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EUROPEAN COMMISSION FOR DEMOCRACY THROUGH LAW
(VENICE COMMISSION)

**ELECTION CODE
OF MOLDOVA
as of 10 April 2008**

ELECTION CODE OF THE REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA**LAW OF THE REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA****Election Code****No. 1381-XIII from 21.11.1997****Official Gazette of the Republic of Moldova no. 81/667 from 18.12.1997**

Note: The following provisions of the Elections Code have been declared as unconstitutional on the basis of the Constitutional Court decision no. 13 from 14.03.2002 and namely: article 1 part one excluding the wording "mayor or of " and "or by means of a referendum"; article 22 entry e) excluding the wording "or for the position of mayor"; article 41, paragraph (3) entry b) the wording "powers of the mayor and"; article 68 paragraph (2) excluding the wording "and the mayors"; article 118 the wording "mayors and"; article 120 paragraph (1) the wording "and mayors"; article 127 to the extent as to exclude "and for to be elected as mayor - if supported by 5 percent out of the number electors from the respective district but not less than 150 persons and not more than 10000 persons"; article 130 in order to exclude the wording "and for the election of city mayors (municipalities), villages (communes)"; article 132, paragraph (2) excluding the wording "by the mayor or" and "and mayors", exclusion of article 134; article 135 paragraph (3) excluding the wording "and mayors"; article 139 paragraph (1) excluding the entry b); article 139 paragraph (1) entry c) excluding the wording "and/or the mayor"; article 139 entry f) excluding the wording "(councils, mayors)"; article 177 excluding paragraph (2); article 186 paragraph (1) excluding the wording "or of the mayor".

Note: Throughout the Code, the words "rayon" and "rayon's" shall be respectively substituted with the words, "judet", "of the district" based on the Law no. 268-XIV from 04.02.1999.

The will of people constitutes the founding pillar for the power in the state. This will is expressed by means of free elections, which take place periodically on the basis of universal, equal, direct, secret of freely expressed suffrage. The state guarantees the freely expressed will of its citizens by protecting democratic principles and norms of the right to elections. The present Code determines the manner of organization and unfolding of the election of the Parliament, local public administration authorities, and manner of organizing referendums.

[Preamble amended by the Law no. 1227-XIV from 21.09.2000]

The Parliament adopts the present Code.

**Title 1
GENERAL PROVISIONS****Chapter 1 - TERMS AND GENERAL PRINCIPLES****Article 1. General terms**

In the sense of the present Code the general terms have the following definition:

Electoral billboards - appeals, statements, photographs and other materials used by the electoral competitors for the purpose of electoral propaganda;

Electoral propaganda - actions for preparation and dissemination of information aimed at determining the electors to vote for one or other electoral competitors;

Voter - any citizen of the Republic of Moldova with the right to vote;

Register of voters - a list of citizens of the Republic of Moldova with the right to vote, which contain and other necessary information for their participation in the elections;

[The amendment inserted by the Law no. 248-XVI from 21.07.06]

Elections - means, in the case of no specific reference, elections in the Parliament, in the local public authorities as well as the referendums. The same term refers to the actions of the citizens, parties and other social-political organizations, electoral blocs, elections and other state authorities, oriented toward elaboration of electoral lists, nomination and registration of candidates, electoral propaganda, voting and confirmation of voting results, as well as other actions related to elections in accordance with the legislation into force;

[Art.1 notion modified by the Law no. 227-XIV from 21.09.00]

General elections - any type of elections that take place in one day, on Sunday or on any other day indicated in the act of determining the date of elections, on the entire territory of the country;

Anticipated elections - elections of the elective bodies taking place in case of cessation before the term of the mandate or in case of dissolution, or in case of territorial-administrative reorganization.

[Art. 1 anticipated elections in the redaction of the Law no. 31-XV from 13.02.2003]

[Art. 1 anticipated elections inserted by the Law no. 894-XIV from 23.03.2000]

[Art. 1 electoral block excluded by the Law no. 76-XVI from 10.04.2008]

[Art. 1 electoral block modified by the Law no. 31-XV from 13.02.2003]

Electoral campaign - period of activity aimed at determining the voters to one or another electoral candidate and that starts for every electoral competitors from the date of registration of the latter at the Central Elections Commission or by the district electoral council and stops when the competitor is excluded from the election on the voting date;

Candidate - person who proposes his candidacy in order to obtain a public elective position on behalf of parties other social-political organizations, electoral blocs, as well as not related to these;

Independent candidate - person who nominates himself in order to obtain a public elective position not dependent on parties, other social-political organizations and electoral blocs;

Electoral district - administrative electoral unit, where elections and referendums are organized and take place,

Code of behavior- a convention between electoral competitors and representatives of mass-media concerning the progress and the reflection of the electoral campaign which interdict the lesion of dignity and image of electoral competitors.

[Art. 1 notion inserted by the Law no. 176-XVI from 22.07.2005]

Electoral competitors:

- Independent candidates, registered by the Central Elections Commission, as well as parties, other social-political organizations, electoral blocs whose lists of candidates have been registered by Central Elections Commission - in case of parliamentary elections;

- Parties, other social-political organizations, electoral blocs and persons who had nominated their candidacy for the position of mayor and councilor in the local council and which are registered by the respective district electoral councils - in case of local elections;

[Art. 1 notion modified by the Law no. 31-XV from 13.02.2003]

[The amendment introduced by the Law no. 1381 from 21.11.1997 was declared unconstitutional according to the Constitutional Court Decision no. 13 from 14.03.02]

[Art. 1 notion modified by the Law no. 796-XV from 25.01.2002]

[Art. 1 notion modified by the Law no. 1227-XIV from 21.09.2000]

- Contestation - an application for repeal or revision of an act, decision or action;

[Art. 1 contestation inserted by the Law no. 268-XIV from 04.02.1999]

- Central Elections Commission - commission created for the purpose of ensuring the proper performance of elections, which works on a permanent basis according to the present Code;

[Art. 1 notion modified by the Law no. 248-XVI from 21.07.2006]

- Designation of candidates - a procedure of adoption by the parties and other social-political organizations a decision regarding the nominations for public elective positions, deployed in the

sittings of the parties and other social-political organizations according to their statutes, after the appointment of the date of the elections;

[Art. 1 notion inserted by the Law no. 176-XVI from 22.07.2005]

- Domicile - a place of permanent subsistence confirmed by the stamp "domicile" in the identity card.

- Declaration of sitting - a procedure by which the citizen with the right to vote declare the place of his finding in the date of elections.

[Art. 1 notion inserted by the Law no. 248-XVI from 21.07.2006]

[Art. 1 notion inserted by the Law no. 176-XVI from 22.07.2005]

- Right to vote - constitutional right of the citizen, to elect and to be elected in order to express by means of his vote the attitude toward the most important problems of the state and the society in general and/or in local problems of a particular interest;

- List of candidates - list of candidates nominated by parties, social-political organizations, and electoral blocs in order to take part in elections;

- Electoral list - list including all citizens with the right to suffrage residing on the territory of a polling station;

- Subscription list - list including the signatures of the voters who plead in favor of one candidate or for the initiation of a referendum;

- Locality - territorial-administrative unit organized according to the law (rayon, municipality, city, village (commune), territorial-administrative unit with a special status);

[Art. 1 notion modified by the Law no. 248-XVI from 21.07.2006]

[Art. 1 locality modified by the Law no. 842-XV from 14.02.2002]

- Minimum special places for electoral billboards - special places arranged for electoral billboards, posted in a locality. The minimal place offered for an electoral candidate on a panel is 1m². The space for electoral displaying must be equal for everyone;

[Art. 1 notion inserted by the Law no. 176-XVI from 22.07.2005]

- Electoral authorities - authorities entitled with the organization of parliamentary, local public administration elections as well as referendum;

[Art. 1 notion modified by the Law no. 1227-XIV from 21.09.2000]

- Social-political organizations - parties, fronts, leagues, mass political movements, registered under the law on parties and other social-political organizations;

- Parties - benevolent associations of citizens established and registered under the Law on parties and other social-political organizations;

- Electoral period - period of time that starts with the day on bringing to the knowledge of the public the elections date as well as the date when the final results of the elections are confirmed by the competent authorities;

- Persons authorized to assist at the electoral operations - representative members and observers of the electoral competitors in the electoral authorities, observers accredited by the district electoral councils; observers accredited by the Central Elections Commission as well as representatives of the mass media means;

[Art. 1 notion modified by the Law no. 248-XVI from 21.07.2006]

- Referendum - suffrage when people express their option with regard to the most serious issues of the state and the society in general, pursuing the goal to solve them, as well as requesting the citizens' opinion on local problems of a particular interest;

- Residence - a place of temporary subsistence confirmed by the stamp "residence" in the identity card.

[Art. 1 notion inserted by the Law no. 176-XVI from 22.07.2005]

- Revocation - withdrawal by the law court of the mandate of a person holding an eligible public position, also withdrawal of the mandate of mayor by local referendum.

[Art. 1 revocation completed by the Law no. 31-XV from 13.02.2003]

[Art. 1 revocation amended by the Law no. 796-XV from 25.01.2002]

[Art. 1 revocation inserted by the Law no. 268-XIV from 04.02.1999]

Article 2. Principles of participation in the elections

1. Citizens of the Republic of Moldova participate in the elections by universal, equal, direct, secret and freely expressed vote.
2. Participation in the elections has a free (benevolent) nature. No person is entitled to exert pressure upon the voter in order to coerce him to take or not to take part in elections as well as to influence the expression of his free will.
3. Citizens of the Republic of Moldova residing outside the country shall benefit from full right to suffrage under the present Code. The diplomatic missions and consular offices have the obligation to assist the citizens to exercise their electoral rights.
[Art. 2 paragraph (3) amended by the Law no. 248-XVI from 21.07.2006]

Article 3. Universal vote

Citizens of the Republic of Moldova may elect and be elected regardless their race, nationality, ethnic origin, language, religion, sex, opinion, political affiliation, wealth or social origin.

