) at the republican congress of the political party (election bloc), based on respective resolutions approved at the conventions of regional cells and organisations of the political party (election bloc), with reference made to the number of constituency, where every candidate will represent a political party (election bloc). A decision on nominating authorised representatives - candidates for people's deputies shall be accomplished by a secret ballot at the republican congress of the political party (election bloc), unless other procedure is stipulated in the charter documents, or approved at the congress of the political party (election bloc). A political party, or election bloc of parties retain the right to nominate the authorised representatives for candidates for people's deputies the individuals, who are not members of political parties.

Election blocs of parties can be established as provided in the effective laws of Ukraine, by political parties registered by the Ministry of Justice of Ukraine at least six months prior to the statutory date of commencement of the process of nomination of candidates for people's deputies.

Nomination of candidates for people's deputies shall commence 90 days prior to, and shall terminate 60 days prior to the election day.

A regional unit of a party (election bloc) submits an application to the respective constituency election commission. The application states a surname, name, and a patronymic, a date of birth, a profession, a position (or occupation), a place of work and home address, party membership of the contender for a candidate, as well as a surname, name, and patronymic, an address and a telephone number of an official representative of the party (election bloc) nominating the contender. The application shall be supplemented by the extract of minutes of the meeting (conference) of the regional (of the Republic of Crimea, oblast, or the city of Kyiv, or the city of Sevastopol) unit of the party (election bloc). The extract of minutes shall state the name of the party (election bloc), an address of its regional unit, a telephone number, a total number of party members (or members of the parties, which have united in the election bloc) pertinent to the respective regional unit, the number of participants at the meeting (conference), voting results, and the date of taking the decision. The minutes shall be signed by the chairperson and secretary of the meeting (conference).

Article 37. Performance bond

1. A performance bond shall be deposited by a party (election bloc) via bank transfer on the special account of the Central Election Commission in the amount of 20,000 minimum statutory salaries.
2. In case the Central Election Commission took a decision to refuse registering the voting list of the political party (election bloc), the performance bond shall, within five days upon the date of the respective decision, be transferred on the bank account of the party (election bloc).
3. A performance bond shall be returned to the parties (election blocs), which won at least 2.5 per cent of votes cast in the national constituency.
4. A performance bond deposited by the party (election bloc), which did not participate in the distribution of the mandates in Parliament, and won less than 2.5 per cent of votes cast, shall be transferred to the State Budget of Ukraine within five days upon official publication of the results of elections of deputies.

Article 38. Property and income statement of an authorised representative - candidate for people's deputy, and his family members

1. Property and income statement of an authorised representative - candidate for people's deputy and his family members for the last financial year shall be filled by an individual entered into the voting list of the party (election bloc) in person, following the form approved by the Ministry of Finance of Ukraine.
2. The accuracy of the information presented in the statement shall be checked by the bodies of the State Tax Administration of Ukraine, following the mandate of the Central Election Commission, at least 30 days prior to the election day.
3. The identification of the deliberately misleading information in the statement, or a serious non-compliance with the law during preparation and submission of the statement, with an intention to deceive voters as to the financial position of the candidate, shall result in denial of registration of the authorised representative - candidate for people's deputy.
4. In case other circumstances are revealed that disclose inadequate information declared in the statement, except for the instances falling under provisions of Paragraph 3 of Article 38 of this Law, authorised representatives - candidates for people's deputies on behalf of the political parties (blocs) shall submit correct property and income statements to the Central Election Commission within three days.
5. If the above stated facts are revealed after the registration of the authorised representative - candidate for people's deputy, the Central Election Commission shall consider the cancellation of the registration of the authorised representative - candidate for people's deputy. The decision to deny the registration, or cancellation thereof, of the authorised representative - candidate for people's deputy, may be appealed in court.
6. If demanded by the official representatives of the parties (election blocs), information pertinent to the property and income statements of the authorised

representatives - candidates for people's deputies and their family members, shall be handed by the Central Election Commission to mass media for official publication.

Article 39. Withdrawal of the candidate for deputy from nomination

1. The Central Election Commission shall cancel its decision on registration of the authorised representatives - candidates for people's deputies based on the court ruling, in case the authorised representatives - candidates for people's deputies violation the provisions of this Law. The grounds for taking the decision include: cessation of the Ukrainian citizenship of the authorised representatives - candidates for people's deputies; the sentence of the court takes effect in respect of the candidate for committing the deliberate law offence; registration of an individual as an authorised representative - candidate for people's deputy in more than one constituency. The Central Election Commission shall notify the political party (election bloc) about the delete of its authorised representative - candidate for people's deputy from the voting list, or about the cancellation of the decision thereof on registration of the authorised representative - candidate for people's deputy, immediately, and shall deliver the copy of the decision.

2. In the event of death of the candidate for people's deputy, the Central Election Commission shall declare him as the one who is withdrawn from the nomination.

3. A political party (election bloc) shall determine another authorised representative - candidate for people's deputy within five-day period on behalf of this political party (election bloc) to replace the one withdrawn from nomination, or to replace the individual in respect of whom the registration decision was cancelled.

SECTION VIII. ELECTION CAMPAIGNING

Article 40. Forms and means of election campaigning

1. Election campaigning shall begin on the day of registration of the list of authorized representatives – candidates for people's deputies from the political party (election bloc) and end at 00:00 o'clock of the election day. Any election campaigning on the election day shall be prohibited.

2. Citizens of Ukraine, political parties (election blocs), other associations of citizens, collectives of enterprises, institutions and organizations shall have the right to freely and thoroughly discuss election programmes of political parties, political, business and personal qualities of authorised representatives – candidates for people's deputies from political parties (election blocs) and campaign for or against them at meetings, mass-meetings, in conversations, in the press, on the radio and television.

