



COUNCIL OF EUROPE
CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

Strasbourg, 4 March 2008

Opinion no. 390 / 2006

CDL(2008)029*
Engl. only

EUROPEAN COMMISSION FOR DEMOCRACY THROUGH LAW
(VENICE COMMISSION)

**DRAFT AMENDMENTS AND CHANGES
TO THE ELECTION CODE
OF THE REPUBLIC OF AZERBAIJAN**

Drafted by

**the Presidential Administration
in September 2006,
March, May, and November 2007**

**This document has been classified restricted on the date of issue. Unless the Venice Commission decides otherwise, it will be declassified a year after its issue according to the rules set up in Resolution CM/Res(2001)6 on access to Council of Europe documents.*

NOTE:

This document is a combination of draft amendments and changes to the Election Code prepared by the President's Office in September 2006, March, May, and November 2007. Following is a table on the color coding of the text:

Font Color/Type	Indication
Black	Existing Code
<i>Black Italics</i>	Proposals from the September 2006, March and May 2007 draft documents submitted by the President's Office.
RED	New additions from the September 2006, March and May, 2007 draft documents placed in the context of the existing Election Code.
BOLD RED	The latest provisions from the November 2007 draft document.
YELLOW HIGHLIGHT	Provisions to be removed from the September 2006, March, May, and November, 2007 draft documents. (not from the law!)
BLUE	Provisions to be removed from the existing Election Code.
GREEN	Titles of Articles

Superscript figures on some article numbers (e.g. 11¹) are used to avoid renumbering all 246 articles.

Paragraph 14: Article 73¹ already exists in the Election Code, it is just renumbered from Article 73 to 73¹. New Article 73 is introduced in Paragraph 15.

Paragraphs 48, 50, 51, 53, 55, 56: Full articles are not given for the change "to replace "times" with "manats" throughout the text of Article..." (which means you might not see every single change of times into manats in these paragraphs)

Draft

**The Law of the Republic of Azerbaijan
On Amendments and Changes to the Election Code of the Republic of Azerbaijan**

The Milli Majlis of the Republic of Azerbaijan decides:

I. To make the following amendments and changes to the Election Code of the Republic of Azerbaijan (Collection of Legislation of the Republic of Azerbaijan, 2003, No 6, Article 274, No 12, I book, Article 680; 2004, No 6, Article 416, No 11, Article 891; 2005, No 2, Article 62, No 4, Article 278, No 7, Articles 576, 584, No 12, Article 1091):

1. To add Article 11¹ as follows:

Article 11¹. Prevention of unlawful interference in the process of elections (referendum)

*11¹.1. Unlawful interference of legal entities, **officials of state bodies or municipalities and other** natural persons in the process of elections (referendum) is prohibited.*

11¹.2. Obstructing the election rights (participation in the referendum) of citizens, forcing a citizen to sign in support of a candidate or interfering with his/her voting, interfering in or influencing the work of election commissions, falsifying the voting documents (on participation in the referendum) or presenting false documents, deliberately calculating votes inaccurately, determining the voting results incorrectly or violating the secrecy of the vote, voting in place of other persons, or casting more than one ballot paper into the ballot box by one person shall result in liability as stipulated in the Criminal Code of the Republic of Azerbaijan”.

2. To add the following sentence to Article 13.3.4:

*“Such liabilities could result from obligations regarding registration, taxation, not leaving the country for over a certain period of time, as well as other political or legal obligations resulting from permanent, steady and stable affiliation related **to more than 7 years period of living.**”*

13.3.4. citizens of the Republic of Azerbaijan who have liabilities before foreign countries (until such liabilities are terminated). *Such liabilities could result from obligations regarding registration, taxation, not leaving the country for over a certain period of time, as well as other political or legal obligations resulting from permanent, steady and stable affiliation related to **more than 7 years period of living** **long term settlement** abroad.*

(Article 13. Belonging to Passive Suffrage)

3. **To consider Article 25.2.23 as Article 25.2.24.**

(Article 25.Responsibilities of the Central Election Commission)

4. **To add Article 25.2.23:**

Article 25.2. The Central Election Commission shall carry out the following duties:

25.2.23. implement accreditation of exit-poll organizations, determine rules for accreditation of these organizations.

25.2.24. carry out other authorities in accordance with this Code.

(Article 25.Responsibilities of the Central Election Commission)

5. To add “in cases established by the Central Election Commission” after the expression “special regime” in Article 35.5.

35.5 Military servants should vote in general voting stations. Rules for transferring citizens of the Republic of Azerbaijan who are in limited military service are defined by the Central Election Commission. It is allowed to create polling stations in the military units located outside of the settlements only in case when it requires more than one hour to deliver military personnel to the general polling station by the public transport from the unit and the number of military servants is more than 50. In such circumstances, voting stations shall be created within the period defined by Article 35.2 of this Code, in exceptional cases, they shall be created at least 5 days prior to the voting day by the commanders of the military units in accordance with the decision of the relevant Constituency Election Commission. Military servants from frontier troops (serving as border guards) and military servants located at the areas of military conflicts, as well as those serving under special regime, **in the cases established by the Central Election Commission**, shall vote in election precincts created within their military units. In the election precincts formed in accordance with this Article, the conditions shall be created for all members of the Precinct Election Commission and superior election commissions, registered candidates and their representatives, authorized representatives of political parties and blocs of political parties and observers to have an access to the working rooms of election commission and voting room pursuant to the rules defined by this Code.

(Article 35. Establishment of Election (Referendum) Precincts)

6. *To add “and they shall be given appropriate badges indicated in Article 40.7 of this Code” after the expression “specified in Article 40.7 of this Code” to Article 36.6.*

36.6 Each registered candidate, political party, bloc of political parties, initiative groups of voters shall have the right to appoint one observer to the Precinct Election Commission from the time the Precinct Election Commission commences its work and until the voting results are made official. Such observers shall not be required to be registered in the order specified in Article 40.7 of this Code, **and they shall be given appropriate badges indicated in Article 40.7 of this Code”**.

(Article 36. Formation of Precinct Election Commissions)

7. *To remove the expression “envelopes for ballot papers and” from Article 42.2.3.*

42.2.3. to observe the issuance (delivery) of ~~envelopes for ballot papers and~~ ballot papers to voters on Voting Day;

(Article 42. Observers’ Right and Duties)

8. *To remove the expression “envelopes for ballot papers” from Article 42.2.7.*

42.2.7. to watch, in circumstances ensuring observation and from certain distance, counting of voters’ votes, ~~the envelopes for ballot papers~~, marked and unmarked ballot papers, in order to check the vote’s validity, to become familiar with the election commission’s protocol on voting results and election (referendum) returns (overall returns) and with other documents;

(Article 42. Observers’ Right and Duties)

9. *To remove the expression “and envelopes for ballot papers” from Article 42.3.1.*

42.3.1. to issue ballot papers ~~and envelopes for ballot papers~~ to voters;

(Article 42. Observers’ Right and Duties)

10. *To remove the 7th sentence from Article 46.1 and **the expression “(in this case, the court decision shall be attached to the voter list)” from the second sentence**, to replace*

the expression **“only upon the court decision”** with the expression **“by the Precinct Election Commission in accordance with the rule determined by the Central Election Commission”**.