Article 4. Equal vote

Each voter shall be entitled to a single vote during each suffrage. Every vote has an equal legal power.

Article 5. Direct vote

Each citizen shall give his vote personally. No voting instead of other person shall be allowed.

Article 6. Secret suffrage

Suffrage in elections and/or referendum is secret, thus excluding the possibility to exercise influence over the voter's will.

Article 7. Freely expressed vote

No one may exert pressure on the voter in order to make him vote or refrain from voting as well as to express his will independently.

Article 8. Elections date

Elections shall take place in one day, on Sunday or on any other date indicated in the elections organizations act on the entire territory of the country or in a specific locality.

Article 9. Place of exercising the right to vote

1. The right to vote shall be exercised in the locality where the citizen resides, except for cases provided by the present Code.
2. In case in which the elector has the domicile and the residence in period of the validity of the residence, he votes in the locality in which he has the residence.
[Art. 9 paragraph (2) inserted by the Law no. 176-XVI from 22.07.2005]

Article 10. Voting for a sole candidate

During elections, the elector shall vote for a single candidate, during the referendum - for one single option.

Chapter 2 - RIGHT TO ELECT AND TO BE ELECTED RESTRICTIONS

Article 11. Right to elect

Citizens of the Republic of Moldova who, on the elections day reached the age of 18 years enjoy the right to vote, except for those deprived of this right in conformity with the law.

Article 12. Right to be elected

Citizens of the Republic of Moldova eligible for vote may be elected in accordance with the present Code.

Article 13. Restrictions

1. The following persons do not have the right to vote:

a) who do not meet the requirements settled in the article 11;

b) who have been declared as incapable by a final judgment of the law court;

[Art.13 paragraph (1) entry b) amended by the Law no. 796-XIV from 25.01.2002]

c) persons convicted to deprivation of liberty by a final judgment of the law court.

[Art.13 paragraph (1) entry c) in the redaction of the Law no. 76-XVI from 10.04.2008]

2. May not be elected:

a) serving military men;

[Entry a) as amended by the Law no. 268-XIV from 04.02.1999]

[Entry b) repealed, the others shall be set accordingly to the Law no. 403-XIV from 14.05.1999]

Note: See in this respect the Decision of the Parliament no. 331-XIV from 25.03.1999 on "ensuring a uniform character to the application of the provisions of Article 13 paragraph (2) entry b) from the Elections Code on the entire territory of the Republic of Moldova during the elections campaign for general local elections from 1999".

b) persons mentioned in paragraph (1);

b¹) persons who have beside the Republic of Moldova nationality and other nationality for the position of deputy in the conditions of Art. 75;

[Art. 13 paragraph (2) entry b¹ inserted by the Law no. 76-XVI from 10.04.2008]

c) persons convicted to deprivation of liberty by a final judgment of the law court and whose criminal record is not extinguished.

[Art. 13 paragraph (2) entry c) in the redaction of the Law no. 76-XVI from 10.04.2008]

[Art. 13 paragraph (2) entry c) in the redaction of the Law no. 176-XVI from 22.07.2005]

[Art. 13 paragraph (2) entry c (d) inserted by the Law no. 268-XIV from 04.02.1999]

d) persons deprived of the right to occupy responsibility functions by a final decision of the law court

[Art.13 paragraph (2) entry d) inserted by the Law no. 76-XVI from 10.04.2008]

3. Citizens of the Republic of Moldova who by virtue of the position held do not have the right to be members of parties, or to belong to other social-political organizations, also persons with a high responsibility function whose nomination is governed by the Constitution of Republic of Moldova shall suspend their activity in the current position from the date of registration in capacity of electoral candidate. These persons are:

a) ministers;

b) chief of central public authority;

c) president and deputy-president of district;

d) mayors and vice mayors;

e) praetor and vice praetor;

[Art. 13 paragraph (3) in the redaction of the Law no. 76-XVI from 10.04.2008]

[Art. 13 paragraph (3) in the redaction of the Law no. 248-XVI from 21.07.2006]

[Art. 13 paragraph (3) modified by the Law no. 176-XVI from 22.07.2005]

[Art. 13 paragraph (3) modified by the Law no. 842-XV from 14.02.2002]

[Art. 13 paragraph (3) inserted by the Law no. 796-XV from 25.01.2002]

[Art. 13 paragraph (3) abrogate by the Law no. 268-XIV from 04.02.1999]

Title II GENERAL PROVISIONS

Chapter 3 - ELECTORAL AUTHORITIES

Article 14. Electoral bodies' system

1. Pursuing the purpose to organize and unfold elections, the following authorities shall be constituted:

- a) Central Elections Commission;
- b) district electoral council;
- c) electoral committees of polling stations.

Article 15. Representation within electoral authorities

1. Electoral competitors may appoint to the electoral authorities where registered, as well as in the hierarchically inferior authorities, a representative with a consultative vote. Parties, other social-political organizations, electoral blocs participating in the elections may appoint a representative with a consultative vote also in the Central Elections Commission.

[Art. 15 paragraph (1) modified by the Law no. 176-XVI from 22.07.05]

[Art. 15 paragraph (1) according to the Law no. 894-XIV from 23.03.2000]

2. Representative members of the electoral candidates shall be confirmed by the electoral authorities in a three day term, and if not accepted, written information indicating the grounds of refusal shall be brought to their knowledge.

[Art. 15 paragraph (2) modified by the Law no. 248-XVI from 21.07.06]

[Art. 15 paragraph (2) completed by the Law no. 268-XIV din 04.02.99]

[Art. 15 paragraph (3) excluded by the Law no. 76-XVI din 10.04.08]

Section 1. Central Elections Commission

Article 16. Constitution of Central Elections Commission

1. Central Elections Commission is a state authority constituted for the purpose of organizing and unfolding elections.

[Art. 16 paragraph (1) modified by the Law no. 248-XVI from 21.07.06]

2. Central Elections Commission is composed of 9 members with deliberated vote: one member is appointed by the President of the Republic of Moldova, one member by Executive and 7 members by the Parliament, including 5 by the opposition parties, proportionally to the number of mandates kept by them. Members of Central Electoral Commission can not be members of political parties and other social-political organizations. The nominal composition of the commission as well as its president shall be appointed from among magistrates and confirmed by a decision of the Parliament.

[Art. 16 paragraph (2) in the redaction of the Law no. 176-XVI from 22.07.05]

[Art. 16 paragraph (2) in the redaction of the Law no. 894-XIV from 23.03.2000]

3. Members of Central Elections Commission are inviolable. The vacation of the function of the member of it may interfere in case of expiry of duties, demission, resignation or death.

[Art. 16 paragraph (3) in redaction of the Law no. 248-XVI from 21.07.06]

4. Central Elections Commission shall guide its activity by the Constitution, the present Code, and the Regulation of the Commission adopted by its decision.

[Art.16 modified by the Law no. 248-XVI from 21.07.06]

5. Central Elections Commission is a legal entity, has its own budget, a bank account and a stamp with the state coat of arms.

[Art. 16 paragraph (3) inserted by the Law no. 176-XVI from 22.07.05, paragraphs (3)-(4) become paragraphs (4)-(5)]

Article 17. Composition and mandate of the Central Elections Commission

1. The president, vice-president and the secretary of the commission shall be elected from among its members with a majority of votes, from all its members. The election meeting of president, vice-president and the secretary of the commission will be presided by two members of the Central Elections Commission, elected with the simple majority of votes of its members, whose objectives are to supervise the procedure of election of a president, vice-president, and the secretary of the Central Elections Commission, the ballot results shall be recorded in a protocol signed by all ballot participants. The meeting of election of the president, vice-president and the secretary of the Central Elections Commission will take place no later than 15 days after the entering into force a final judgment of a confirmation a new composition of Central Elections Commission. The revocation from the aforementioned function will operate in the cases provided in Articles 16, 19 and 20 of the present Code.

[Art. 17 paragraph (1) in redaction of the Law no. 76-XVI from 04.11.2005]

[Art. 17 paragraph (1) in redaction of the Law no. 894-XIV from 23.03.2000]

2. In the event if, during the first voting, the candidate to the position of the deputy-president, deputy-president or secretary of Central Elections Commission did not gather a majority of votes, a repeated ballot shall be organized where the candidates of the first voting for the same position may also participate.

[Art. 17 paragraph (2) modified by the Law no. 276-XVI from 04.11.2005]

[Art. 17 paragraph (2) in redaction of the Law no. 894-XIV from 23.03.2000]

3. President, deputy-president and secretary of the Commission shall work on a permanent basis. Other members of the commission shall convene at the request of the president whenever necessary. The function of the president of the Commission is assimilated with the function of minister, but the function of deputy-president and secretary of the commission - with the function of vice minister.

[Art. 17 paragraph (2) modified by the Law no. 176-XVI from 22.07.2005]

[Art. 17 paragraph (3) modified by the Law no. 268-XIV from 04.02.1999]

4. Vacancies of the positions mentioned in the paragraph (1) shall be filled in, following the same procedure as in the case of elections.

5. Within two days after being constituted, the Central Elections Commission shall bring to the knowledge of the public, information concerning its composition, premises and the contacting manner for public relations.

6. Central Elections Commission has a mandate of 5 years. After the expiry of this term, the composition of the commission may be changed.