3. It shall be prohibited to campaign and distribute any campaign materials to:

- Persons who are not citizens of Ukraine;

- Officials and civil servants of bodies of state power of Ukraine, local self-government bodies and officials thereof in discharge of their functions;
 - Charitable organisations and religious associations;
 - Members of election commissions;
 - Charitable organisations and religious associations.
6. Election campaigning in military formations (units) and penitentiary institutions shall be limited.
7. Election campaigning may be conducted in any form and using any means that shall not contradict the Constitution and laws of Ukraine.
8. Officials and civil servants of bodies of state power of Ukraine and local self-government bodies that have ceased their activity because they had acquired the status of an authorised representative – candidate for people’s deputies from political parties (election blocs) but have not become people’s deputies shall be restored in their previous jobs without any negative consequences connected with the ceasing of their activity when they were candidates for people’s deputies of Ukraine.

Article 41. Election campaigning materials

1. The territorial constituency election commission of a territorial constituency shall, using the funds of the state budget of Ukraine allocated for election campaigning, at least 30 days prior to the election day, provide for the printing of election placards of authorised representatives – candidates for people’s deputies from political parties (election blocs) in the respective territorial constituency, two thousand copies per candidate, and deliver to each candidate for people’s deputies at least three fourths of this number of placards.
2. The procedure of posting election placards shall be coordinated with the authorised representative – candidate for people’s deputies or authorised person of the party (election bloc). The territorial constituency election commission shall provide for the posting of these placards at polling stations.
3. In order to provide for the making of an election placard, an authorised representative – candidate for people’s deputies may present to the territorial constituency election commission the election programme of the political election bloc (party) that he represents with a volume not exceeding two pages of one-and-a-half-spaced typescript (up to 3900 characters) and his autobiography of the same volume telling about his most significant achievements, which shall not contain secrets protected by the law, and his photograph (the size of the photograph shall be determined by the election commission).
4. Election placards shall be identical in form, size and graphic quality and shall not contain false information or commercial advertisement. The territorial constituency election commission shall coordinate with the authorised

representative – candidate for people’s deputies the textual content of his election placards and provides for its printing.

5. Political parties and their authorised representatives – candidates for people’s deputies shall have the right to freely issue placards, leaflets, booklets and other campaigning materials using the means of their election funds.

6. All printed campaigning materials shall contain information about the organisation, institution or persons responsible for issuing them and the details of the institution in charge of printing, as well as the print run.

7. Authorised representatives – candidates for people’s deputies or authorised persons of the political party (election bloc) shall present one copy of each kind of printed campaigning materials bearing their personal signatures to the territorial constituency election commission within three days from producing them.

Article 42. Use of mass media

1. Mass media representatives shall be guaranteed free access to all events related to elections, except for meetings of support groups of authorised representatives – candidates for people’s deputies from political parties (election blocs). Election commissions, bodies of executive power and local self-government bodies shall provide them with information about the preparation for and conducting of elections.

2. The list of local and regional mass media with the participation of the state or local self-government bodies – by territorial constituency election commissions on the submission of respective local state administrations or local self-government bodies not later than the end of the period for registration of authorised representatives – candidates for people’s deputies from political parties (election blocs).

3. Establishing the order of granting broadcasting time to authorised representatives – candidates for people’s deputies from political parties (election blocs) shall be determined by territorial constituency election commissions subject to the principle of equal opportunities for all candidates for people’s deputies.

4. Broadcasting time for election campaigning shall be paid for with the funds from the State Budget of Ukraine allocated for election campaigning and shall be granted by television and radio companies on workdays between 19:00 and 23:00 Kyiv time. Broadcasting time (broadcasting grid) of television and radio companies licensed by the National Council of Ukraine on Television and Radio to use national broadcasting channels shall change (without changes in broadcasting volume) for the period of elections in order to ensure the oblast state television and radio companies the maximal coverage by the programmes of the territories of the respective constituencies.

5. The management of television and radio companies shall make broadcasting timetables indicating election campaigning television programmes and their broadcasting dates and times based on the results of sortition, which shall be

conducted by territorial constituency election commissions. The timetables shall be published in local mass media.

6. Including campaigning materials of authorised representatives – candidates for people’s deputies or political advertisement in informational television and radio programmes shall be prohibited. Political advertisement shall be separated and indicated as such.

7. Interrupting election campaigning television programmes of political parties with advertisement of goods, works and services and other announcements shall be prohibited.

8. Authorised representatives – candidates for people’s deputies from political parties (election blocs) shall have the right to publish, using the funds from the State Budget of Ukraine allocated for election campaigning, via the territorial constituency election commission the election programme of the party with a volume not exceeding two pages of one-and-a-half-spaced typescript (up to 3900 characters) and of identical graphic quality in local printed periodicals with the participation of the state or local self-government bodies.

9. The sequence of publishing election programmes of political parties (election blocs) in a constituency shall be determined by the respective election commissions by sortition.

10. If untruthful information about political parties (election blocs) are published in mass media, such mass media shall, within seven days but at least two days prior to the election day, grant the authorised representatives – candidates for people’s deputies from the political parties (election blocs) the untruthful information about whom has been published the same amount of time on radio or television or the same newspaper space for at least 2000 characters for disproving the untruthful information. If this requirement is violated, the activity of such mass media may be temporarily ceased by a court judgement on the submission of the Central Election Commission or the respective constituency election commission.

11. Hindering the exercise of the right to conduct election campaigning and abusing such right shall entail responsibility in accordance with the legislation of Ukraine in force.

Article 43. Election campaigning restrictions

1. During the election campaign, it shall be prohibited for authorised representatives – candidates for people’s deputies from political parties (election blocs), including those that are employees of state and municipal television and radio organisations, to exceed the broadcasting time for election campaigning paid for with and within the funds of the State Budget of Ukraine. If this requirement is violated, the broadcasting time that has not been granted to authorised representatives – candidates for people’s deputies from political parties (election blocs) for election campaigning paid for with and within the funds of the State

Budget of Ukraine shall be additionally allocated by the respective state and municipal television and radio organisations without fail.

2. The volume of publications of authorised representatives – candidates for people’s deputies from political parties (election blocs), including those that are employees of state-owned printed mass media, shall not exceed the volume established for other authorised representatives – candidates for people’s deputies from political parties (election blocs).

3. Election campaigning in non-state-owned mass media shall be limited only by the size of the election fund, provided that payment for broadcasting time or newspaper space shall be equal for all political parties.