46.1 The permanent voters' list for a precinct shall be approved by the Precinct Election Commission in conformity with the format defined by the Central Election Commission by the 30th of May of each year and be updated at least 35 days prior to Election Day. After this period and until Voting Day (including Voting Day), the voter can be included in the voters' list **by the Precinct Election Commission in accordance with the rule determined by the Central Election Commission** (~~in this case, the court Precinct Election Commission decision shall be attached to the voters' list~~). Voting cards, for voters who vote with voting cards, shall be attached to the voters' list, in accordance with Article 101 of this Code. No additions and amendments to the voters' list shall be made on Voting Day. Voters' lists shall not be published in the press. The voters' list shall be posted (placed) on the relevant website of the Central Election Commission (Constituency Election Commission), in conformity with the rules established by the Central Election Commission. ~~In this case, the voters' addresses shall not be displayed.~~

(Article 46. Compilation of Voter Lists)

11. *To remove the third sentence of Article 48.1.*

48.1 The Precinct Election Commission shall submit the voters' lists for public display and for additional verification/updating by informing the voters at least 65 days prior to Election Day, and create the necessary conditions for such display and verification. The voters' lists are to be displayed on notice boards, outside of the voting room, in a convenient place for voters to see and to have access to them. ~~In this case, numbers of the citizens' apartments and houses should not be indicated.~~

(Article 48. Public Display of Voter Lists)

12. *To replace “have the right to check the accuracy” with “check the accuracy” in Article 59.1*

59.1. The relevant election commission shall check the correctness of the information included in the documents defined by this Code and in the signature sheets of each candidate, and whether the information for nominating the candidates is in compliance with the requirements of this Code. The relevant election commission shall ~~have the right to~~ **check the accuracy** of biographical information and other information about the candidates, submitted by candidates, political parties, bloc of political parties and voters in accordance with this Code.

(Article 59. Checking Accuracy by the Election Commissions of Signature Sheets and Documents Submitted by Candidates, Political Parties, Blocs of Political Parties)

13. *To amend Article 60.2.1 as follows:*

“60.2.1. Violation of requirements of Article 57.1 of this Code during the collecting of signatures.”

~~60.2.1. Violation of the rules for collecting signatures determined by this Code~~

(Article 60. Registration of a Candidate)

14. *To consider Article 73 as Article 73¹.*

Article 73¹. Candidate's Refusal from the Status of Candidacy.

73¹.1. The nominated candidate can withdraw his/her application of consent to be a candidate at any time, by sending written notification to the relevant election commission. Such written notification cannot be withdrawn.

73¹.2. The registered candidate can withdraw his/her candidacy by submitting a written application to the relevant election commission at least 10 days prior to Election Day. Such an application cannot be withdrawn. The relevant election commission shall make a decision on canceling a candidate's registration within 1 day of receiving an application from the candidate. If a registered candidate withdraws his/her candidacy without compelling reasons indicated in Article 73.3 of this Code, the relevant election commission should get back the fund, given to the candidate from the budget, and the registration deposit shall not be returned in this case.

73¹.3. Compelling grounds for withdrawing the candidacy of a registered candidate, as well as for candidates of a political party or bloc of political parties, shall be understood as resulting from the incapacitation of a candidate as a result of a serious illness, as determined by a court decision on the basis of an examination by the relevant medical body specified in the Labor Code of the Republic of Azerbaijan.

73¹.4. Information on the withdrawal of candidacy by the candidate him-/herself, shall be posted on notice boards of the Central, Constituency and Precinct Election Commissions, as stipulated in Article 98.3 of this Code.

15. *To add Article 73 as follows:*

Article 73. Referendum Campaign Group's Refusal of its Status

73.1. Authorized representatives for establishing a campaign group on referendum can withdraw the notification of establishment of a campaign group on referendum at any time. A relevant petition on this issue must be signed by the authorized representatives for establishing a campaign group on referendum. Such a petition shall not be withdrawn.

73.2. Authorized representatives of a registered campaign group on referendum can submit an application to the relevant election commission, at any time, to deregister the campaign group on referendum. Such an application must be signed by all authorized representatives of the campaign group on referendum. Upon the receipt of such an application, the relevant election commission must make a decision on deregistration of a campaign group on referendum within a one day period.

16. *To edit Article 75.2 as follows:*

~~"The Election campaign shall commence 60 days prior to Election Day and finish 24 hours prior to commencement of Election Day. Election campaigning through mass media shall end 48 hours prior to Election Day. Election campaigning via public activities shall end 24 hours prior to Election Day".~~

(Article 75. The Period of Election Campaigning)

17. *To replace "24" with "48" in Article 76.2.*

76.2. The results of the public opinion survey and the forecast of election results shall not be allowed to be published in mass media for 48 ~~24~~ hours before the Election Day.

(Article 76. Public Opinion Survey)

16. To replace “TV and radio **companies**” and “those TV and radio **companies**” with “Public TV and radio **companies**” in the first sentence; and to replace “or” with “and” in Article 77.1. **To add the following sentence: “No election campaign is conducted by the TV and Radio companies that belong to the state.”**

77.1. If founders of **Public Television and radio companies** ~~TV, radio companies~~ or periodicals are state bodies and organizations, ~~and if~~ they are funded from the state budget, ~~those TV and radio companies~~ **Public Television and radio companies** and editorial offices of the periodicals shall create equal conditions for registered candidates, political parties and bloc of political parties to conduct their election campaign, and for referendum campaign groups having 20 thousand members or more to conduct their pre-referendum campaign for ~~and if~~ against issues to be discussed at a referendum, using allocations from the government budget. Organizations mentioned above cannot campaign for ~~and if~~ against the registered candidates, political parties and bloc of political parties, or issues to be discussed at a referendum on their own initiative. **No election campaign is conducted by the TV and Radio companies that belong to the state.**

(Article 77. Basic Duties of Mass Media during Pre-Election Campaign)

17. To add Article 81.11 as follows:

81.11. Paid air time for election campaigning on TV and radio shall be allocated in conformity with the legislation on advertisement.