[Art. 17 paragraph (6) modified by the Law no. 176-XVI from 22.07.2005]

Article 18. Sessions and decisions of the Central Elections Commission

1. Sessions of the Central Elections Commission are deliberative if a majority of members with a deliberate vote participate.

2. Central Elections Commission shall adopt decisions with a majority of members with a deliberative vote. The decisions of modification, completion and abolition adopted before, are adopted in the same conditions.

[Art. 18 paragraph (2) modified by the Law no. 76-XVI from 10.04.08]

2¹. Members of Central Elections Commission who are not agreeing with the adopted decisions have the right to express their opinion, which is attached to its decisions.

[Art. 18 paragraph (21) inserted by the Law no. 76-XVI from 10.04.08]

3. Decisions of the Central Elections Commission, adopted within the ambit of its competence, are binding for public authorities, enterprises, institutions and organizations, officials, parties, other social-political organizations and their structures, as well as for all citizens.

[Art. 18 paragraph (3) inserted by the Law no.796-XV from 25.01.02]

4. Decisions of the Central Elections Commission in 24 hours from the adoption are placed on the official site of Central Elections Commission and in 5 days are published in OM of the Republic of Moldova.

[Art. 18 paragraph (4) modified by the Law no. 248-XVI from 21.07.06]

[Art. 18 paragraph (4) inserted by the Law no. 176-XVI from 22.07.05]

Article 19. Central Elections Commission members' status

1. Members of the Central Elections Commission may be persons who have exclusively the Moldavian nationality, domicile in the country, an impeccable reputation and skills necessary to exercise electoral activities.

[Art. 19 paragraph (1) in redaction of the Law no. 273-XVI from 07.12.07]

[Art. 19 paragraph (1) modified by the Law no. 76-XVI din 10.04.08]

2. Members of the Central Elections Commission who are deliberative voters:

a) may not belong to parties and to other social-political organizations which have nominated candidates for public eligible positions;

b) may not participate in political activities;

c) may not make statements in favor or disfavor of electoral candidates;

d) may not in any way, contribute to activities performed by electoral competitors, except for cases stipulated by the present Code in the exercise of their duties.

Article 20. Ceasing the quality of member of Central Elections Commission

[Art. 20 title in the redaction of the Law no. 796-XV from 25.01.02]

1. Membership in the Central Elections Commission shall cease in case of:

a) mandate expiry;

b) resignation;

c) dismissal;

[Art. 20 paragraph (1) entry c) in the redaction of the Law no. 248-XVI from 21.07.06]

d) impossibility to exercise duties;

e) decease.

[Art. 20 paragraph (1) inserted by the Law no. 796-XV from 25.01.02]

2. Central Elections Commission members may be dismissed by the authority that appointed them in case of:

a) adoption of a final judgment of the law court about the deprivation of liberty;

b) loss of the Moldavian nationality or achieve a nationality of an other country;

[Art. 20 paragraph (2) entry b) in the redaction of the Law no. 76-XVI from 10.04.08]

c) who have been declared as incapable by a final decision of the law court;

d) grave violation of a Constitution of the Republic of Moldova and of the presence Code.

[Art.20 par.(2) inserted by Law nr.248-XVI from 21.07.06]

3. In case of violation of the conditions mentioned in Article 19 paragraph (2), and also in case of committing some acts inconsistent with their quality, the members of the Central Elections Commission can be dismissed.

[Art. 20 paragraph (3) amended by the Law no. 248-XVI from 21.07.06]

4. The dismissal shall be submitted to the Supreme Court of Justice by the authorities who had appointed these persons to the Central Elections Commission, as well as by other Commission members.

[Art. 20 paragraph (4) amended by the Law no. 248-XVI from 21.07.06]

5. The pertinent authority shall appoint within a 10 day term, a new member to be confirmed by Parliament for the rest of the mandate of his predecessor, based on a decision of the Supreme Court of Justice ordering the dismissal or/and in case of cessation of mandate before the term.

[Art. 20 paragraph (5) amended by the Law no. 248-XVI from 21.07.06]

[Art. 20 paragraph (4) in the redaction of the Law no. 796-XV from 25.01.02]

Article 21. Partial exoneration of members from their professional obligations. Remuneration

1. For the period of elections, Central Elections Commission members who do not work on a permanent basis shall be partially exonerated from their professional obligations of their permanent working place based on a decision taken by the Commission.

2. The position of president, deputy-president and secretary of the Central Elections Commission shall be equated with the public position of a first rank, while the Commission members with a deliberate vote, who are exonerated partially from their professional duties of their permanent working place, are equated to a public position of a second rank.

3. Remuneration of Central Elections Commission members shall be done in accordance with the conditions established by the Law no. 355-XVI from 23 December 2005 regarding the salary system in budgetary system. Members of the commission, which are not working on a permanent, shall receive for the period of being partially exonerated from duties from their permanent position an additional payment to the salary in an amount of 25 percent.

[Art. 21 paragraph (3) amended by the Law no. 447-XVI from 28.12.06]

Article 22. General tasks of the Central Elections Commission

The Central Elections Commission shall:

a) study the process of organizing and performance of elections for the purpose of improving the legislation and the electoral procedures;

b) submit to the Government and to the Parliament proposals with regard to the timeliness of introducing amendments in the electoral legislation;

c) elaborate regulations and instructions meant to improve electoral procedures;

d) exercise the control of the elaboration and clearance in time of the of the electoral lists, collaborate in this aim with administrative central and regional organs;

[Art. 22 entry c) inserted by the Law no. 248-XVI from 21.07.06]

[Art. 22 entry c) phrase "or for the function of mayor" declared unconstitutional by the Constitutional Court Decision no. 13 from 14.03.02]

e) keep the evidence of the persons which participate in the organization and performing of elections, including the qualified workers that may be appointed in district electoral councils and electoral committees of the polling stations;

[Art. 22 entry e) in the redaction of the Law no. 248-XVI from 21.07.06]

[Art. 22 entry e) amended by the Law no. 796-XV from 25.01.02]

f) form district electoral councils and electoral committees of the polling stations while organizing partial elections in the local councils;

[Art. 22 entry e) amended by the Law no. 31-XV from 13.02.03]

[Art. 22 entry e) modified by the Law no. 796 from 25.01.2002]

g) collaborate, in the process of organizing and performing elections with:

- Ministry of Information Development, in order to ensure the evidence of the electors including those who are abroad according to Register of electors formed on the basis of State Register of Population;

- authorities of local public administration, in the problems regarding the selection of qualified personnel instructed in the activity of electoral bodies, of assuring the voting stations with ballot boxes, voting boxes, computers and other technical-material equipment;

- Ministry of Internal Affairs in order to ensure the security of electoral committees of the polling stations and electoral materials;

- state enterprises and institutions while concluding contracts in order to provide the printing of ballot papers as well as the endowment with equipment;

- mass media means and public associations in the organization of activities related to the civic education of the citizen and in order to inform the population about the elections process;

[Art. 22 entry g) amended by the Law no. 248-XVI from 21.07.06]

[Art. 22 entry g) amended by the Law no. 268-XIV from 04.02.99]

h) analyze the structure of electoral districts from the perspective of the administrative territorial organization of the republic;

[Art. 22 entry g) amended by the Law no. 268-XIV from 04.02.99]

i) implement programs of civic education in the period between the elections;

j) prepares information programs for the voters in the period of elections;

k) offer to the mass media means information concerning the organization of elections and the administrative practice used in this respect;

l) present annually reports to the Parliament, and upon request - to the Parliament, the President of the Republic of Moldova, and the Government;

m) set under debate of the mass media means and the public at large issues related to elections;

n) establish contacts with parties, other social-political organizations and non governmental and which are entitled to appoint candidates for public positions, making available for them the full participation in the electoral process;

o) consult the interested local public associations in civic activities to be organized during elections;

p) organize training courses and seminars for persons who are to take part in the electoral process in capacity of members of district electoral councils and electoral committees of the polling stations, as members representatives of the of the political parties and other social-political organizations, of the electoral blocs or of the potential candidates in capacity of employees in the administration of the electoral councils, as members of the group of initiative;

q) analyze electoral frauds, including those alleged, from the previous, current of future elections and takes measures for their prevention, informs the public authorities about the necessity to find solutions to certain problems in accordance with the electoral legislation;

[Art. 22 entry q) in the redaction of the Law no. 176-XVI from 22.07.05]

[Art. 22 entry q) amended by the Law no. 796-XV from 25.01.2002]

r) organize consultations with parties and other social-political organizations and with representatives of mass-media to ensure the subscription of the Code of Behavior before the beginning of the electoral campaign.

Article 23. Central Elections Commission administration

1. Central Elections Commission shall be assisted by an administration whose employees shall be employed based on a decision of the commission. Upon the decision of the Commission some of them shall work on a permanent basis, others shall be convoked in the elections period, being exonerated of their tasks from the permanent position.

[Art. 23 paragraph (1) amended by the Law no. 248-XVI from 21.07.06]

2. Remuneration of employees of the Central Elections Commission is made according to the legislation in force. Administration employees, who are not working on a permanent basis in the commission, shall receive for the period of being partially exonerated from duties from their permanent position an additional payment to the salary in an amount of 25 percent.

[Art. 23 paragraph (2) in redaction of the Law no. 447-XVI from 28.12.06]

Article 24. Financing the Central Elections Commission activity

Activity of the Central Elections Commission shall be financed from the state budget. The commission shall present annually, on a date indicated by the Ministry of Finance, an application soliciting to include in the draft law on the state budget the expenses related to the its functioning and the performance of the elections specifying also the activities which are to be organized during next budgetary year. In case in which the expenses are not stipulated in the state budget their quantum is established to the proposal of Government by the Parliament.