4. Election campaigning in organisations, formations and units of the Ministry of Defence, National Guard, Ministry of Internal Affairs, and State Committee for the Protection of the State Border, Security Service and Civil Defence of Ukraine shall be limited. Meetings of authorised representatives – candidates for people’s deputies and authorised persons of political parties (election blocs) with the voters who are members of the armed forces serving in the above-mentioned agencies shall be organised by the territorial constituency election commission with mandatory invitation, at least three days prior to the meeting, of all registered authorised representatives – candidates for people’s deputies from political parties (election blocs). Unauthorised visits to these organisations, formations and units by authorised representatives – candidates for people’s deputies and authorised persons of political parties (election blocs) shall be prohibited after the beginning of the election campaign. Only printed campaigning materials made by the respective constituency election commissions as well as authorised representatives – candidates for people’s deputies from political parties (election blocs) may be distributed.

5. Distribution of falsified information contained in campaigning materials, anonymous campaigning materials or campaigning materials signed with a pseudonym shall be prohibited and prosecuted in accordance with the law.

6. In the event of distribution of falsified information contained in campaigning materials, anonymous campaigning materials, campaigning materials signed with a pseudonym or materials containing calls to violent subversion of the constitutional system, violation of territorial integrity of the state or intolerance based on nationality, language, race or religion, election commissions that obtain such information shall apply to law enforcement bodies in order to stop illegal campaigning and take action provided for in the legislation of Ukraine.

7. Election campaigning in any form (distribution of election leaflets, placards, appeals to vote for or against political parties or boycott the elections) shall be prohibited on the election day. Printed campaigning materials posted before the election day outside of the voting premises shall remain on their places.

8. Local self-government bodies and the respective local state administrations shall allocate space and arrange stands or boards in public places for posting

election campaigning materials provided for in this Law and announcements of election campaign events. The placement of such materials on buildings that are architectural monuments and in places where they impede traffic safety shall be prohibited.

9. It shall be prohibited for state-owned television and radio companies, printed mass media with the participation of the state or local self-government bodies, officials thereof and creative staff of mass media during an election campaign to show preference in any form in their announcements, materials and programmes to some or other authorised representatives – candidates for people’s deputies from political parties (election blocs) or their election programmes.

10. Election campaigning involving the free or beneficial provision to voters of goods, securities, credits, lotteries, money or other services of a material nature with the purpose of influence their voting shall be prohibited.

11. It shall be prohibited to announce in state- and non-state-owned mass media 15 days before the election day direct or concealed results of sociological surveys and public opinion polls about the rating of authorised representatives – candidates for people’s deputies from political parties (election blocs) and other forecasts. If this requirement is violated, election commissions shall go to the law demanding that the culprits be called to account.

12. It shall be prohibited for authorised representatives – candidates for people’s deputies from political parties (election blocs) who have held offices, including part-time jobs, in bodies of state power, local self-government bodies, state-owned enterprises or military formations formed in accordance with the laws of Ukraine to involve or use their subordinates for any work connected with their election campaigns (during working time), official transport, means of communication, equipment, premises and other objects and resources at the place of work. Violation of this requirement shall be prosecuted in accordance with the law.

Section IX. GUARANTEES OF THE ACTIVITY OF PARTIES (ELECTION BLOCS), THEIR OFFICIALS AND OFFICIAL OBSERVERS

Article 44. Guarantees of the activity of parties (election blocs) in the course of election process

1. A political party (election bloc) that takes part in election shall have the right to delegate one representative with a vote to the Central Election Commission, who shall be authorised to represent the interests of the party (election bloc) in the Central Election Commission in the course of election process. The candidature of the representative shall be approved by the central governing body of the party (governing body of the election bloc).

2. A citizen of Ukraine who has the right to vote may be the representative of a party (election bloc) in the Central Election Commission. The representative of a

party (election bloc) may not be a member of an election commission, official of bodies of state power (except people's deputies) and local self-government bodies, a member of the armed forces, a rank servant or a commander in the law enforcement bodies of Ukraine or the Security Service of Ukraine or a person in alternative (non-military) service.

3. The application for registration of the representative of a party (election bloc) signed by the leader of the party (leaders of the parties forming the election bloc) and sealed with the seal of the party (parties forming the election bloc) and a copy of the decision of the central of the party (governing body of the election bloc) to approve the candidature of the representative shall be submitted to the Central Election Commission at the same time with the application for registration of the candidates for people's deputies from the party (election bloc). The application for registration of the representative of a party (election bloc) shall indicate the representative's family name, first name and patronymic, citizenship, year of birth, place of work, position (occupation), residential address and a telephone number. A written consent of the person to represent the interests of the party (election bloc) in the Central Election Commission shall be attached to the application.

4. The Central Election Commission shall, within three workdays from the receipt of the documents mentioned in Paragraph 3 of this Article, register the representative of the party (election bloc) in the Central Election Commission with an advisory vote and issue him a certificate in accordance with the form established by the Central Election Commission. If the registration of authorised representatives – candidates for people's deputies included in the voting list of a party (election bloc) is refused (cancelled) or the party (election bloc) loses the status of a subjects of the election process due to other reasons, the authority of the representative of the party (election bloc) in the Central Election Commission shall be considered terminated on the moment when such circumstances arise.

5. A party (election bloc) may have up to five authorised persons on the level of the national constituency and not more than two authorised persons in each territorial constituency. The authorised person of a party (election bloc) may not be an authorised representative – candidate for people's deputies and must satisfy the requirements mentioned in Paragraph 2 of this Article. The list of authorised persons, which shall indicate the respective territorial constituency, shall be approved by the central body of the party (governing body of the election bloc).

6. The application for registration of authorised persons of a party (election bloc) signed by the leader of the party (leaders of the parties forming the election bloc) and sealed with the seal of the party (parties forming the election bloc) and a copy of the decision of the central governing body of the party (governing body of the election bloc) to approve the list of authorised persons of the party (election bloc) shall be submitted to the Central Election Commission any time after the registration of the candidates for people's deputies included in the voting list of

the party (election bloc). The application for registration of authorised persons shall indicate each authorised person's family name, first name and patronymic, constituency, citizenship, a year of birth, a place of work, a position (occupation), a residential address and a telephone number. Written consents of such persons to represent the interests of the party (election bloc) in the constituency shall be attached to the application.