(Article 81. Conditions for Allocation of Paid Airtime for Conduct of Election Campaign on TV and Radio)

18. To add the following expressions to Articles 100.2.2 and 100.2.7 “(except Elections to the Milli Majlis and to Municipalities)”

100.2.2. number of voters who obtained de-registration cards for voting (except Elections to the Milli Majlis and to Municipalities);

100.2.7. number of voters who voted with de-registration cards for voting (except Elections to the Milli Majlis and to Municipalities);

(Article 100. Voting Protocols of Election Commissions)

19. To remove Articles 100.2.4, 100.2.10, 100.2.11

~~100.2.4. number of voters who received envelopes for ballot papers;~~

~~100.2.10. number of envelopes for ballot papers in immovable ballot boxes (excluding the envelopes of indeterminate form);~~

~~100.2.11. number of envelopes for ballot papers in mobile ballot boxes (excluding the envelopes of indeterminate form)~~

(Article 100. Voting Protocols of Election Commissions)

20. To remove the expression “and envelopes for ballot papers” from Article 100.2.6

100.2.6. number of ballot papers ~~and envelopes for ballot papers~~ issued to voters voting outside the voting station;

(Article 100. Voting Protocols of Election Commissions)

21. To remove “in envelopes” from Article 100.2.12

100.2.12. number of ballot papers ~~in envelopes~~ in mobile ballot boxes (excluding ballots of indeterminate form);

(Article 100. Voting Protocols of Election Commissions)

22. To remove “envelopes and” from Article 108.3.

108.3 The following shall be attached to the first copy of the relevant protocol of the Central Election Commission: Complaints (applications) about violations of this law on Voting Day, received by the Central Election Commission and decisions made by the Central Election Commission with respect to these complaints and applications; an act on receipt of ~~envelopes and~~ ballot papers by the Central Election Commission; an act on canceling the unused ~~envelopes and~~ ballot papers (recording their number); and an act on issuing voting cards and on canceling unused voting cards (recording their number). The above mentioned acts shall be signed by the chairperson and secretaries of the Central Election Commission. Verified copies of complaints (applications), decisions of the Central Election Commission and acts mentioned above shall be attached to the 2nd copy of the protocol.

(Article 108. Completion of Protocols of the Central Election Commission)

23. To add the following sentence before the first sentence of Article 101.1. “Voters can be issued de-registration cards during Referendum and Presidential Elections.”

101.1. **Voters can be issued de-registration cards during Referendum and Presidential Elections.** The Central Election Commission shall approve the design of the de-registration card for voting (hereinafter – voting card) , rules for its preparation, number, and the design of the register-book on issuance of voting cards at least 60 days prior to Voting Day. The voting cards shall be produced in accordance with rules established in Articles 99.2. and 99.5. of this Code. Voting cards shall be issued by superior election commissions to the lower election commissions in accordance with the rules set forth in Article 99.6 of this Code. Chairpersons of relevant election commissions shall be responsible for the issuance and storage of the voting cards.

(Article 101. De-Registration Card for Voting)

24. To amend Article 102 as follows:

Article 102. Marking voters’ thumbs with invisible ink

102.1. The Precinct Election Commission implements marking a voter’s thumb using harmless, invisible liquid while issuing a ballot paper on Election Day.

102.2. The left thumb of the voter shall be marked by spraying.

102.3. An Ultraviolet lamp is used to determine if the voter’s thumb was previously marked.

~~Article 102. Envelope for Ballot Paper~~

~~102.1. Envelopes for ballot papers (hereinafter – the envelope) shall be produced at the same time and in the same quantity as ballot papers, and be allocated to relevant election commission together with the ballot papers.~~

~~102.2. The format of envelopes, which is appropriate to the parameters of ballot boxes, shall be presented by the Central Election Commission upon approving the format of ballot papers.~~

~~102.3. If the ballot box is equipped with a scanner with the purpose of providing information to the State Automated Information System, a ballot paper shall not be put into an envelope.~~

25. To replace “19” with “18” in Article 104.1.

104.1. Voting shall be held from 08:00 till **18.00** ~~19:00~~ on the voting day. The Precinct Election Commission should inform the voters of the place and time of voting at least 25 days prior to the voting day via mass media or using notice boards

(Article 104. Rules for Voting)

26. *To consider Article 104.6 as Article 104.7*

27. *To add Article 104.6 as follows:*

104.6. One of the Precinct Election Commission members stays at the entrance of the election precinct and he/she checks citizens' voter cards, IDs or other identification documents, as well as part of the nail and skin of the voter's left thumb to see if it was previously marked with the liquid indicated in Article 102, and gives permission for entrance. If such a marking is found, the voter shall not be issued a ballot paper. Another member of the Precinct Election Commission checks the availability of the voter's name on the voters' list and issues a ballot paper for that voter. The voter shall be explained that s/he cannot be issued a ballot paper if s/he refuses to have his/her thumb marked. If the voter does not agree, s/he shall be asked to leave the election precinct. A note "refused to be marked" is recorded on the voters' list. If the voter agrees, his/her left thumb shall be marked.

(Article 104. Rules for Voting)

28. *To remove sentences 5 and 6 from Article 104.7.*

104.7. A ballot paper shall be provided to a voter upon presenting the voters card with his/her identification or substitute document. After the voter receives the ballot paper, the serial and batch number of his/her identification or substitute document shall be recorded in the voter list. The serial and batch number of the identification or substitute document shall be entered in the voter list by a member of the Precinct Election Commission. The voter shall check correctness of the records and sign upon receiving the ballot paper. ~~The person who issues ballot paper to voter shall put a stamp indicating the voting date on the voter's card. The voter shall be issued an envelope together with the ballot paper, and the envelope be stamped.~~ If the voter is not able to receive a ballot paper independently, he/she can use the help of other persons, excepting members of the Precinct Election Commission and observers. The person who helps the voter should put down his/her surname and initials and sign in the column "signature of voters on receipt of ballot paper" in the voter list.

(Article 104. Rules for Voting)

29. *To remove the expression "in an envelope stamped by the seal of the Precinct Election Commission" from Article 104.10*

104.10. A voter shall place the marked ballot paper in ~~an envelope stamped by the seal of Precinct Election Commission and drop it to~~ the ballot-box.

(Article 104. Rules for Voting)

30. *To amend the third sentence of the Article 106.2 as follows: "When counting ballots from the mobile ballot box, if the total number of ballot papers is more than the number of*

requests (total number of voters who were issued ballot papers), then all votes in the mobile ballot box shall be considered to be invalid by decision of the Precinct Election Commission.”
To remove fifth sentence from Article 106.2. To replace “envelopes” with “ballot papers.”

106.2. Ballot boxes are opened one by one: first the mobile ballot box, then the stationary ballot box. ~~Ballot papers~~ Envelopes in the mobile ballot box shall be counted first. Their number should not exceed the number of requests. When counting ballots from the mobile ballot box, if the total number of ~~envelopes with~~ ballot papers is more than the number of requests (i.e. the total number of voters who were issued ballot papers), then all votes in the mobile ballot box shall be considered invalid by decision of the Precinct Election Commission. An act on this, which includes a list of the surnames of the commission members that accompanied the mobile ballot box, shall be attached to the final protocol. ~~When counting votes from the immovable ballot box, if the total number of envelopes with ballot papers is more than the number the voters that received ballot papers, then all the ballots within the immovable ballot box shall be considered invalid by decision of the Precinct Election Commission.~~ Number of voters who have voted with a voting card shall be added to the number of voters who appear on the voter list of the precinct.