[Art. 24 in redaction of the Law no. 248-XVI from 21.07.06]

[Art. 24 amended by the Law no. 176-XVI from 22.07.05]

Article 25. Sessions and activities of Central Elections Commission

1. Sessions of Central Elections Commission shall be convened by its president at his own initiative or at the request of majority of its members. In case the majority of members request the convocation of a session, the decision shall be taken in at least 48 hours from the moment of submitting the application.

[Art. 25 paragraph (1) amended by the Law no. 176-XVI from 22.07.05]

2. All sessions when the Central Elections Commission examines electoral issues, inclusively sessions where decisions about electoral problems are open for mass media representatives and for the public. Sessions shall be announced 48 hours before taking place, except for sessions of the electoral period when they are announced in a shorter term due to the nature of problems requiring an urgent examination.

3. Central Elections Commission shall ensure transparency of electoral operations, allowing mass media means and the public at large to assess the Commission activity.

Article 26. Powers of the Central Elections Commission in the elections period

1. In the elections period the Central Elections Commission shall have the following powers:

a) to coordinate the activity of all electoral authorities for the purpose of preparing and organizing elections in compliance with the present Code;

b) to supervise the enforcement of the present code provisions and those of other laws containing stipulations concerning elections;

c) to constitute electoral districts and district electoral councils and to supervise the activity of these councils;

[Art. 26 entry c) in redaction of the Law no. 268-XIV from 04.02.99]

d) based on the data presented by the Ministry of Justice, it shall publish the list of parties and other social-political organizations entitled to take part in elections, shall register candidates and their representatives in case of parliamentary elections;

[Art. 26 paragraph (1) entry d) amended by the Law no. 1227-XIV from 21.09.00]

[Art. 26 paragraph (1) entry d) in redaction of the Law no. 894-XIV from 23.03.00]

e) to distribute the financial means provided for the organization of elections; to verify the endowment of the councils and electoral committees with premises, transportation and telecommunication means, shall examine other issues related to the technical-material support of elections;

f) to determine the model of ballot papers and electoral lists, of the reports of sessions of councils and electoral committees as well as of other acts related to the organization of elections, also the model of ballot boxes and stamps of councils and electoral committees;

[Art. 26 paragraph (1) entry f) amended by the Law no. 248-XVI from 21.07.06]

g) to examine the reports of public authorities on issues related to the organization and unfolding elections;

h) to find solutions to the problem of participation in the elections of citizens who on the elections date are not present on the territory of the country;

i) to count the results of elections on the whole territory of the country, and upon the case, submits the report on elections' results to the Constitutional Court;

j) to adopt decisions referring to the activity of the district electoral councils and electoral committees of the polling stations, to the electoral procedures, to the manner of organization and unfolding the elections as well as to technical-administrative issues;

k) to train electoral employees and to offer the voters information related to elections through mass-media and to anyone at his/her request;

[Art. 26 paragraph (1) entry k) amended by the Law no. 76-XVI from 10.04.08]

l) to examine the applications and contestations of the decisions taken by the district electoral councils and electoral committees of the polling stations, shall adopt executor decisions referring to them;

m) to decide the exoneration from duties of the main working place of members of electoral councils during their activity in the elections, shall determine the number of members of electoral committees which may be exonerated from duties in the respective period;

[Art. 26 paragraph (1) entry m) amended by the Law no. 796-XV from 25.01.02]

[Art. 26 entry m) amended by the Law no. 268-XIV from 04.02.99]

n) to ensure the organization of repeated ballot, new and partial elections under the present Code;

[Art. 26 paragraph (1) entry n) in redaction of the Law no. 31-XV from 13.02.03]

[Art. 26 paragraph (1) entry n) amended by the Law no. 796-XV from 25.01.02]

o) to gather information on the voters coming to elections, shall make the preliminary totalization of the elections results and shall bring to the knowledge of the public the final results;

p) in case of grave violation of a present Code, address, adopting in this sense a decision, to Supreme Court of Justice a demand of annulment of the registration of the electoral candidate and respective Supreme Court of Justice will examine the demand and will adopt a decision above it in 5 days, but not later than previous day of elections.

[Art. 26 paragraph (1) entry p) inserted by the Law no. 76-XVI from 10.04.08]

2. In the electoral period, the Central Elections Commission is entitled to exercise fully its powers even in the case when it is not completed with representative members with a consultative right to vote.

Section 2. Electoral districts and district electoral councils

[Title as amended by the Law no. 268-XIV from 04.02.1999]

Article 27. Constitution of the electoral districts and district electoral councils

[Title of Art. 27 in the redaction of the Law no. 268-XIV from 04.02.99]

1. The Central Elections Commission shall, with at least 55 days before elections, constitute the electoral districts correspond with territorial-administrative units of the second level of the Republic of Moldova, and with at least 50 days before the elections, the district electoral councils. The aforementioned term shall be valid in case of elections of all levels as well as for republican referendums when electoral districts and district electoral councils are to be constituted.

[Art. 27 paragraph (1) amended by the Law no. 176-XVI from 22.07.05]

[Art. 27 paragraph (1) amended by the Law no. 796-XV from 25.01.02]

[Art. 27 paragraph (1) completed by the Law no. 894-XIV from 23.03.00]

[Art. 27 paragraph (1) in the redaction of the Law no. 268-XIV from 04.02.99]

2. District electoral councils shall be constituted having a composition of 7-11 members with a deliberate right to vote, among which at least three persons shall have legal background or public administration studies.

[Art. 27 paragraph (2) amended by the Law no. 248-XVI from 21.07.06]

[Art. 27 paragraph (2) in redaction of the Law no. 268-XIV from 04.02.99]

3. In case of local elections or referendums, the district electoral councils shall be constituted based on the proposals of local councils of the first level, or of the executive committees of the respective rayon councils, and in case there are no such proposals, these shall be formed by Central Elections Commission. To the extent possible, the district electoral councils shall include persons with legal background.

[Art. 27 paragraph (3) amended by the Law no. 248-XVI from 21.07.06]

[Art. 27 paragraph (3) amended by the Law no. 31-XV from 13.02.03]

[Art. 27 paragraph (3) amended by the Law no. 796-XV from 25.01.02]

[Art. 27 paragraph (3) in redaction of the Law no. 268-XIV din 04.02.99]

4. Candidature of 2 members of district electoral council shall be proposed by the district law court, in case of local elections other 2 persons - by the local councils of the first level or second level. The candidatures of other members with deliberative vote at the date of constitution of district electoral council shall be proposed by parties and other social-political representatives in

Parliament proportionally to the possessed mandates. Members of district electoral council proposed by the district law court and local councils can not be members of parties or councilors in local councils.

[Art. 27 paragraph (4) amended by the Law no. 248-XVI from 21.07.06]

[Art. 27 paragraph (4) in redaction of the Law no. 176-XVI from 22.07.05]

[Art. 27 paragraph (4) amended by the Law no. 31-XV from 13.02.03]

[Art. 27 paragraph (4) amended by the Law no. 842-XV from 14.02.02]

[Art. 27 paragraph (4) amended by the Law no. 796-XV from 25.01.02]

[Art. 27 paragraph (4) amended by the Law no. 268-XIV from 04.02.99]

5. In case when the parties and other social-political organizations didn't present their candidatures at the district electoral council at least with 7 days before the expiry time of it constitution, the necessary number of the candidatures is completing by the district council. In case when the district electoral council has the function of the electoral committees of the polling stations, the members proposed by the parties and other social-political organizations represented in Parliament can not be the members of the parties.

[Art. 27 paragraph (5) inserted by the Law no. 248-XVI from 21.07.06, paragraphs (5)-(8) become paragraphs (6)-(9)]

6. Within 3 days from the date of constitution of the district electoral council its members shall elect from among them in a secret suffrage the chairman, deputy-chairman and secretary of the council, informing immediately the Central Elections Commission about the results of this elections.

7. Within 4 days from the date of its constitution, the district electoral council shall bring to the public knowledge information concerning its address and the manner of establishing contacts.

[Art. 27 paragraph (6) amended by the Law no. 268-XIV from 04.02.99]

8. The district electoral council shall adopt decisions with a majority of its members with a deliberative right to vote.

9. The district electoral council shall be assisted by an administration the staff of which is approved by Central Elections Commission at the proposal of district electoral council. For the period of being exonerated from duties of the permanent working place the employees of the administration shall receive an additional payment of 25 percent to the salary.

[Art. 27 paragraph (8) amended by the Law no.796-XV from 25.01.02]

Article 28. Tasks of the district electoral council

The district electoral council shall have the following tasks:

a) to exercise control over enforcement of the provisions of the present Code and of other laws, which contain provisions related to organization of elections;

b) to form electoral committees of the polling stations and to supervise their activity, to organize training courses for their members, to propagate the voting procedure and the relevance of each vote;

[Art. 28 entry b) amended by the Law no. 268-XIV from 04.02.99]

c) to distribute to the electoral committees of the polling stations financial means;

d) to examine information related to organization and unfolding of elections submitted by local public administration authorities, directors of enterprises, institutions and organizations;

e) to exercise control over the due elaboration and verification of the electoral lists, collaborate in this sense with local and central public administration bodies and regional organs of Ministry of Informational Development;

[Art. 28 entry e) amended by the Law no. 248-XVI from 21.07.06]

f) to ensure the electoral committees of the polling stations with the application forms for electoral lists and reports, provision of ballot papers;

g) to register independent candidates and the lists of candidates from parties and other social-political organizations, electoral blocs, brings to the knowledge of the public information about these;

h) to ensure the access of the electors at the candidates' declarations of income and property;

[Art. 28 entry g) inserted by the Law no. 248-XVI from 21.07.06]

i) to decide upon the exoneration from duties of the permanent working place of members of the councils and the electoral committees for the period of their activity in the composition of the latter;

[Art. 28 entry h) amended by the Law no. 796-XV from 25.01.02]

[Art. 28 entry h) inserted by the Law no. 268-XIV from 04.02.99]

j) to totalize the results of elections of the district, and to present to Central Elections Commission the respective acts, as well as the publication in the local press of the ballot results;

k) to gather information from the electoral committees of the polling stations regarding the percentage of people coming to vote, to totalize the preliminary results of elections in order to be remitted to Central Elections Commission;

l) to examine applications and contestations of the decisions and actions of the electoral committees of the polling stations and to adopt executory decisions with regard to them;

m) to exercise other actions related to organization and unfolding of the elections.