7. The Central Election Commission shall, within three workdays from the receipt of the documents mentioned in Paragraph 6 of this Article, register the authorised persons of the party (election bloc) and issue the representative of the party (election bloc) their certificates in accordance with the form established by the Central Election Commission. If the party (election bloc) loses the status of a subject of the election process due to other reasons, the mandate of the authorised persons of the party (election bloc) shall be considered terminated on the moment when such circumstances arise.

8. An authorised person of a party (election bloc) shall, from the day of his registration by the Central Election Commission and until his mandate is terminated or the election process is over, have the right to be relieved from his production or official duties without wage retention subject to the consent of the owner of the enterprise, institution or organisation or a body authorised by such owner.

9. An authorised person of a party (election bloc) shall have the right to submit his resignation to the Central Election Commission at any time before the election day.

10. The governing body of a party (election bloc) that approved a representative or authorised person may, at any time before the election day, decide to withdraw such representative or authorised person and approve another person in place thereof. The respective application, a copy of the decision and other documents shall be submitted to the Central Election Commission as stipulated in Paragraphs 3 and 6 of this Article.

11. On the grounds of an application submitted in accordance with Paragraph 9 or 10 of this Article, the Central Election Commission shall, within three working days from the receipt of such application, and if it is received the day before or on the election day, immediately, take a decision to cancel the registration of the representative or authorised person of a party (election bloc). A copy of the decision shall be issued to the representative or authorised person of a party (election bloc) or sent to the address of the governing body of the party (election bloc).

12. The certificates of a representative or an authorised person of a party (election bloc) whose mandates have been terminated before the end of the election process shall be immediately returned to the Central Election Commission.

13. The representative of a party (election bloc) in the with a vote shall have the right to:

1. attend all meetings of the Central Election Commission during the discussion of questions related to elections of people's deputies of Ukraine and take part in such discussion;
 2. familiarize himself with the content of minutes of meetings of the Central Election Commission and its decisions and receive copies of such decisions;
 3. without delay familiarize himself with the content of minutes, fax and telephone messages received by the Central Election Commission from territorial constituency election commissions that concern the results of elections in the respective territorial constituencies and with polling station vote counting minutes of respective district election commissions;
 4. other rights provided for in this Law.
14. The authorised person of a party (election bloc):
1. shall assist the party (election bloc) in its participation in the election process, including election campaigning;
 2. shall represent the interests of the party (election bloc) in its relations with election commissions (except the Central Election Commission), bodies of state power, local self-government bodies, voters and other subjects of the election process on the territory of the constituency;
 3. may participate with an advisory vote in meetings of election commissions (except the Central Election Commission) on the territory of the constituency;
 4. shall, subject to the limitations established in Paragraph 9 of Article 25 of this Law, have the right to be present at the polling station during voting and at the meeting of the district election commission during votes counting;
 5. if violations of this Law are revealed, it shall have the right to take an appropriate note, which shall be signed by him and at least two voters attesting to the fact of the violation and shall be presented to the appropriate election commission;
 6. shall have other rights provided for in this Law.

Article 45. Guarantees of the activity of candidates for people's deputies

1. A candidate for deputy, except a candidate for deputy who is a people's deputy of Ukraine, may not be refused a release from his production or official duties at his place of work and an unpaid leave for the period of election campaigning.
2. During election campaigning, a candidate for deputy may not be discharged on the initiative of the owner of the enterprise, institution or organisation or the commander of the military formation (unit). A candidate for deputy may not be transferred to other position, sent on a business trip or called up for military or alternative (non-military) service, periodical military training and instruction.

Article 46. Official observers

1. Official observers from parties (election blocs) that are subjects of the election process and observers from foreign states and international organizations may participate in the election process.
2. The mandate of official observers shall begin on the day of their registration by the appropriate election commission as provided for in this Law and terminate after the Central Election Commission shall have established the results of elections.
3. The election commission that registered an official observer may terminate his mandate early in the event of a gross or systematic violation by him of the Ukrainian legislation on elections of deputies. A grounded decision on terminating the mandate of an official observer shall be taken.

Article 47. Official observers from parties (election blocs)

1. Official observers from parties (election blocs) that are subjects of the election process may be citizens of Ukraine that have the right to vote.
2. Official observers from a party (election bloc) shall be registered by the territorial constituency election commission on the submission of the governing bodies of the republican (in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea), oblast, and city (in Kyiv and Sevastopol) organizations of the party (parties forming the election bloc).
3. The submission for registration of official observers from a party (election bloc) shall indicate their family names, first names, patronymics, residential addresses and telephone numbers. Written consents of these persons to be official observers from the party (election bloc) shall be attached to the submission.
4. The submission for registration of an official observer from a party (election bloc) signed by the head of the republican (in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea), oblast, and city (in Kyiv and Sevastopol) organizations of the party (parties forming the election bloc) shall be presented to the appropriate territorial constituency election commission at least five days prior to the election day. The decision on registration of official observers shall be made by the chairman of the appropriate election commission, and in the absence thereof, by the deputy chairman, within three days from the presentation of the submission. The only reason for a refusal to register an official observer may be breach of the provisions of Paragraphs 1-3 of this Article.
5. The appropriate territorial constituency election commission shall issue official certificates in accordance with the form established by the Central Election Commission for observers from parties (election blocs).
6. An official observer from a party (election bloc) shall have the right to:
 1. be present at polling stations during voting, observe the actions of election commission members from any distance, including handing out ballots to voters and vote counting, without impeding the performance of duty of election commission members in any way;