(Article 106. Vote Counting in Voting Station)

31. To remove Article 106.3.

~~106.3. When opening the envelopes and counting the votes, the votes shall be considered invalid in the following cases:~~

~~106.3.1. if ballot paper within the envelope is (not in the determined form)of an indeterminate form;~~

~~106.3.2. if there are several ballot papers within the envelope;~~

~~106.3.3. if there is no ballot paper within the envelope;~~

~~106.3.4. if there is an unmarked ballot paper within the envelope;~~

~~106.3.5. if in accordance with Articles 10 and 236.3 of this Code, the voter’s will cannot be determined from the ballot paper placed in envelope;~~

~~106.3.6. if a ballot paper is found not to be placed in an envelope;~~

~~106.3.7. if an unstamped envelope is found.~~

(Article 106. Vote Counting in Voting Station)

32. To remove “packaged and stamped envelopes” from Article 106.7

The following shall be sent to the Constituency Election Commission, accompanied by the chairman of the Precinct Election Commission and two members representing different political parties and observers, immediately but not later than 24 hours after the counting of votes: The first copy of the protocol together with complaints (applications) about violations of this law received by the Precinct Election Commission and decisions made by the Precinct Election Commission with respect to these complaints and applications, an act on receipt of ballot papers by the Precinct Election Commission, an act on canceling the unused ballot papers (indicating the number of such ballots), an act on issuing voting cards and on canceling unused voting cards (recording their number), an act on the number of torn off left corners of the ballot papers, an act on the number of spoiled ballot papers mentioned in the Article 104.15 of this Code, along with ~~packaged and stamped envelopes~~, the act provided for in Article 105.3 of this code, and the ballots and the voter list for the precinct (together with voting cards attached). All documents mentioned above should be signed by the chairperson and secretaries of the Precinct Election Commission. Verified copies of

complaints (applications), decisions of Precinct Election Commissions and acts mentioned above, shall be attached to the 2nd copy of the protocol.

(Article 106. Vote Counting in Voting Station)

33. To remove “envelopes and” from Article 107.4.

107.4 The following shall be sent to the Central Election Commission, accompanied by the Constituency Election Commission Chairman and representatives of various political parties, immediately but not later than 2 days from after Voting Day: The first copy of the protocol of the Constituency Election Commission together with complaints (applications) about violations of this law on Voting Day, received by the Constituency Election Commission, decisions made by the Constituency Election Commission with respect to these complaints and applications, an act on receipt of ~~envelopes and~~ ballot papers by the Constituency Election Commission, an act on canceling of unused ~~envelopes and~~ ballot papers (recording the number of such cards), and an act on issuing voting cards and on canceling unused voting cards (recording their number). The above mentioned acts shall be signed by the chairperson and secretaries of the Constituency Election Commission. Verified copies of complaints (applications), decisions of Constituency Election Commission and acts mentioned above shall be attached to the 2nd copy of the protocol.

(Article 107. Completion of Protocol of a Constituency Election Commission)

34. To add Article 111¹ as follows:

Article 111¹. Bodies for handling complaints on actions (lack of actions) and decisions that violate citizens' election rights

111¹.1. Fact-finding groups composed of lawyers shall be established within the election commissions, with the purpose of handling the citizens' complaints on actions (lack of actions) and decisions that violate citizens' election rights,

111¹.2. Fact-finding groups within the Central Election Commission shall be comprised of 6 9 members.

111¹.3. Fact-finding groups within the Constituency Election Commission shall be comprised of 3 6 members.

Article 111². Ensuring the Activity of the Fact-finding groups.

111².1. Fact-finding groups shall be formed at least 150 days prior to Voting Day.

111².2. Activities of the Fact-finding groups are regulated by the Article 19 of this Code, and requirements of Articles 22.1, 22.3-22.10 are applied to the members of those groups.

111².3. A member of a Fact-finding group cannot be a member of an election commission or another Fact-finding group at the same time.

111².4. The term of office of the Fact-finding groups is regulated by Article 23 of this Code.

111².5. Rules for handling citizens' complaints are governed by Regulations approved by the Central Election Commission.

111².6. Provisions of Articles 27, 33 and 38 of this Code are applied relevantly to members of the Fact-finding groups.

111².7. The Chairperson and members of Fact-finding groups receive salaries from the state budget during the period starting with the date of the official announcement of elections by authorized state body to the date of the publication of election results, in an amount defined by the Central Election Commission. Salary of members, elected to the Fact-finding groups, working for bodies, organizations or institutions funded by state or local budgets, shall be retained by their main employers.

35. To amend Article 112.5 as follows:

112.5. Complaints submitted by citizens must contain the following:

- 112.5.1. The name of the commission for handling citizens' complaints to which the complaint is addressed;
- 112.5.2. Address for sending the applicant a notification about the time when the complaint will be considered;
- 112.5.3. Decision, action, or lack of action, which are the object of a complaint;
- 112.5.4. If it is a decision, it must be attached to the complaint; names of the election commission or state institution, which are the objects of the dispute must be recorded; and the official must be indicated;
- 112.5.5. If it is an action, the name (position) of the person who committed the unlawful action, the substance of the action, and the place and time the action was committed must be clearly indicated;
- 112.5.6. If it is a lack of action, the applicant must indicate the demand which was not considered and the name of the institution or person that did not consider the demand;
- 112.5.7. The basis for the complaint can be an assumption of a violation of the Election Code and other legislative acts;
- 112.5.8. Evidence for purported violation **or explanation as to what constitutes the violation;**
- 112.5.9. Demand of the applicant;
- 112.5.10. In the case the complaint is filed with the superior Commission about a decision of the lower Commission, the decision of the relevant election commission must be annexed to the complaint.
- 112.5.11. The applicant must sign the complaint. If the complaint is filed by political parties or a bloc of political parties running for elections, then the complaint must be signed by the authorized representative with his/her document of authorization attached.

~~112.5. The court can cancel decisions (including decisions on results of voting, election returns) of the relevant election commissions in the circumstances considered by this Code and other laws.~~

(Article 112. Filing Complaints on Actions (Lack of Actions) and Decisions that Violate Citizens' Rights to Elect)

36. To amend Article 112.9 as follows:

112.9. The superior election commission shall have the right to cancel the decision of the ~~lower subordinate~~ election commission, ~~or~~ to make a decision regarding the ~~substance of the matter complaint~~ or to instruct to re-examine the ~~very~~ issue."

(Article 112. Filing Complaints on Actions (Lack of Actions) and Decisions that Violate Citizens' Rights to Elect)

37. To add Article 112¹ as follows:

Article 112¹. Handling Complaints by Fact-finding groups.

112¹.1. Complaints on actions (lack of actions) and decisions that violate citizens' election rights shall be presented to Fact-finding groups.

112¹.2. Rules for handling citizens' complaints shall be established by the Central Election Commission.

112¹.3. All Fact-finding groups must register received complaints, in numerical order with dates of receipt.

112¹.4. Once the complaint is registered the Fact-finding group will have the following responsibilities:

- b) to issue an opinion on the complaint to the relevant election commission;
- c) to require additional information about the complaint;
- d) to apply to the relevant state body for additional information;
- e) to obtain additional evidence (video, written materials etc.) if necessary;
- f) to take other actions.

112¹.5. The Fact-finding group within the Constituency Election Commission must follow the following rules while citizens submit complaints:

1121.5.1. Receive the written complaint and register it;

1121.5.2. If the complaint is submitted in person, the applicant must be given a receipt on the complaint;

1121.5.3. If the complaint is received in violation of the rules established by this Code, then the complaint must be sent back to the applicant by the chairperson of the commission;

112¹.5.4. If the complaint contains information of a criminal nature, such information must be immediately sent to the Central Election Commission;

112¹.5.5. If the complaint is under the jurisdiction of the commission that received the complaint and of another body, the Fact-finding group must recommend that that Constituency Election Commission not consider the complaint on its substance and that it resolve the issues within its responsibilities and send the other issues under another body's responsibilities to that other body for resolving.