Section 3. Polling stations and electoral committees of the polling stations

Article 29. Constitution of polling stations and of electoral committees of the polling stations

1. In pursuit of the purpose to organize the ballot and to count the votes, the electoral districts shall be divided in polling stations.

2. The district electoral councils from different localities shall constitute polling stations based on the proposals of the mayors of towns (municipalities) and villages, with at least 35 days before the elections date comprising at last 30 up till 3000 voters. For elections of all levels and republican referendums, the same term is valid for the constitution of polling stations.

[Art. 29 paragraph (2) amended by the Law no. 248-XVI from 21.07.06]

[Art. 29 paragraph (2) amended by the Law no. 796-XV from 25.01.02]

[Art. 29 paragraph (2) completed by the Law no. 894-XIV from 23.03.00]

[Art. 29 paragraph (2) amended by the Law no. 268-XIV from 04.02.99]

3. Special polling stations may be formed with hospitals, resort houses, maternities, asylums and hostels for old people. Such polling stations shall include at least 30 voters.

4. Serving voters shall participate in elections in the locality where the military unit is dislocated.

5. In case of parliamentary elections or republican referendum, polling stations shall be constituted with each diplomatic mission or consular office of the Republic of Moldova for the personnel of these institutions and the members of their families, as well as for e citizens of the Republic of Moldova located in the respective country regardless their number. These polling stations belong to the electoral circumscription of Chisinau municipality.

[Art. 29 paragraph (5) amended by the Law no. 1227-XIV from 21.09.2000]

6. In case of local, new or partial elections or local referendum when a district electoral council of the second level is not formed, the polling stations and electoral committees are formed by district electoral council of the first level.

[Art. 29 paragraph (6) amended by the Law no. 248-XVI from 21.07.06]

[Art. 29 paragraph (6) completed by the Law no. 796-XV from 25.01.02]

[Art. 29 paragraph (6) inserted by the Law no. 268-XIV from 04.02.99]

7. The district electoral council shall set numbers for each polling station of the district and will bring to the knowledge of the public, information about the area covered by each polling station, address of the electoral committee of the respective polling station, address premises where elections are to take place and the manner of contact relations.

8. Polling stations shall be numbered starting with the locality of residence of the district electoral council, then with that from municipalities, towns, communities and villages, following an alphabetical order.

[Art. 29 paragraph (8) amended by the Law no. 248-XVI from 21.07.06]

[Art. 29 paragraph (8) completed by the Law no. 268-XIV from 04.02.99]

9. For the purpose of exercising the duties provided by the present Code, the mayor's offices shall offer all necessary support and information to the electoral committees of the polling stations.

10. District electoral councils shall constitute electoral committees of the polling stations with at least 20 days before the elections day including 5-11 members with a deliberative right to vote. For elections of all levels and republican referendums, the same term is valid for the constitution of electoral committees of polling stations.

[Art. 29 paragraph (10) amended by the Law no. 796-XV from 25.01.02]

[Art. 29 paragraph (10) completed by the Law no. 894-XIV from 23.03.00]

[Art. 29 paragraph (10) completed by the Law no. 268-XIV from 04.02.99]

11. The local council shall propose 3 members of electoral committee of the polling station, other members must be propose by the parties and other social-political organizations represented in Parliament at the date of constitution of electoral committee proportionate the mandates that they have. Members of bureau of local polling station can not be counselors in local councils and members of parties. In case of non-submission of the lists by parties and social-political organizations in 7 days term from the expiry term of bureau's constitution, the necessary number of candidates shall be completed by local council.

[Art. 29 paragraph (11) amended by the Law no. 248-XVI from 21.07.06]

[Art. 29 paragraph (11) in redaction of the Law no. 176-XVI from 22.07.05]

[Art. 29 paragraph (11) amended by the Law no. 268-XIV from 04.02.99]

12. Within 2 days from the date of constitution of the electoral committee of the polling station, its members shall elect from among themselves the chairman, deputy-chairman and secretary of the electoral committee, adopting the respective decision in order to immediately communicate it to the district electoral council and for the purpose of bringing to the public knowledge, information about composition and premises of the electoral committee as well as the manner of contact.

13. Within diplomatic missions and consular offices of the Republic of Moldova the chairman and the secretary of the electoral committee of the polling station, and in the case the diplomatic missions and consular offices have less than 3 employees, the suffrage shall take place through diplomatic mail, the ballot papers being sent to Central Elections Commission no later than the elections day.

14. In order to ensure the exercise of the right to suffrage, the Central Elections Commission is entitled to establish polling stations and electoral committees of polling station in other cases as well.

[Art. 29 paragraph (15) excluded by the Law no. 248-XVI from 21.07.06]

[Art. 29 paragraph (15) amended by the Law no. 268-XIV from 04.02.99]

Article 30. Powers of the electoral committee of the polling station

The electoral committee of the polling station shall:

a) verify the electoral lists together with local public administration authorities, ensure their integrity and of the ballot papers as well as it is responsible for the adequate and full elaboration;

[Art. 30 paragraph (a) amended by the Law no. 268-XIV from 04.02.99]

b) examine the applications related to the inadequacies in the electoral lists, introduce the necessary amendments and issues certificates for eligible voters who are not at their residence on the elections day;

c) draw up additional electoral lists, including also persons who will vote based on the certificates for eligibility as well as of persons who out of different grounds were not registered in the basic electoral lists;

d) communicate to the population residing on the area of the respective polling station, date and place of suffrage, make the necessary arrangements for the preparation of the building for the voting procedure, installment of ballot boxes and cabins, organize the voting on the established day, take measures to ensure order within the polling station;

- e) totalize the results of elections in the polling station, draws up reports and submits them together with all ballot papers to the district electoral council;
[Art. 30 entry e) amended by the Law no. 248-XVI from 21.07.06]
- f) examine the applications and contestations related to the organization of elections, adopting the appropriate decisions which are to be attached to the reports meetings of the committee;
- g. remit to the district electoral council data about the number of citizens coming to vote as well as other data necessary for the totalization of the preliminary elections' results;
- h) exercise other powers in accordance with the present Code.

Section 4. Supporting the councils and electoral committees, organization of activity, changing structure and dissolution

Article 31. Supporting councils and electoral committees

1. Public authorities, enterprises, institutions and organizations, officials, parties and other social-political organizations as well as their structures shall be obliged to offer support to the councils and electoral committees in the exercise of their duties, to provide them information and materials necessary for their activity. The support of public authorities and its exponents is offered only at a request and without any necessity it can not show clearly a distinct disproportionately.

[Art. 31 paragraph (1) amended by the Law no. 248-XVI from 21.07.06]

2. The council and the electoral committee may notify public authorities, enterprises, institutions and organizations, officials, parties and other social-political organizations as well as their structures with regard to problems or organization and unfolding of the elections, the latter being obliged to examine the notification and to give an answer within three days from the date when received, but no later then the elections day.

Article 32. Organization of activity of councils and electoral committees

1. During the electoral period, the meetings of councils and electoral committees shall be convoked and conducted by the chairman and in case of his absence or upon request by the deputy-chairman. The meeting may be convoked also upon request of 1/3 of members with deliberate votes from councils and committees.

2. Meetings of councils and electoral committees shall be considered as deliberative if 1/2 with deliberative votes is present. Decisions of councils and electoral committees shall be adopted with open ballot with the participation of majority of members with deliberative votes and signed by the chairman and the secretary. In case of parity of votes, the decision is not adopted and the examination of case continues to the following session. Members of councils and electoral committees who do not agree with the taken decisions are entitled to express in written form their opinion, which may be attached to the report of the meeting.

[Art. 32 paragraph (2) amended by the Law no. 248-XVI from 21.07.06]

3. Decisions of the council and electoral committees adopted in the ambit of its competence shall be binding for public authorities, enterprises, institutions and organizations, officials, parties and other social-political organizations as well as their structures as well as for all citizens.

4. The Central Elections Commission shall determine the number of members of electoral authorities who may be exonerated from the duties of their permanent working place as well as the term of such exoneration. These persons shall receive from the financial means designed for elections a salary which is 25 percent bigger than the average salary of their permanent working place, taking into account the benefits, additional payments and indemnities but not lower than an average salary per republic in the current year, or of the previous year, in case elections took place in January or February. In case of employment of pensioners or other temporary unemployed persons, the salary is the average per republic in the current year, or of the previous year, in case elections took place in January or February. Persons with deliberative vote and members of electoral bodies that were not relieved for activity during the

election period, including the election day, are established a reward of 15 percent from medium salary per economy.

[Art. 32 paragraph (4) amended by the Law no. 248-XVI from 21.07.06]

[Art. 32 paragraph (4) amended by the Law no. 796-XV from 25.01.02]

[Art. 32 paragraph (4) in redaction of the Law no. 268-XIV from 04.02.99]

5. Civil servants, members of electoral authorities and members of their apparatus who are exonerated from the duties of their permanent working place for their activity in the election period keep their statute of civil servants.