2. photograph, film and make sound and video recording;
 3. be present during the handing out ballots to election commission members in order to organize voting outside of the polling station and during such voting;
 4. subject to the requirements of this Law and provisions of Paragraph 9 of Article 23 of this Law, be present at the meetings of district and territorial constituency election commissions, including during vote counting at the polling station and establishing voting results in the territorial constituency;
 5. apply to an appropriate election commission demanding to eliminate violations of this Law if such violations have been revealed;
 6. draw up a statement of revealed violations of this Law, which shall be signed by him and at least two voters attesting to the fact of violation, indicate their family names, first names, patronymic names and residential addresses and be presented to the appropriate election commission within the time stipulated in Article 27 of this Law;
 7. take necessary action to stop unlawful actions during voting and votes counting at the polling station.
7. An official observer from a party (election bloc) shall not have the right to:
1. intervene in the work of the election commission and perform actions that disturb the election process or prevent election commission members from exercising their duties;
 2. fill in a ballot upon a voter's request;
 3. be present in the voting booth (room) or other places for secret voting when a voter is filling in his ballot.
8. If an official observer violates the requirements of Paragraph 7 of this article, the district election commission may deprive him of the right to be present at the polling station during voting and at the district election commission's meetings.
9. The governing body of the republican (in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea), oblast, and city (in Kyiv and Sevastopol) organizations of the parties (parties forming the election bloc) shall have the right to withdraw its official observer by applying to the appropriate territorial constituency election commission with a written request to terminate his mandate and the right to submit documents for registration of another person as stipulated in this Law.
10. An official observer shall have the right to apply for resignation to the territorial constituency election commission. The territorial constituency election commission shall take a decision based on the application, a copy of which shall be handed out to the authorised person of the party (election bloc).

Article 48. Official observers from foreign states and international organizations

1. Official observers from foreign states and international organizations shall be registered by the Central Election Commission. Proposals concerning their registration shall be submitted to the Central Election Commission at least 20 days

prior to the election day, either directly or via the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine.

2. A decision on registration of official observers from foreign states and international organizations shall be taken at least 15 days prior to the election day by the chairperson, and in his absence, by the deputy chairperson of the Central Election Commission.

3. The Central Election Commission shall hand out certificates in accordance with the form established by it to official observers from foreign states and international organizations.

4. Official observers from foreign states and international organizations shall exercise their mandate on the territory of the national constituency.

5. An official observer from a foreign state or international organization shall have the right to:

1. be present at meetings of candidate for people's deputies and authorised persons of parties (election blocs) with voters, campaign meetings, political mass-meetings and meetings of territorial constituency election commissions;

2. familiarize himself with election campaigning materials;

3. be present at polling stations during voting and vote counting and establishing voting results by territorial constituency election commissions;

4. photograph, film and make sound and video recording;

5. make proposals concerning the organisation of elections of deputies and improvement of the legislation of Ukraine in force taking into account international experience and holding press conferences subject to the requirements of the legislation of Ukraine;

6. subject to the agreement of the Central Election Commission, form, together with other official observers from foreign states and international organizations, temporary groups of observers in order to coordinate their activity within their mandate provided for in this Law.

6. Official observers from foreign states and international organizations shall carry out observation activities on their own and independently.

7. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine, other bodies of state power, local self-government bodies and election commissions shall assist official observers from foreign states and international organizations in exercising of their mandate.

8. Financial and material support of the activity of official observers from foreign states and international organizations shall be provided at the expense of the states or organizations that sent them to Ukraine or at the expense observers.

9. Official observers from foreign states and international organizations shall not have the right to use their status in activity that is not related to observing the election process and to intervene in the work of election commissions.

SECTION X. VOTING

Article 49. Time and place of voting

1. Voting shall take place in territorial constituencies on the election day from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m.
2. The district election commission shall notify the voters of the time and place of voting at least fifteen days prior to the election day.

Article 50. Ballots

1. Ballots shall be documents of strict accountability.
2. A ballot shall contain the name of the representative body of power to which deputies are elected, a constituency number, an election district number and the indicated place for the signature of the member of the district election commission who will hand out the ballot.
3. Names of parties (election blocs) shall be indicated in the ballot in the order determined by sortition conducted by the Central Election Commission after the registration of voting lists of the parties (election blocs). The name of a party (election bloc) shall be followed by a family name, first name, patronymic, a year of birth, position (occupation), place of work and residence and party membership of the authorised representative – candidate for people’s deputies of the party (election bloc) in the constituency, indicated in parentheses. A blank square shall be located on the right from the name of each party.
4. The words “I do not support any of these parties (election blocs)” shall be written in ballots after the list of parties (election blocs), with a blank square located on the right from these words.
5. Each ballot shall contain an explanation of how it must be filled in.
6. Ballots shall be printed in the official language.
7. Ballots shall have a check slip, which shall be separated from the ballot by a tear-off line and shall contain the name of the body of power to which deputies are elected, the constituency number, the election district number and the indicated places for the signatures of the voter and the member of the district election commission who hands out the ballot.
8. The check slips shall remain in the district election commission and shall be the basis for establishing the number of voters who received ballots.
9. A ballot shall not contain information about the parties (election blocs) that have withdrawn from the elections. If a party (election bloc) withdrew from the elections after the ballots had been printed, the appropriate territorial constituency election commission shall take a decision to amend it and, if necessary, re-print the ballot. If the ballot is amended by deleting the information about a party that has nominated candidates for the elections, the district election commission shall inform each voter about this when handing out the ballot.
10. Ballots for a territorial constituency shall be printed on the same paper and be identical in size, colour and content and correspond to the form established by the Central Election Commission. A ballot shall be printed on one sheet of paper with the text on one side only.

Article 51. Organisation and procedure of voting

1. Voting shall take place in special premises where a sufficient number of booths or rooms for secret voting shall be provided, places of handing out ballots shall be set, and ballot-boxes shall be installed so that voters shall pass through the booths or rooms for secret voting on their way to them.

2. The entrance into and exit from the booths or rooms for secret voting and the passage from them to the ballot-boxes shall be in the field of vision of the members of the district election commission, authorised persons and official observers.

3. District election commissions shall be responsible for organising voting, ensuring secrecy of voting, equipping and maintaining due order in voting premises. A voter may stay in the voting premises only for as long as is necessary to vote.

4. On the election day, before the beginning of voting, the chairperson of the district election commission shall, in the presence of election commission members, persons established by this Law and mass media representatives, inspect and seal the ballot boxes.