112¹.6. The Fact-finding group within the Central Election Commission must follow the below mentioned rules along with Article 112¹.5 of this Code:

112¹.6.1. Make recommendations for a relevant decision following the Articles 60.6, 68.5, 87.9, 88.7, 88.8, 113, 115 and 116 regarding the complaints about illegal actions of other bodies and officials that are not related to the actions (lack of actions) or decisions of the election commissions.

112¹.6.2. If the relevant Fact-finding group or its chairperson do not take measures that can satisfy the applicant, a complaint can be filed about action (lack of action) or decision of the group or action (lack of action) of the official of the group in accordance with this Code.

112¹.6.3. If the written complaint is of a criminal nature but does not relate to elections, such a complaint must be sent to the Prosecutor's office without discussing it at the meeting of the Central Election Commission.

112¹.6.4. If the Fact-finding group within the Constituency Election Commission receives a complaint from the election subjects containing criminal actions related to the elections, this complaint shall be discussed at the meeting of the group in conformity with Article 1121.8 of this Code and the group must take actions about the issues within its responsibilities. If the Commission concludes that actions considered by the Criminal Code took place, the Commission shall make a grounded decision on informing the Prosecutor's office about those actions. A copy of the complaint shall be attached to the information provided. If the group,

while discussing the complaint, has difficulties in establishing whether there are actions or probability of such actions considered by the Criminal Code, the group shall make a decision about the issues within its responsibilities, and shall send the complaint to the Fact-finding group within the Central Election Commission for an opinion on the issue.

112¹.6.5. While discussing the complaint received from the Constituency Election Commission, the Fact-finding group within the Central Election Commission shall give an opinion in order to establish whether the violation reported in the complaint is a criminal case established by the Criminal Code, and determine the probability of a criminal action.

112¹.6.6. If the Fact-finding group within the Central Election Commission determines that those are the cases mentioned in Article 1121.6.5, the complaint must be sent to the relevant prosecutor's office.

1121.6.7. If the cases mentioned in Article 1121.6.5 are not determined in the complaint received, then the case is archived.

112¹.6.8. If it is refused without any ground to investigate the complaints considered by Article 112.5, then the Central Election Commission shall take actions within its responsibilities on imposing the liability on the official (officials) of the Constituency Election Commission and its Fact-Finding group in compliance with the rules established by the legislation.

112¹.7. Complaints are discussed at the meeting of the Fact-finding group. **The meeting is valid if two thirds of members of the fact-finding group are present at the meeting.** If the applicant expressed willingness to attend the meeting in his/her appeal, s/he must be personally informed, about the place and time of the meeting by telephone or mail, a day prior to the meeting. Absence of the applicant at the meeting of the group is not an obstruction for discussing the issue. Even if the applicant is not informed, his/her request to participate must be met.

112¹.8. The member of the Fact-finding group appointed to make the report shall inform about the complaint at the meeting. If the applicant or his/her authorized representative is present at the meeting s/he can explain the complaint. A representative of the Constituency Election Commission whose decision is under discussion can be invited to the meeting of the Fact-finding group within the Central Election Commission and s/he has the right to justify the decision made.

112¹.9. The applicant has the right to present new evidence via documents or witnesses. Once the evidence is submitted and the preliminary investigation is completed, s/he must leave the meeting room on the request of the person chairing the meeting from the moment the session for decision-making starts until the decision or opinion is announced. Decision or opinion of the Fact-finding group is made via simple majority of votes. Once the decision or recommendation is made it is immediately announced publicly.

112¹.10. The Fact-finding group that investigates the complaint must make a decision or issue an opinion within the period established by Article 112.10. If additional investigation is needed, the group can make a **temporary** decision. Such a decision must be made within 3 days from the date of receipt of complaint, and immediately on Election Day.

112¹.11 Fact-finding groups that investigate the complaints can make the following recommendations:

112¹.11.1. Cancel the decision of a lower election commission;

112¹.11.2. Warn the election subject in conformity with Article 113.1 of the Election Code;

112¹.11.3. Refuse registration of a candidate in cases established by Article 113.2 of the Election Code;

112¹.11.4. Appealing to the court for deregistration of a candidate in cases established by Article 113.2 of the Election Code.

112¹.11.5. Instruct to re-examine the issue raised by the applicant by the relevant election commission;

112¹.12 If the complaint is not within the responsibilities of the Fact-finding group a decision on sending the complaint to the relevant institution is made;

112¹.13 A decision or an opinion is announced immediately after it is made, or published (posted on website) not later than 24 hours after it is made and is delivered or sent to the applicant.

112¹.14. Decision or opinion of the Fact-finding group must be based on the following:

112¹.14.1. The complaint must be received within the rules and period established by the law, i.e. within 3 days after the action (lack of action) took place or interested part is informed.

112¹.14.2. Complaints must be submitted by the person (according to Article 112.1, voters; candidates; registered candidates; political parties; blocs of political parties; referendum campaign group; agents of registered candidates, political parties, blocs of political parties, referendum campaign group; observers as well as election commissions) who have such a right.

37. To replace, in Article 113.1, the expression "filing a complaint with a court on cancellation of registration" with "deregistration stipulated under Articles 73 and 73¹ of this Code, or appeal to the court in conformity with the Article 113.2 of this Code."

113.1. If a candidate, registered candidate, political party, bloc of political parties, referendum campaigning group violates provisions of this Code, the relevant election commission shall warn this candidate, registered candidate, political party, bloc of political parties, referendum campaigning group through the mass media, providing the voters are informed. The election commission shall have the right to make a decision about the following issues irrespective of whether or not a complaint considering Article 112.2. of this Code was made about them:

- refusal of registration of a candidate, referendum campaigning group;
- ~~deregistration—filing a complaint with a court on cancellation of registration~~ of a registered candidate, or of a referendum campaigning group stipulated under Articles 73 and 73¹ of this Code, or appeal to the court in conformity with the Article 113.2 of this Code;
- invalidation of election of a candidate;
- cancellation of a decision on voting results and election returns.

(Article 113. Cancellation of Registration of Registered Candidates, Referendum Campaigning Groups and Refusal of Registration of Candidates)

38. To amend title of Article 181 as follows:

Article 181. Collection of Signatures in Support of a Candidate for Presidency and Checking the Signatures
(Article 181. Collection of Signatures in Support of a Candidate for Presidency)

38. To amend Article 113.2 as follows:

113.2. Registration of a candidate, referendum campaign group shall be cancelled in the cases mentioned below if there is a court verdict in force on the criminal case or there is a court decision on the administrative offence.