[Art. 32 paragraph (5) inserted by the Law no. 248-XVI from 21.07.06, paragraphs (5)-(6) become paragraphs (6)-(7)]

6. One may conclude, upon necessity, individual labor contracts for the period of providing certain services. The respective expenses shall be covered from the means allocated for elections.

[Art. 32 paragraph (5) inserted by the Law no. 796-XV from 25.01.02, paragraph (5) become paragraph (6)]

7. Members of councils and electoral committees with deliberative vote may not make any electoral propaganda in favor or disfavor of persons who are candidates for a public eligible position; may not involve in political activities in support of one or another electoral competitors; may not affiliate to any of them; may not offer financial or other support, directly or indirectly to electoral competitors. In case of local elections, the members of councils and electoral committees with a deliberative vote may not be wives, kinsmen, and relatives of the first and second degree of the candidate in elections. Judges appointed in electoral councils have no right to examine the electoral cases from the date of constitution of electoral councils.

[Art. 32 paragraph (7) amended by the Law no. 248-XVI from 21.07.06]

8. Presidents of the council or electoral committee are obligate to assure the maintenance and the returning of the goods received from Central Elections Commission, have material responsibility for it according to the law.

[Art. 32 paragraph (8) inserted by the Law no. 76-XVI from 10.04.08]

Article 33. Changing the composition of the councils and electoral committees

1. The membership in the council or electoral committee shall cease:

- a) upon request;
- b) upon dismissal.

2. The authority or the electoral competitor, which proposed or appointed as member of council or electoral committee, is entitled to dismiss the member of the council or electoral committee and in written form to motivate this fact.

[Art. 33 paragraph (2) amended by the Law no. 248-XVI from 21.07.06]

3. In case a member resigns or is being dismissed from the council or electoral committee before the Election Day, another member may be appointed or proposed according to the manner established by the present Code.

Article 34. Dissolution of councils and electoral committees

1. Councils and electoral committees, constituted under the present code, shall cease their activity and are dissolved by virtue of a decision issued by the same electoral authority which constituted them, after that the Central Elections Commission (the respective district electoral council) brought to the knowledge of the public the final results of elections.

[Art. 34 paragraph (1) amended by the Law no. 248-XVI from 21.07.06]

[Art. 34 paragraph (1) amended by the Law no. 268-XIV from 04.02.99]

2. As a rule, the district electoral councils and the electoral committee of the polling stations shall cease their activity when they present all the electoral material to Central Elections Commission and in case to the courts.

[Art. 34 paragraph (2) amended by the Law no. 248-XVI from 21.07.06]

3. After the dissolution of councils and electoral committees in conformity with the present article, the remuneration shall cease and they return to their permanent working place.

[Art. 34 paragraph (3) amended by the Law no. 248-XVI from 21.07.06]

[Art. 34 paragraph (3) amended by the Law no. 268-XIV from 04.02.99]

Chapter 4 - FINANCIAL SUPPORT OF ELECTIONS

Article 35. Providing of necessary means for the organization of elections

1. Expenses related to preparation and performance of elections shall be covered by the state.
2. The quantum of financial means shall be established by the Parliament in the limits provided by the law on budget for the year when elections are to take place. The Central Elections Commission shall submit the respective proposals to the Government. After having them examined, the Government submits these proposals for approval to the Parliament. In case the expenses for the current year are not provided in the state budget, their quantum shall be determined by the Parliament, at the proposal of Central Elections Commission.

3. The financial means are delivered monthly in the quantum established by the Parliament on the account of the Central Election Commission. After elections, the Central Elections Commission shall present to the Parliament, within the shortest term possible, a report on the administration of the allocated financial means together with the advisory opinion of the Court of Audit.

[Art. 35 paragraph (3) amended by the Law no. 248-XVI from 21.07.06]

4. Unused financial means shall become revenue of the state budget.

5. The Central Elections Commission shall determine the manner of distribution and utilization of financial means as well as shall decide upon the manner of publication of the report on the management of allocated pecuniary means in accordance with the present Code.

6. The local public administration authorities, enterprises, institutions and organizations shall make available for the councils and electoral committees the necessary premises and equipment for the organization, unfolding and totalization of elections results.

7. Mass media means financed from the budget shall publish free of charge statements and materials presented by the electoral councils, the pre-elections programs of the electoral competitors, as well as other materials referring to elections, including those related to civic education and the information about elections for voters.

Article 36. Interdiction on foreign subvention

1. The direct or indirect financing, material support in any form of electoral campaigns of candidates to elections as well as the support of electoral competitors by other states, foreign enterprises, institutions and organizations, international and mixed as well as by natural persons who are not citizens of the Republic of Moldova. The pecuniary amounts received in this manner shall be seized and become budget revenue.

2. In the situation when the electoral candidate received on his account undeclared financial means or means from abroad or being fully aware has made use of such means, the Central Elections Commission shall submit an application to the Supreme Court of Justice to request the annulment of his registration. The Supreme Court of Justice shall examine the applications and issue an appropriate decision within 5 days but not later than the elections day.

[Art. 36 paragraph (2) completed by the Law no. 31-XV from 13.02.03]

Article 37. Material support of the state of the electoral campaigns

1. Electoral competitors are entitled to receive from the state non-interest loans.

[Art. 37 paragraph (1) in redaction of the Law no. 176-XVI from 22.07.05]

2. The state budget shall offer loans only based on financial representative appointed for this purpose by the electoral candidate. The representative may be a natural person or legal entity

registered by the Ministry of Finance which shall be liable together with the electoral competitor who appointed him.

3. Electoral loans received from the state shall be paid completely or partially by the state depending on the total number of valid votes given candidate from the respective electoral district. The amount of money, determined by the division of the loan to the number of voters participating in elections, then by multiplication of the obtained result with the number of validly expressed votes for the respective candidate shall be covered by the state.

4. Electoral competitors who obtained less than 3 percent of the validly expressed votes on the entire territory of the country or in the respective districts, including the independent candidates who were not elected shall reconstitute the loans received from the state budget within a two months term after the elections. Other electoral competitors shall reconstitute the loans in a 4-month term.

[Art. 37 paragraph (4) amended by the Law no. 176-XVI from 22.07.05]

[Art. 37 paragraph (4) amended by the Law no. 796-XV from 25.01.02]

[Art. 37 paragraph (4) amended by the Law no. 894-XIV from 23.03.00]

5. In case when the elected mayor refuses to exercise his mandate he reconstitutes the loans received for the organizing and performance the elections.

[Art. 37 paragraph (5) inserted by the Law no. 31-XV from 13.02.03]

Article 38. Conditions and manner of financial support of electoral campaigns

1. Indirect or indirect financing, material support through other forms of the electoral campaigns of electoral competitors by natural persons and legal entities from the country shall be done respecting the following conditions:

a) financial means and other forms of material support of activity of electoral competitors in elections shall be declared in press in a one month term after the beginning of the electoral campaign; in case parliamentary elections - shall be declared in a publication circulating nationwide; in case of an independent candidate or in a list of candidates while local elections - in a regional or district publication;

[Art. 38 paragraph (1) entry a) amended by the Law no.796-XV from 25.01.02]

[Art. 38 paragraph (1) entry a) amended by the Law no. 1227-XIV from 21.09.00]

[Art. 38 paragraph (1) entry a) amended by the Law no. 268-XIV from 04.02.99]

b) after constituting the council or the respective electoral committee, the electoral competitors shall be obliged also to declare the financial means and other forms of material support, received from sources mentioned in the present article, prior to making use of it;

2. The electoral competitor shall open a bank account indicating "Electoral Fund", transferring his own financial means, pecuniary amounts received from natural persons and legal entities from the country. The payment of such sums on the account of the electoral competitor may take place only with the prior consent of the latter. The Central Elections Commission shall determine the limit of means, which may be transferred to the fund of the electoral competitor.

3. The electoral competitor shall confirm at the Central Elections Commission a person responsible for financial means (treasurer). The electoral competitor who does not open an account named "Electoral Fund" shall inform about this the Central Elections Commission.

4. Legal entities may transfer pecuniary amounts to the account "Electoral Fund" only by transfer, with an informative note about the presence or the lack of the foreign share in the statutory capital.

[Art. 38 paragraph (4) amended by the Law no. 268-XIV from 04.02.99]

5. The electoral campaigns may not be financed or supported materially by:

a) citizens of the Republic of Moldova under the age of 18 years;

b) organizations financed from the budget;

c) anonymous persons;

d) charity funds of religious organizations.

6. Natural persons and legal entities may not order advertising materials for and in favor of electoral competitors or to cover expenses ancillary to produce these without the consent of

electoral competitors on the basis of financial means which have not been transferred on the account "Electoral Fund" of the respective candidates.

7. Financial means transferred on the account "Electoral Fund" may not be used for personal purposes. Electoral competitors are forbidden to offer to the voters money, presents, to distribute free of charge goods, including those originating from humanitarian aid or from other charity actions.

8. The electoral competitors shall present once in two weeks to the respective electoral authorities financial reports, which shall include information revenues and expenditures done according to the destination.

[Art. 38 paragraphs (3)-(8) inserted by the Law no. 796-XV from 25.01.02]

9. The bank shall inform the Central Elections Commission and the district electoral council about the financial means transferred on the account of electoral candidate within 24 hours after the transferal. The Central Elections Commission and district electoral council may request the Court of Audit or the Main State Tax Inspection of the Ministry of Finance to exercise control over the income sources, correctness of record and the due usage of finances by the electoral candidates.