5. Ballots shall be handed out by the members of the district election commission on the grounds of the register of voters of the election district upon presentation by the voter of an identity document. The member of the district election commission who hands out the ballot shall sign his name in the fixed place on the ballot and check slip. The voter shall sign for receipt of the ballot in the fixed place on the check slip and in the register of voters.

6. Indicating the voter's number in the ballot in any way or making any other marks in it that may be used to identify the voter shall be prohibited.

7. Ballots shall be filled in by the voter in the booth or room for secret voting. The presence of other persons during the filling-in of the ballots shall be prohibited. A voter that is unable to fill in the ballot by himself may, invite to the booth (room) for secret voting another person of his own choosing informing the chairperson, or deputy chairperson of the district election commission about. The election commission members, authorised representatives – candidates for people's deputies from political parties (election blocs) and authorised persons shall not fill in the ballot for a voter.

8. A voter shall mark a plus (+) or make another mark that indicates his choice on the ballot in the square opposite the name of the party (election bloc) for which he votes. A voter may vote for only one party (election bloc). If a voter does not support any party, he shall mark a plus (+) or make another mark that indicates his choice in the square opposite the words "I do not support any of these parties (election blocs)".

9. If individual voters are unable to come to the voting premises for bad health reasons, the district election commission shall, based on their written application, three days prior to the election day, make a list of such voters and determine the time and at least three its members who shall organise voting at the locations of

such voters. The time when election commission members visit the voters shall be scheduled so as to allow these voters to vote at least one hour before the end of voting. The chairperson of the district election commission shall announce that the committee's members went out to organise voting for the voters that are unable to come to the voting premises for health reasons. Official observers may be present during the voting.

10. Voters that are in the premises of the election commission but were unable for some reason to participate in the elections because the time for voting was over shall have the right to exercise their right to vote.

11. Election commissions shall provide all means to enable all voters to cast their votes.

12. In order to conduct voting, an extract from the register of voters shall be made in the form of a list, which the chairperson of the district election commission shall hand over to the appointed election commission members together with the respective ballots and a sealed ballot-box. In the event of voting at the location of the voter, one of the election commission members shall sign his name in the fixed places on the ballot and check slip. The voter shall sign for receipt of the ballot in the fixed place on the check slip and in the extract from the register of voters.

13. After the return of election commission members to the voting premises, the ballot box, check slips and extract from the register of voters shall be handed over to the chairperson of the district election commission.

Section XI. VOTE COUNTING, DISTRIBUTION OF DEPUTY MANDATES BETWEEN POLITICAL PARTIES (ELECTION BLOCS) AND ASCERTAINING ELECTION RESULTS

Article 52. Procedure of votes counting at a polling station

1. Votes shall be counted only by members of the district election commission at its meeting so as to allow free and unhampered observation of the entire process of votes counting be simultaneously observed by all members of the election commission and official observers. Nobody shall have the right to make any marks or notations on the ballots during vote counting. Votes shall be counted by the members of the district election commission authorised by the commission, who shall be determined by a unanimous vote of all attending members of the election commission during voting by show of hands.

2. After the end of voting, the district election commission shall, on the basis of the register of voters, establish the total number of voters at the polling station.

3. Before the beginning of vote counting, the district election commission shall establish the number of voters who received ballots based on the number of signed by voters and election commission members who handed out the ballots.

4. After that, the check slips and unused ballots (together with the check slips) shall be packaged and sealed; the packages shall be marked with the name of the

ballot, constituency number, election district number, the date and signed by the chairperson and the secretary of the district election commission.

5. After checking the integrity of the seals on the ballot-boxes, the chairperson of the district election commission shall open them in the presence of all members of the election commission, after which the commission shall establish the number of voters who participated in voting and the number of ballots found invalid in the territorial constituency.

6. Invalid ballots shall be considered the ballots that do not comply with the established form, ballots without the signature of the election commission member who handed them out the ballots with more than one mark opposite the names of candidates for people's deputies, ballots without any mark and ballots in which it is impossible to determine the voter's choice definitely. In the event of doubts about a ballot's validity, the commission shall take the decision by voting, and the decision voted in favour of by at least two-thirds of the attending election commission members shall be adopted.

7. The established number of invalid ballots shall be recorded in the report, and the invalid ballots shall be sealed with the election commission's seal and packaged; the packages shall be marked with the constituency number, election district number, date and signed by the chairperson and the secretary of the district election commission.

8. The commission shall count the number of votes cast for each party (election bloc). After that, the ballots cast for each party (election bloc) are sealed and packaged; the packages shall be marked with the name of the party (election bloc), constituency number, election district number and signed by the chairperson and the secretary of the district election commission.

9. The district election commission shall draw up reports indicating the following:

1. a total number of voters registered in the election district;
2. a number of ballots received for the district;
3. a number of unused ballots;
4. a number of voters who received the ballots;
5. a number of voters who took part in the voting;
6. a number of ballots found invalid;
7. a number of votes cast for each party (election bloc).

10. The reports of the district election commission shall be drawn up in three copies and signed by the chairperson, the deputy chairperson, the secretary and all members of the district election commission. Written opinions of the minority of the commission members, written applications and complaints concerning vote counting received by the committee, and the decisions taken by the commission after considering them shall be attached to the reports. The first copy of a report, together with the packages of ballots and check slips shall be immediately sent to the territorial constituency election commission, the second copy shall be kept by the secretary of the district election commission, and the third copy shall be

immediately posted to the district election commission's premises for public review.

Article 53. Establishing election results in constituencies

1. After establishing election results in the territorial constituency on the basis of district election commission reports on vote counting at the polling station in the territorial constituency and information about the content of such district election commission reports sent using technical means of communications from election districts formed on ships that are in a voyage under the national flag of Ukraine on the election day, on Ukraine's polar stations, at diplomatic and other official representations and consular offices of Ukraine abroad, in military formations (units) dislocated outside of Ukraine, and in other cases provided for in this Law, and in the event of re-counting votes, on the basis of the district election commission report on vote re-counting at the respective polling station in the territorial constituency, the territorial constituency election commission shall establish the following:

1. a total number of voters registered in the constituency;
2. a number of voters who received ballots;
3. a number of voters who took part in the voting;
4. a number of ballots found invalid;
5. a number of votes cast for each party (election bloc);
6. the party (election bloc) that received the largest number of votes.