~~113.2. The election commission can adopt a decision on refusal from registering a candidate and a referendum campaign group, and on a request to the court in regard of canceling the registration of the registered candidate and a referendum campaign group, under the following circumstances:~~

(Article 113. Cancellation of Registration of Registered Candidates, Referendum Campaigning Groups and Refusal of Registration of Candidates)

39. To remove Article 113.2.1.

~~113.2.1. if information submitted by a candidate, political party, bloc of political parties, referendum campaigning group in conformity with this Code is not accurate, and if their invalidity is of importance (except for cases indicated in Article 60.3. of this Code)~~

(Article 113. Cancellation of Registration of Registered Candidates, Referendum Campaigning Groups and Refusal of Registration of Candidates)

40. To add Article 113¹.1. as follows:

113.1. The election commission can refuse registration of a candidate, referendum campaign group if the information they submit according to this Code is not true or their invalidity is of great importance (except the cases mentioned in Article 60.3 of this Code.)

41. To replace “joint discussions, roundtables” with “debates in conformity with the rules defined by the Central Election Commission” in Articles 127.2, 155.2, 189.2, 224.2.

127.2. One third of the total volume of free airtime of TV and radio companies shall be allocated to referendum campaign groups with more than 20,000 members for holding **debates in conformity with the rules defined by the Central Election Commission** ~~joint discussions, roundtables~~ and other campaigning activities.

(Article 127. Actions, taking into consideration provisions of Articles 77.2 and 77.3 of this Code Special Requirements for Conduct of Pre-referendum Campaign by Mass Media)

155.2. 1/3rd of total free airtime on TV and radio should be allocated for registered candidates, political parties and blocs of political parties, which have registered candidates in more than 60 single-mandate constituencies, to hold **debates in conformity with the rules defined by the Central Election Commission** ~~discussions, roundtables~~ and other election campaigning actions.

(Article 155. Special Requirements for Conduct of Pre-election Campaign in Mass Media During Elections to the Milli Majlis)

189.2. One third of total volume of free airtime allocated by TV and Radio companies shall be envisaged for the registered candidates for Presidency to conduct **debates in conformity with the rules defined by the Central Election Commission** ~~debates, roundtables~~, and other campaigning activities.

(Article 189. Specific Requirements for the Conduct of the Election Campaign through Mass Media during Presidential Elections)

224.2. 1/3 of total free airtime allocated by TV and radio companies should correspondingly be provided to the political parties and bloc of political parties, which have registered candidates in more than 1/3 or in more than half of municipalities, to conduct **debates in conformity with the rules defined by the Central Election Commission** ~~discussions, roundtables~~ and other campaigning actions taking into consideration provisions of Articles 77.2 and 77.3 of this Code.

(Article 224. Special Requirements for Candidates of Political Parties, Blocs of Political Parties to Municipal Membership for Conducting Pre-election Campaign)

42. To replace 72.2 with 77.2 in Article 127.3.

127.3. Airtime for the conduct of the joint campaign activities on channels of each TV and radio companies mentioned in Articles ~~77.2 72.2~~ and 77.3 of this Code shall be allocated and calculated for the referendum campaign groups stipulated in those articles. The registered referendum campaign groups should equally use this free airtime. In this case, the volume of airtime to be used by each referendum campaign group is determined separately.

(Article 127. Actions, taking into consideration provisions of Articles 77.2 and 77.3 of this Code Special Requirements for Conduct of Pre-referendum Campaign by Mass Media)

43. To amend Article 128.2.1. as follows:

128.2.1. special funds of the referendum campaign groups with condition not to exceed 5,000 manats;

~~128.2.1. special funds of members of the referendum campaign groups which cannot be more than 2000 times the conventional financial unit which is in force on the day of official publication of the decision on the determination of the referendum~~

(Article 128. Referendum Funds of Referendum Campaign Groups)

44. To amend Article 128.2.3. as follows:

Voluntary donations not exceeding 1,000 manats for citizens and 10,000 manats for legal entities.

~~128.2.3. voluntary donations, not more than 100 times the conventional financial unit from citizens and not more than 2000 times the conventional financial unit from legal entities which is in force on the day of official publication of decision on the determination of the referendum.~~

(Article 128. Referendum Funds of Referendum Campaign Groups)

45. To remove “conventional financial unit which is in force on the day of official publication of decision on the determination of the referendum”; to replace “times” with “manats”, “25” with “50”, “250 thousand” with “one million”, “500 thousand” with “five million” in Article 128.3.

The maximum limit for referendum funds of registered campaign groups on referendum mentioned in Article 77.4 of this Code cannot exceed **50 25** thousand **manats** ~~times the conventional financial unit which is in force on the day of official publication of decision on the determination of the referendum~~; the maximum limit for the referendum funds of registered campaign groups on referendum mentioned in Article 77.3 of this Code cannot exceed **one million manats** ~~250 thousand times the conventional financial unit which is in force on the day of official publication of decision on the determination of the referendum~~; the maximum limit the referendum funds of registered campaign groups on referendum mentioned in Article 77.2 of this Code cannot exceed **five million manats** ~~500 thousand times the conventional financial~~

~~unit which is in force on the day of official publication of decision on the determination of the referendum.~~

(Article 128. Referendum Funds of Referendum Campaign Groups)

46. To remove “the conventional financial unit which is in force on the day of official publication of decision on the determination of the referendum” from Articles 130.1.1 – 130.1.3

130.1.1. about the financial report for spending that fund, if the amount of financial fund on referendum is more than 10 000 times ~~the conventional financial unit which is in force on the day of official publication of decision on determination of the referendum;~~

130.1.2. about legal entities who made voluntary donations to the referendum financial fund, amount of which is more than 5 000 times ~~the conventional financial unit that is in force on the day of official publication of the decision on the determination of the referendum;~~

130.1.3. about the number of citizens who made donations to referendum financial fund, amount of which is more than 250 times ~~the conventional financial unit that is in force on the day of official publication of the decision on the determination of the referendum;~~

(Article 130. Transparency in Using of Referendum Funds)

47. To replace “times” with “manats” throughout the text of Article 156; to remove “the conventional financial unit, which is determined for the day of official publication of the decision on determination of the elections” from Articles 156.1, 156.2.1, 156.2.2, 156.2.4; and to remove “the conventional financial unit, which is in force on the day of publication of the decision on determination of the elections” from Articles 156.4.1 and 156.4.3.