10. Central Elections Commission or the district electoral councils shall keep record including all data provided for in this article and shall make it available for the public for information. In the same time, the respective electoral authority shall group all data in order to draw up a weekly report regarding to the amount of contributions received by each competitor as well as the sources of the received financial means. Two days before elections, the respective electoral authority shall draw up a pre-electoral final report and a summarizing report, which includes all available data concerning the amount and sources of financial means received by the electoral competitors.

Chapter 5 - ELECTORAL LISTS

Article 39. Electoral lists

1. Electoral lists shall be drawn up by the mayor's office, in two copies, for each polling station. After being elaborated the electoral lists shall be verified at the residence of the voters included as well as signed by the mayor of the locality in order to be brought to the knowledge of the public at least 20 days prior to the elections day.

[Art. 39 paragraph (1) amended by the Law no. 248-XVI from 21.07.06]

[Art. 39 paragraph (1) amended by the Law no. 176-XVI from 22.07.05]

[Art. 39 paragraph (1) amended by the Law no. 796-XV from 25.01.02]

[Art. 39 paragraph (1) amended by the Law no. 894-XVI from 23.03.00]

[Art. 39 paragraph (1) amended by the Law no. 268-XVI from 04.02.99]

2. Persons with right to vote who after last participation on the elections change their place of residence have the right at least with 45 days before new elections to announce their new place of residence to the district authority, to be written in list of electors in respective electoral committee of the poling stations.

[Art. 39 paragraph (2) inserted by the Law no. 248-XVI from 21.07.06]

3. Local public administration authority in each year (after 1 January), define the electoral lists at the elector's domicile and no later then 1 March present this information to the Central Elections Commission.

[Art. 39 paragraph (2) inserted by the Law no. 176-XVI from 22.07.05]

4. The electoral lists shall contain the name and surname of the voters as well as their year of birth, home address, serial and number of their identity acts. Mayors' offices shall determine the order of voters' registration.

5. Electoral lists which include military men serving in military units, as well as members of their family, other voters residing on the territory of military units shall be elaborated based on the data provided by commanders of the aforementioned military units. Military men residing outside military units, as well as members of their families shall be included in the electoral lists at their domicile.

6. In polling stations constituted in treatment and resort houses, hospitals and other curative stationery institutions, electoral lists shall be drawn up based on the data presented by chiefs of the aforementioned institutions or own declaration of sitting presented to the heads of above mentioned institutions.

[Art. 39 paragraph (6) amended by the Law no. 248-XVI from 21.07.06]

[Art. 39 paragraph (4) amended by the Law no. 268-XVI from 04.02.99]

7. Within polling stations constituted outside the boundaries of the Republic of Moldova, electoral lists shall be drawn up based on the data collected by chiefs of diplomatic missions and consular offices located on the territory of the respective state. At the beginning of the elections period, diplomatic missions and consular offices shall bring to public knowledge and update the electoral lists. The updating procedure of electoral lists shall cease 7 days before the elections. Updated electoral lists shall be sent as soon as possible to the Central Elections Commission.

[Art. 39 paragraph (5) amended by the Law no. 1439-XIV from 28.12.00]

8. The voter may be included only in a single electoral list registered at one polling station based on acts attesting their domicile within the area of the respective polling station.

[Art. 39 paragraph (7) amended by the Law no.176-XVI from 22.07.05]

[Art. 39 paragraph (6) amended by the Law no. 268-XIV from 04.02.99]

[The wording "based on the residence permit" of the Article 39 paragraph (6) was found unconstitutional by the Constitutional Court Decision no. 15 from 27.05.1998]

9. In the situation when the voter changes his domicile in the period between the elaboration of electoral lists and election day, the electoral committee of the polling station shall issue upon his request, on the basis of passport or another identity act, a certificate in order to give him the right to vote. The voter who received such a certificate shall confirm this fact by signing in the electoral list in line with his name.

[Art. 39 paragraph (9) amended by the Law no. 248-XVI from 21.07.06]

Article 40. Verification of electoral lists

1. Electoral lists shall be exposed in the premises of polling stations 20 days before the elections day. A copy of the list shall be kept at the mayor's office. The voters shall be informed about the address of the polling station at least 20 days before elections.

[Art. 40 paragraph (1) amended by the Law no. 176-XVI from 22.07.05]

[Art. 40 paragraph (1) amended by the Law no. 796-XV from 25.01.02]

[Art. 40 paragraph (1) amended by the Law no. 894-XIV from 23.03.00]

2. Voters shall enjoy the possibility to take notice of the electoral lists and to verify the correctness of their elaboration. They have the right to contest their non-inclusion or exclusion from the list as well as against other errors committed while registering their personal data at least with 5 days before the beginning of the elections. The contests are examined by the respective electoral organs during 24 hours and in case of receiving a deny for correcting or including in the list their decision may be contest in the court in base of established procedure.

[Art. 40 paragraph (2) amended by the Law no. 248-XVI from 21.07.06]

[Art. 40 paragraph (2) amended by the Law no. 76-XVI /22.07.05]

Chapter 6 - NOMINATION AND REGISTRATION OF CANDIDATES

Article 41. Nomination of candidates

1. In case of parliamentary elections, the process of nomination of candidates shall start in 60 days before the elections and ceases 30 days prior to elections day. In case of local elections, candidates shall be proposed after the creation of electoral districts and district electoral councils according to Article 120.

[Art. 41 paragraph (1) amended by the Law no. 176-XVI from 22.07.05]

[Art. 41 paragraph (1) amended by the Law no. 796-XV from 25.01.02]

[Art. 41 paragraph (1) amended by the Law no. 1227-XIV from 21.09.00]

[Art. 41 paragraph (1) in redaction of the Law no. 268-XVI from 04.02.99]

2. In case when all the requirements established by the present Code are met, the following are entitled to nominate candidates for elections:

a) parties and other social-political organizations registered accordingly, before the date of elections was set, in compliance with their statutes (regulations) and the legislation into force may nominate for the electoral candidate their members and also persons without any political affiliation.

[Art. 41 paragraph (2) entry a) amended by the Law no. 76-XVI from 10.04.08]

[Art. 41 paragraph (2) entry a) amended by the Law no. 1422-XIV from 15.12.00]

[Art. 41 paragraph (2) entry a) amended by the Law no. 894-XIV from 23.03.00]

[Art. 41 paragraph (2) entry b) excluded by the Law no.76-XVI from 10.04.08]

[Art. 41 paragraph (2) entry b) amended by the Law no. 796-XV from 25.01.02]

c) citizens of the Republic of Moldova proposing their own candidacy (independent candidates).

3. The statements of candidates with regard to their consent to propose their candidacies shall be lodged as follows:

a) Statements of candidates for parliamentary elections - with the Central Elections Commission;

[Art. 41 paragraph (3) entry a) amended by the Law no. 1227-XIV from 21.09.00]

b) Statements of candidates for the position of counselor in the local council in case of local elections - with the district electoral councils.

[Art. 41 paragraph (3) entry b) amended by the Law no. 31-XV from 13.02.03]

[Art. 41 paragraph (3) entry b) the phrase "mayors' functions or" declared unconstitutional by Decision of Constitutional Court no. 13 from 14.03.02]

[Art. 41 paragraph (3) entry b) amended by the Law no. 796-XV from 25.01.02]

Article 42. Collection of signatures in support of the independent candidate and for the initiation of the referendum

1. Signatures shall be collected only in support of the independent candidate or for the initiation of a referendum. In case of local elections, signatures shall be collected only in districts where there are independent candidates.

[Art. 42 paragraph (1) amended by the Law no. 894-XIV from 23.03.2000]

2. Independent candidates, members of groups of initiative who appoint and/or support the independent candidates for elections, persons empowered by the latter, as well as members of the group of initiative for the initiation of a referendum are entitled to collect signatures.

[Art. 42 paragraph (2) amended by the Law no. 796-XV from 25.01.02]

3. The lists of signatures collected in support of the independent candidate as well as for the initiation of the referendum, hereinafter subscription lists, shall contain the name and surname, year of birth, profession (type of business), position, working place, domicile and the political affiliation of the candidate, as well as the name and surname of the person collecting the signatures. The subscription list shall contain the signatures of the supporters residing in a single area only.

4. In the subscription list, the supporter of the candidate as well as the supporter of the initiation of the referendum shall be indicated the current number, name and surname, year of birth, domicile, serial and number of the identity act, date of signature in the list and the signature itself.

[Art. 42 paragraph (4) amended by the Law no. 268-XIV from 04.02.99]

5. A voter may support, by means of signature, a candidate within one single ballot only.

[Art. 42 paragraph (5) amended by the Law no. 268-XIV from 04.02.99]

6. The person collecting the voters' signatures shall sign each page of the subscription list in presence of leader of local public administration on the territory of which signatures have been collected. At the bottom of each page of the subscription list, the collector shall make a remark, stating the fact that he has collected signatures personally and that he confirms the authenticity of those who signed, and then applies his signature himself. The subscription list shall be

authenticated by virtue of application, on each page, of the stamp of the respective local public authority.

Article 43. Submittal and verification of subscription lists

1. After the receiving the subscriptions lists the respective electoral authority shall start verifying the authenticity of signatures from subscription lists which have been submitted as well as the eligibility to vote of persons included in the lists, also the address of the domicile. Verification shall take place within 5 days from the date of receiving the lists.

[Art. 43 paragraph (1) amended by the Law no. 248-XVI from 21.07.06]

[Art. 43 paragraph (1) amended by the Law no. 796-XV from 25.01.02]

[Art. 43 paragraph (1) amended by the Law no. 894-XIV from 23.03.00]

[Art. 43 paragraph (1) amended by the Law no. 268-XIV from 04.02.99]

2. The electoral council shall inform the persons who have presented the subscription lists, about the results of verification, shall announce the total number of persons included in the subscription lists presented by each candidate at elections, as well as the number of valid signatures.