2. The reports of territorial constituency election commissions shall be drawn up in three copies, which shall be signed by the chairperson, the deputy chairperson, the secretary and all members of the territorial constituency election commission and sealed with the territorial constituency election commission's seal. Written minority opinions of the territorial constituency election commission members, written applications and complaints received by the commission, and decisions taken by the commission after considering them shall be attached to the reports. The first copy of a report shall be immediately sent to the Central Election Commission, the second copy shall be kept by the secretary of the territorial constituency election commission, and the third copy shall be immediately posted in the territorial constituency election commission's premises for public review.

3. If so requested by an authorised representative – candidate for people's deputies from a party (election bloc) or the authorised person, they shall be given out copies of reports of the territorial constituency election commissions.

Article 54. Establishing of election results

Votes cast for a political party (election bloc) shall be summed up by addition. The total number of votes so obtained shall be the number of votes received by the political party (election bloc) in the elections.

On the basis of territorial constituency election commission reports on election results in the polling constituencies and reports of the district election

commissions formed at representations of Ukraine abroad and in military formations (units) dislocated outside of Ukraine, the Central Election Commission at its meeting shall, within fifteen days from the day of elections in territorial constituencies, distribute deputy mandates between the political parties (election blocs) that take part in the elections by nominating their candidates for people's deputies and shall draw up a report on such distribution. The report shall contain, in particular, the following information in words and in figures:

1. a number of ballots made;
2. a number of ballots received by district election commissions;
3. a total number of voters registered in the lists at polling stations;
4. a number of unused ballots;
5. a number of voters who received ballots;
6. a number of voters who took part in the voting;
7. a number of ballots found invalid;
8. a number of votes cast for each political party (election bloc);
9. the percentage of votes cast for each political party (election bloc) from the number of votes cast for the political parties (election blocs);
10. the number of voters who did not support any political party (election bloc).

Article 55. Election barrier

Only the political parties (election blocs) that received in total at least five per cent of the votes cast for the political parties (election blocs) shall be allowed to participate in the distribution of deputy mandates.

Article 56. Distribution of deputy mandates between political parties (election blocs)

1. Deputy mandates shall be distributed between political parties (election blocs) pro rata to the number of votes received by them.
2. The number of votes necessary for a political party (election bloc) that exceeded the election barrier to receive one deputy mandate (hereinafter referred to as the "election quota") shall be calculated by dividing the total number of votes cast for the political parties (election blocs) by the total number of deputy mandates (450). Lists of candidates for people's deputies from political parties (election blocs) that received less than five per cent of the votes of voters who took part in the voting shall not have the right to participate in the distribution of deputy mandates.
3. The number of votes cast for each political party (election bloc) that received the right to participate in the distribution of deputy mandates shall be divided by the election quota. The aliquot of the number so obtained shall be the number of deputy mandates to which the political party (election bloc) shall have the right.

Fractional remainders shall be taken into account after the distribution of the aliquot of deputy mandates.

If undistributed mandates remain after this procedure, they shall be re-distributed as stipulated in Paragraph 1 of Item 3 of Article 56 of this Law.

4. Parties (election blocs) that have larger fractional remainders after dividing than other parties (election blocs) shall receive one deputy mandate each, beginning with the voting list of the party (election bloc) that has the largest fractional remainder. If two or more voting lists of parties (election blocs) have equal fractional remainders, the voting list of the party (election bloc) that received more votes shall be the first to receive the additional deputy mandate.

5. The lists of candidates for people's deputies from the political parties (election blocs) that exceeded the election barrier shall be made based on the results of elections in constituencies.

The names of the candidates for people's deputies from the political parties (election blocs) that received the largest percentage of the votes in constituencies in comparison with the results of voting for the party in other constituencies shall be the first to be included in the lists. These names shall be placed on the list in the order of diminishing of the percentage of votes cast for the party (election bloc) in constituencies.

6. After establishing the number of deputy mandates received by political parties (election blocs) and determining, in accordance with the requirements of Item 5 of this article, the persons who have been elected people's deputies, the Central Election Commission shall indicate in the report on the results of elections of people's deputies, in addition to the information stipulated in Article 59 of this Law, the following:

1. a number of deputy mandates received by political parties (election blocs);
2. a family name, first name, patronymic, year of birth, profession, position (occupation), place of work, residential address and party membership of all elected people's deputies.

Article 57. Drawing up of the report on the results of elections

The report of the Central Election Commission on the results of elections of deputies shall be drawn up in two copies, signed by the chairperson, the deputy chairperson, the secretary and other members of the commission present at the meeting and sealed with the Central Election Commission's seal. Written minority opinions of the territorial constituency election commission members, written applications and complaints concerning breaches of the procedure or establishing election results by the Central Election Commission, and decisions taken by the commission after considering them, if any, shall be attached to the report. The first copy of a report shall be kept by the Central Election Commission, and the second copy shall be immediately posted in the election

commission's premises for public review. If so requested by representatives of parties (election blocs), they shall be given out copies of the report.

Article 58. Registration of people's deputies of Ukraine and publishing of election results

1. The Central Election Commission shall register the persons who have been elected people's deputies of Ukraine and, in accordance with this Law, give them out temporary certificates of a people's deputy of Ukraine.
2. The determining of the person that has been elected people's deputy shall be considered the result of the elections.
3. Results of the elections shall be published by the Central Election Commission in the newspaper *Holos Ukrainy* and reported on the radio and television not later than within twenty-one days from the elections.
4. Election results and the list of elected people's deputies of Ukraine shall be published alphabetically indicating the deputy's last name, first name, patronymic, year of birth, profession, position (occupation), place of work and residence, party membership and the constituency from which he was elected.
5. After the elected people's deputies of Ukraine shall have taken an oath, the Central Election Commission shall, within one week, give them out deputy certificates in accordance with the established form.