156.1. The maximum limit of a candidate’s election fund assets should not exceed **500 75** thousand **manats** ~~times the conventional financial unit, which is determined for the day of official publication of the decision on determination of the elections.~~

156.2.1. the special funds of candidates and registered candidates — the amount of the special funds cannot be more than **500 40** thousand **manats** ~~times the conventional financial unit, which is determined for the day of official publication of the decision on determination of the elections;~~

156.2.2. funds of candidates, political parties, which have nominated a registered candidate, political parties, which are included in the bloc of political parties -- the amount of the funds cannot be more than **150 25** thousand **manats** ~~times the conventional financial unit, which is determined for the day of official publication of the decision on determination of the elections;~~

156.2.4. voluntary donations from citizens amounting not more than **3,000 500 manats** ~~times the conventional financial unit, and legal entities amounting not more than 50 40 thousand manats times the conventional financial unit, which is determined for the day of official publication of the decision on determination of the elections;~~

156.4.1. special funds of political parties and blocs of political parties not exceeding **500 50** thousand **manats** ~~times the conventional financial unit which is in force on the day of official publication of the decision on determination of the elections~~ (such funds of blocs of political parties are formed from the funds of political parties which are included in that bloc);

156.4.3. voluntary donations of citizens and legal entities. The limit of voluntary donations cannot be more than **3,000 450 manats** ~~times the conventional financial unit for citizens and 50 25 thousand times the conventional financial unit for legal entities, which is in force on the day of publication of the decision on determination of the elections.~~

(Article 156. Election Funds of Candidates, Registered Candidates, Political Parties, Blocs of Political Parties during Elections to the Milli Majlis)

48. To replace “75” with “500” in Article 156.1, “10” with “500” in Article 156.2.1, “25” with “150” in Articles 156.2.2, “500” with “3000” and “10” with “50” in Article 156.2.4, “50” with “500” in Article 156.4.1, “150” with “3000”, and “25” with “50” in Article 156.4.3. (see above – translator’s note)

(Article 156. Election Funds of Candidates, Registered Candidates, Political Parties, Blocs of Political Parties during Elections to the Milli Majlis)

49. To replace “manats” with “times” throughout the text of Article 159; to remove “the conventional financial unit, which is in force on the day of publication of the decision on the determination of the elections” from Articles 159.1.1 – 159.1.3 and 159.2.1 – 159.2.3.

159.1.1 on the financial statement of expenditure of funds, if the election funds exceed 10,000 **manats** ~~times the conventional financial unit, which is in force on the day of publication of the decision on the determination of the elections,~~ for political parties and blocs of political parties and 2,500 ~~times~~ - for a candidate and registered candidate;

159.1.2 on the legal entities who contributed donations to the election funds which exceed 5,000 **manats** ~~times the conventional financial unit, which is in force on the day of publication of the decision on determination of the elections,~~ for political party and bloc of political parties and 1,250 ~~times~~— for a candidate or registered candidate (in this case, the possibility of transfer of funds through several installments of donations should be taken into account);

159.1.3 on the number of citizens who contributed donations more than 250 **manats** ~~times the conventional financial unit, which is in force on the day of publication of the decision on the determination of the elections;~~

159.2.1 on the financial statement of expenditure of funds, if the election funds exceed 10,000 **manats** ~~times the conventional financial unit, which is in force on the day of publication of the decision on the determination of the elections;~~

159.2.2 on the legal entities who contributed donations to the election funds which exceed 5,000 **manats** ~~times the conventional financial unit, which is in force on the day of publication of the decision on determination of the elections~~ (in this case, the possibility of transfer of funds by the same legal entity through several installments of donations should be taken into account);

159.2.3 on the number of citizens who contributed donations more than 250 **manats** ~~times the conventional financial unit which is in force on the day of publication of the decision on the determination of the elections;~~

(Article 159. Transparency in Use of Election Funds During Elections to the Milli Majlis)

50. To replace “times” with “manats” throughout the text of Article 191; to remove “the conventional financial unit, which is in force on the day of publication of the decision on the determination of the elections” from Articles 191.1, 191.2.1 and 191.2.3.

191.1. The maximum limit of the election fund of a candidate for Presidency cannot be more than **10 4** million **manats** ~~times the conventional financial unit which is in force for the date the decision on determination of the Election Day is officially published.~~

(Article 191. Election Funds of Candidates for Presidency)

51. To replace “1” with “10” in Article 191.1, “25” with “250” in Article 191.2.1, “1500” with “3000”, and “10” with “50” in Article 191.2.3.

191.2.1 special funds (these special funds for candidates for Presidency nominated by political parties or bloc of political parties shall be formed from the funds contributed by political parties or political parties which have created bloc of political parties) of candidates for Presidency, with a condition it cannot be more than **250 25** thousand **manats** ~~times the conventional financial unit which is in force for the date, the decision on determination of the election day is officially published;~~

191.2.3 voluntary donations of citizens and legal entities. For citizens the limit of voluntary donations for cannot be more than **3,000 manats** ~~1,500 times the conventional financial unit which is in force for the date the decision on determination of the Election Day is officially published,~~ for legal entities – more than **50 10** thousand **manats** ~~times.~~

(Article 191. Election Funds of Candidates for Presidency)

52. To replace “times” with “manats” throughout the text of Article 192; to remove expressions “the conventional financial unit, which is in force for the date the decision on determination of the Election Day, is officially published” and “the conventional financial unit” from Article 192.1.1; to remove “the conventional financial unit which is in force for the date the decision on determination of the election day is officially published” from Articles 192.1.2 and 191.1.3.

192.1.1 about the financial report on expenditure of funds if the election fund of a registered candidate for Presidency is more than 10,000 **manats** ~~times the conventional financial unit, which is in force for the date the decision on determination of the Election Day, is officially published,~~ for the candidate for Presidency – 2,500 times;

192.1.2 about the legal entities who contributed donations, the amount of which is more than 5,000 **manats** ~~times the conventional financial unit which is in force for the date the decision on determination of the election day is officially published~~ for the registered candidate for Presidency, for the candidate for Presidency – 1,250 **manats** ~~times~~ (in this case, the possibility of transfer of funds by the same legal entity through several installments of donations should be taken into account);

192.1.3 about the number of citizens who contributed donations to the election fund which is more than 250 **manats** ~~times the conventional financial unit in force for the date the decision on determination of the election day is officially published;~~

(Article 191. Election Funds of Candidates for Presidency)

53. To remove “in a scale of yeni manats” in parenthesis in Article 209.2.

209.2. From the day of taking the oath, the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan shall receive monthly salary of 15, 000 ~~(in a scale of Yeni Manats).~~

(Article 209. Commencement of the President’s Power)

54. To replace “times” with “manats” throughout the text of Article 225; to remove the expression “the conventional financial unit, which is in force on the day of official publication of the decision on determination of the election day” from Articles 225.1.1, 225.1.2, 225.1.4, 225.1.5, 225.2, 225.5.1, 225.5.3, 225.6.

225.1.1. The amount of special funds of candidates for membership of a municipality

- not more than 10,000 **manats** ~~times the conventional financial unit, which is in force on the day of official publication of the decision on determination of the election day~~ – for candidates for membership of a municipality mentioned in Article 215.1.1
- not more than 7,500 **manats** ~~times the conventional financial unit, which is in force on the day of official publication of the decision on determination of the election day~~ - for candidates for membership of a municipality mentioned in Article 215.1.2.;
- not more than 5,000 **manats** ~~times the conventional financial unit, which is in force on the day of official publication of the decision on determination of the election day~~ - for candidates for membership of a municipality mentioned in Article 215.1.3.;
- not more than 2,500 **manats** ~~times the conventional financial unit, which is in force on the day of official publication of the decision on determination of the election day~~ - for candidates for membership of a municipality mentioned in Article 215.1.4.;
- not more than 1,250 **manats** ~~times the conventional financial unit, which is in force on the day of official publication of the decision on determination of the election day~~ - for candidates for membership of a municipality mentioned in Article 215.1.5.;
- not more than 750 **manats** ~~times the conventional financial unit, which is in force on the day of official publication of the decision on determination of the election day~~ - for candidates for membership of a municipality mentioned in Article 215.1.6.;