Section XII. EXTRAORDINARY ELECTIONS

Article 59. Peculiarities of the preparation for and conducting of the extraordinary elections of deputies

1. Constituencies formed to conduct the latest elections of people's deputies shall be used to conduct extraordinary elections of deputies.
2. Election districts for conducting extraordinary elections shall be formed at least 19 days prior to the election day, and in exceptional cases, which shall be determined by the Central Election Commission, at least five days prior to the election day as stipulated in Article 13 of this Law.
3. Territorial constituency election commissions shall be formed at least 20 days prior to the election day on the submission of parties (election blocs) that are subjects of the election process, which shall be presented to the Central Election Commission at least 22 days prior to the election day as stipulated in Article 18 of this Law.
4. District election commissions shall be formed at least 12 days prior to the election day, and in exceptional cases, which shall be determined by the Central Election Commission, simultaneously with the forming of election districts, on the submission of rayon or city cells of a higher-level organisation of the parties (election blocs) that are subjects of the election process, which shall be presented to the territorial constituency election commission at least 15 days prior to the election day as stipulated in Article 19 of this Law.

5. Nomination of candidates for people's deputies shall begin the next day after the announcement of the beginning of the election process and end 40 days prior to the election day.
6. Submission of documents for registration of candidates for people's deputies shall end 30 days prior to the election day. Registration of candidates for people's deputies shall end 25 days prior to the election day.
7. Election campaigning shall begin 24 days prior to the election day.
8. Information placards the production of which is funded from the State Budget of Ukraine shall be made at least 15 days prior to the election day.
9. Registers of voters of an election district shall be drawn up by the executive bodies of power of a village, settlement, city (for cities where there are no district councils) or city district councils or bodies or officials that perform their functions in accordance with the law; the registers of voters shall be based on the registers of voters for the latest voting at elections of people's deputies of Ukraine, elections of the President of Ukraine, national or local referendum in accordance with the form established by the Central Election Commission. The above-mentioned bodies shall specify these lists and hand them over to district election commissions at least 10 days prior to the election day.
10. Registers of voters of election districts formed in hospitals, on ships that are in a voyage under the national flag of Ukraine on the election day, on Ukraine's polar stations, at representations of Ukraine abroad, in military formations (units) dislocated outside of Ukraine, in penitentiary institutions and in other places of temporary stay of voters with limited movement possibilities shall be made in accordance with the general procedure provided for in this Law.
11. The form and text of ballots shall be approved at least 22 days prior to the election day.

Section XIII. FINAL PROVISIONS

Article 60. Breach of the legislation of Ukraine on elections of people's deputies of Ukraine shall be prosecuted in accordance with the Law

1. Persons shall bear criminal, administrative or other responsibility if they:
 1. impede free exercise by a citizen of Ukraine of his right to elect and be elected through violence, deception, threats, bribe, etc.,
 2. use their post of official position with the purpose of being elected a deputy;
 3. did not timely make registers of voters and did not specify the information that these registers must contain;
 4. infringe upon a citizen's right to familiarize himself with the register of voters;
 5. deliberately disseminate false information about parties (election blocs) that take part in elections or perform other actions that disgrace subjects of the election process;

6. impede election campaigning or breach the established rules of election campaigning;
 7. breach the order of election process funding established by this Law;
 8. impede or intervene in the work of election commissions or activity of members of election commissions related to the performance of their duties;
 9. impede voting at polling stations;
 10. breach the secrecy of the ballot;
 11. force voters to vote differently than they wish;
 12. violate the requirements of this Law when handing out ballots: hand out ballots to citizens with the intent to enable them to vote for other persons or to vote more than once during voting; hand out ballots to citizens that are not in the register of voters of the election district or hand out filled ballots to citizens;
 13. hand unfilled ballots over to other persons;
 14. have forged election documents, made an upward distortion, deliberately drew up and handed out false documents, deliberately miscounted votes or inaccurately determined election results.
2. Law of Ukraine may establish responsibility for other violations of the legislation of Ukraine on elections of deputies.

Article 61. Storing of election and other documentation and material values

1. After official announcement of election results, the Central Election Commission shall hand the election and other documentation over to the Central State Archive of Supreme Government and Administration Bodies of Ukraine, while territorial constituency election commissions shall hand over the documentation to the appropriate local state archive institutions.
2. The list of election and other documentation that is subject to storing in state archive institutions and the procedure of handing it over to these institutions shall be determined by the Central Election Commission with the agreement of the Central State Archive of Supreme Government and Administration Bodies of Ukraine.
3. After the termination of the powers of district and territorial constituency election commissions, local bodies of state power and local self-government bodies shall provide for storing of ballot-boxes, voting booths, seals and stamps of these commissions, methodological literature, etc. that were given to them for the period of the election process.
4. Reports of district election commissions on votes counting at polling stations, on voting results in constituencies and on results of elections of deputies, ballots, check slips of ballots, registers of voters, statements, applications, complaints on violations of the requirements of this Law during voting and vote counting, other reports and decisions of election commissions shall be stored in local state archive institutions for three years after the day of official announcement of the results of

elections of deputies, after which they shall be destroyed in accordance with the established order.

5. State archive institutions shall ensure access to election documentation pertaining to elections of deputies as stipulated by the legislation of Ukraine.

Section XIV. CLOSING PROVISIONS

1. This Law shall come into force on the day of its official publication.

2. Until the time when the legislation of Ukraine has been brought into the accord with this Law, laws and other normative and legal acts shall be applied insofar as they do not contradict this Law.

3. Within six months from the publishing of this Law, the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine shall:

bring its normative and legal acts into the accord with this Law;

ensure the adoption of normative and legal acts provided for in this Law;

provide for the reviewing and revocation by ministries and other central bodies of executive power of their normative and legal acts that contradict this Law;

prepare and submit to the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine proposals on bringing laws of Ukraine into the accord with this Law.

4. **Law of Ukraine *On Elections of People's Deputies of Ukraine (Vidomosti Verkhovnoi Rady Ukrainy (VVR), 2001, No. 51-52, p. 265, 2002, No. 9, p. 69)* shall be declared invalid.**

President of Ukraine

L. Kuchma