225.1.2 election funds of political parties or blocs of political parties with nominated candidates for membership of a municipality amounting to:

- not more than 7,500 **manats** ~~times the conventional financial unit, which is in force on the day of official publication of the decision on determination of the election day~~ - for candidates for membership of a municipality mentioned in Article 215.1.1.;
- not more than 5,000 **manats** ~~times the conventional financial unit, which is in force on the day of official publication of the decision on determination of the election day~~ - for candidates for membership of a municipality mentioned in Article 215.1.2.;
- not more than 3,750 **manats** ~~times the conventional financial unit, which is in force on the day of official publication of the decision on determination of the election day~~ - for candidates for membership of a municipality mentioned in Article 215.1.3.;
- not more than 2,500 **manats** ~~times the conventional financial unit, which is in force on the day of official publication of the decision on determination of the election day~~ - for candidates for membership of a municipality mentioned in Article 215.1.4.;
- not more than 1,250 **manats** ~~times the conventional financial unit, which is in force on the day of official publication of the decision on determination of the election day~~ - for candidates for membership of a municipality mentioned in Article 215.1.5.;
- not more than 500 **manats** ~~times the conventional financial unit, which is in force on the day of official publication of the decision on determination of the election day~~ - for candidates for membership of a municipality mentioned in Article 215.1.6.;

225.1.4. voluntary donations from citizens not more than 500 **manats** ~~times the conventional financial unit, which is in force on the day of official publication of the decision on determination of the Election Day;~~

225.1.5. voluntary donations of legal entities that are:

- not more than 10,000 **manats** ~~times the conventional financial unit, which is in force on the day of official publication of the decision on determination of the election day~~ - for candidates for membership of a municipality mentioned in Article 215.1.1.;

- not more than 7,500 **manats** ~~times the conventional financial unit, which is in force on the day of official publication of the decision on determination of the election day~~ - for candidates for membership of a municipality mentioned in Article 215.1.2.;
- not more than 3,750 **manats** ~~times the conventional financial unit, which is in force on the day of official publication of the decision on determination of the election day~~ - for candidates for membership of a municipality mentioned in Article 215.1.3.;
- not more than 2,500 **manats** ~~times the conventional financial unit, which is in force on the day of official publication of the decision on determination of the election day~~ - for candidates for membership of a municipality mentioned in Article 215.1.4.;
- not more than 1,250 **manats** ~~times the conventional financial unit, which is in force on the day of official publication of the decision on determination of the election day~~ - for candidates for membership of a municipality mentioned in Article 215.1.5.;
- not more than 750 **manats** ~~times the conventional financial unit, which is in force on the day of official publication of the decision on determination of the election day~~ - for candidates for membership of a municipality mentioned in Article 215.1.6.;

225.2. Maximum limit of the funds of candidates for membership of a municipality cannot exceed:

- 50,000 **manats** ~~times the conventional financial unit, which is in force on the day of official publication of the decision on determination of the election day~~ - for candidates for membership of a municipality mentioned in Article 215.1.1.;
- 37,500 **manats** ~~times the conventional financial unit, which is in force on the day of official publication of the decision on determination of the election day~~ - for candidates for membership of a municipality mentioned in Article 215.1.2.;
- 25,000 **manats** ~~times the conventional financial unit, which is in force on the day of official publication of the decision on determination of the election day~~ - for candidates for membership of a municipality mentioned in Article 215.1.3.;
- 12,500 **manats** ~~times the conventional financial unit, which is in force on the day of official publication of the decision on determination of the election day~~ - for candidates for membership of a municipality mentioned in Article 215.1.4.;
- 7,500 **manats** ~~times the conventional financial unit, which is in force on the day of official publication of the decision on determination of the election day~~ - for candidates for membership of a municipality mentioned in Article 215.1.5.;
- 5,000 **manats** ~~times the conventional financial unit, which is in force on the day of official publication of the decision on determination of the election day~~ - for candidates for membership of a municipality mentioned in Article 215.1.6.

225.5.1. the special funds of political parties and bloc of political parties — the amount of the special funds cannot be more than 250,000 **manats** ~~times the conventional financial unit, which is in force on the day of official publication of the decision on determination of the elections~~ (these special funds of the bloc of political parties can be formed from funds provided by the political parties that constitute the bloc);

225.5.3. voluntary donations of citizens and legal entities. Amount of voluntary donations cannot be more than 750 **manats** ~~times the conventional financial unit for citizens and 25,000 times the conventional financial unit~~ for legal entities, ~~which is in force on the day of publication of the decision on determination of the elections.~~

225.6. The maximum limit of the election fund assets of a political party or bloc of political parties shall be determined through multiplying the amount stipulated in Article 225.3 of this

Code by the number of nominated or registered candidates. In any case, the maximum limit of the election fund assets of a political party or bloc of political parties cannot exceed 500,000 **manats** ~~times the conventional financial unit, which is in force on the day of publication of the decision on determination of the elections~~. At the same time, the amount expended for each candidate should not exceed the amount provided for in Article 225.3 of this Code. Observance of this condition should be indicated in financial statements of political parties or blocs of political parties.

(Article 225. Election funds of Political Parties, Blocs of Political Parties and Candidates to Municipal Membership)

55. To replace “times” with “manats” throughout the text of Article 228; to remove the expression “the conventional financial unit, which is in force on the day of official publication of the decision on determination of the election day” from Articles 228.1.1, 228.1.2, 228.1.3, 228.2.1, 228.2.2, 228.2.3.

228.1.1 on the financial report about usage of election fund of a candidate for a membership of a municipality if its amount is more than 1,000 **manats** ~~times the conventional financial unit which is in force on the date decision on determination of election day is officially published~~;

228.1.2 on the legal entities who contributed donation, which is more than 2,500 **manats** ~~times the conventional financial unit which is in force on the date the decision on determination of the election day is officially published~~, to the election fund of a candidate for membership of a municipality (in this case, possibility of transfer of funds by the same legal entity through several installments of donations should be taken into account);

228.1.3 on the number of citizens who contributed donations, which are more than 250 **manats** ~~times the conventional financial unit, which is in force on the date the decision on determination of the election day, is officially published~~, to the election fund of a candidate for membership of a municipality;

228.2.1 on the financial statement of expenditure of funds, if the election funds exceed 10,000 **manats** ~~times the conventional financial unit, which is in force on the day of publication of the decision on determination of the elections~~;

228.2.2 on the legal entities who contributed donations to the election funds which exceed 5,000 **manats** ~~times the conventional financial unit, which is in force on the day of publication of the decision on determination of the elections~~ (in this case, possibility of transfer of funds by the same legal entity through several installments of donations should be taken into account);

228.2.3 on the number of citizens who contributed donations more than 250 **manats** ~~times the conventional financial unit which is in force on the day of publication of the decision on determination of the elections~~;

(Article 228. Transparency in Usage of Money from Election Funds of Political Parties, Bloc of Political Parties and Candidates to Municipal Membership)

56. *II. This Law comes into force upon the date of publication.*