3. Persons collecting signatures for the subscription lists shall be held liable for the authenticity of the data included.

4. Are considered null lists:

a) subscription lists that were elaborate before the nomination of candidates;

b) the signature from subscription lists that are considered false;

c) the subscription lists that were elaborate not according the requests provided in Article 42 paragraph (6).

[Art. 43 paragraphs (3)-(4) in redaction of the Law no. 248-XVI from 21.07.06]

[Art. 43 paragraph (4) amended by the Law no. 176-XVI from 22.07.05]

Article 44. Registration of candidates

1. The following documents shall be submitted, 30 days the latest before elections to the Central Elections Commission or to district electoral councils for the purpose of registration of candidates:

[Art. 44 paragraph (1) amended by the Law no. 76-XVI from 10.04.08]

[Art. 44 paragraph (1) amended by the Law no. 268-XIV from 04.02.99]

a) protocol of the session of the central or territorial body of the party, other social-political organization or electoral bloc, concerning the appointment of the candidate (list of candidates);

b) subscription lists including a sufficient number of signatures of persons supporting the independent candidate;

c) biography data of the candidate;

d) candidate's statement with his consent to candidate for the position he was proposed;

e) statement of the candidate about the real assets, bank deposits, securities, inherited sums and incomes of the last two years preceding the year of elections, as well as the sources of such incomes, including the profits from the investment funds as interests, property lease, etc.

[Art. 44 entry e) in redaction of the Law no. 796-XV from 25.01.02]

f) statement of the candidate for the position of mayor about the suspension of the position incompatible with the first one during the mandate in case if this candidate is elected and validated;

[Art. 44 paragraph (1) entry f) amended by the Law no. 31-XV from 13.02.03]

[Art. 60 paragraph (1) entry f) excluded by the Law no. 1227-XIV from 21.09.00]

g) statement about the suspension during the electoral campaign of the office held prior - for persons mentioned in Article 13 paragraph (3);

[Art. 44 entry f) amended by the Law no. 796-XV from 25.01.02]

h) electoral symbol in electronic variant and on paper.

[Art. 44 paragraph (1) entry h) amended by the Law no. 76-XVI from 10.04.08]

2. Representatives of parties, other social-political organizations, electoral blocs and independent candidates shall lodge the acts necessary for registration only after the Central Elections Commission and the district electoral councils make public the information referring to the place (office) and time for receiving the documents. This information is made public within a two days term when the period for appointing candidates has started. The interval of time, from the moment of adoption of place and time of document's receipt must be not less than 24 hours. In the situation when representatives of several parties or social-political organizations, electoral blocs, independent candidates submit all the necessary documents with the registration office, the order of receiving documents shall be determined by drawing lots according to the regulation adopted by Central Elections Commission and published in Official Monitor.

[Art. 44 paragraph (2) amended by the Law no. 76-XVI from 10.04.08]

[Art. 44 paragraph (2) amended by the Law no. 176-XVI from 22.07.05]

[Art. 44 paragraph (2) amended by the Law no. 796-XV from 25.01.02, paragraphs (2)-(6) become paragraphs (3)-(7)]

3. The respective electoral authority shall register the candidates appointed to elections within 7 days after the documents listed in paragraph (1) have been submitted.

3¹. A person may aspire to more electoral position but only from one party.

[Art. 44 paragraph (31) amended by the Law no. 76-XVI from 10.04.08]

4. Candidates appointed for elections may not be employed and may not perform any activity within a council or electoral committee during these respective elections.

5. The electoral authority shall issue to the registered candidates identification certificates as soon as possible but no later than 3 days from the registration.

6. The electoral authority shall make public in the mass media means financed from the budget, the decisions regarding the registration of independent candidates or the list of candidates.

7. After expiry of the term provided for the registration, the respective electoral authority shall publish integrally the list of registered candidates indicating the name, surname, and year of birth, domicile, political affiliation, profession (occupation) as well as the name of party, or social-political organizations, electoral blocs which proposed them. Candidate's lists will be available for consulting at each voting section.

[Art. 44 paragraph (7) amended by the Law no. 248-XVI from 21.07.06]

[Art. 44 amended by the Law no. 268-XIV from 04.02.99]

Chapter 7 - ELECTORAL CAMPAIGN

Article 45. Representatives of electoral competitors

1. Electoral competitors may have representatives during each electoral campaign. These persons help electoral competitors unfold their electoral campaigns, make electoral propaganda, in their favor, and represent their interests in relations with public authorities, voters, councils and electoral committees. The Central Elections Commission or the district electoral council shall determine the number of representatives.

2. Electoral competitors select these persons independently and present them to the respective electoral authority in order to have them registered and to issue identity cards for them.

3. Central Elections Commission shall register the representatives in parliamentary elections. In case of elections for the position of councilor in the local council, the representatives of the competitor shall be registered by the due district electoral council.

[Art. 45 paragraph (3) amended by the Law no. 31-XV from 13.02.03]

[Art. 45 paragraph (3) the phrase "mayor's functions or" declared unconstitutional by the Constitutional Court Decision no. 13 from 14.03.02]

[Art. 45 paragraph (3) amended by the Law no. 796-XV from 25.01.02]

[Art. 45 paragraph (3) amended by the Law no. 1227-XIV from 21.09.00]

4. Electoral competitors may at any moment before the day precedent to elections, suspend the powers of their representatives in order to substitute them with other persons.

5. Upon request, the representatives of the electoral competitors may be exonerated from the duties of their permanent working place, without maintaining the salary. They may not be remunerated from means allocated for elections. During the electoral campaign, these representatives may not be dismissed or deprived of their powers from the working place without consent.

[Art. 45 paragraph (5) in redaction of the Law no. 268-XIV from 04.02.99]

6. Representatives of electoral competitors holding public positions may not use public means and assets in electoral campaigns.

Article 46. Guaranteed rights of electoral competitors

1. Electoral competitors shall participate equally in the electoral campaign, shall enjoy equal rights in making use of mass media means, inclusively the radio and television financed from the budget.

2. All electoral competitors shall have equal possibilities in terms of technical-material and financial support of the electoral campaign.

3. During the electoral campaign the candidates shall enjoy the right to be exonerated from duties of their permanent working place without the maintenance of remuneration.

[Art. 46 paragraph (3) in redaction of the Law no. 75-XVI from 23.03.07]

[Art. 46 paragraph (3) amended by the Law no. 176-XVI from 22.07.05]

[Art. 46 paragraph (3) amended by the Law no. 842-XV from 14.02.02]

[Art. 46 paragraph (3) in redaction of the Law no.796-XV from 25.01.02]

[Art. 46 paragraph (3) amended by the Law no. 268-XIV from 04.02.99]

4. In case of parliamentary elections, the candidates have the right to free of charge trips in any type of public transportation (except for taxicabs) on the entire territory of the country, in case of local elections this right may be exercised only in the area of the respective electoral district.

[Art. 46 paragraph (4) amended by the Law no. 1227-XIV from 21.09.00, MO130/19.10.00]

[Art. 46 paragraph (4) amended by the Law no. 268-XIV from 04.02.99]

5. During the electoral campaign, the candidates may not be dismissed or transferred to another working place or position without their consent to do so, can not be subject to criminal liability, arrested or be administrative sanctioned without the consent of electoral body that registered the candidates, with exception in flagrant cases.

[Art. 46 paragraph (5) amended by the Law no.176-XVI from 22.07.05]

[Art. 46 paragraph (5) amended by the Law no. 268-XIV from 04.02.99]

[Art. 46 paragraph (6) excluded by the Law no. 1107-XIV from 30.06.00, paragraphs (7)-(9) become paragraphs (6)-(8)]

[Art. 46 paragraph (6) declared unconstitutional by the Constitutional Court Decision no. 43 from 27.07.99]

6. The electoral competitor may withdraw his candidacy by means of a written statement addressed to the electoral authority, which registered him but no later than 7 days before elections. Parties, social-political organizations and electoral blocs may introduce any amendments in the registered lists, respecting the same term and the provisions of the Articles 79 and 126. After the expiration of the above mentioned term, the registration of electoral candidate can be canceled only by the electoral body that registered them, on the base of a decision of legal court, and also in case of his death or conditions of Article 13 paragraph (2).

[Art. 46 paragraph (6) amended by the Law no. 480-XIV from 02.07.99]

[Art. 46 paragraph (6) in redaction of the Law no. 268-XIV from 04.02.99]

6¹ The withdrawal demand of the candidate from the list presented during the term established by paragraph (6) will be examined by the respective competent organs of the party during 3 days.

[Art. 46 paragraph (6¹) inserted by the Law no. 76-XVI from 10.04.08]

7. In case the electoral competitor withdraws his candidacy after the ballot papers have been printed, the electoral committee of the polling station shall apply a stamp near the respective candidate indicating in it "Withdrawn".

[Art. 46 paragraph (7) amended by the Law no. 248-XVI from 21.07.06]

[Art. 46 paragraph (6) amended by the Law no. 480-XIV from 02.07.99]

[Art. 46 paragraph (6) in redaction of the Law no. 268-XIV from 04.02.99]

8. The electoral competitor who has withdrawn his candidacy shall be obliged to return the technical-material and financial means, which have been allocated from the budget for his electoral campaign.

Article 47. Electoral propaganda

1. Citizens of the Republic of Moldova, parties and other social-political organizations, electoral blocs, candidates and representatives of these candidates shall have the right to subject to open discussions from all aspects the electoral programs of electoral competitors, political, professional and personal of the latter, as well as to spread propaganda in favor or disfavor of candidates in assemblies, meetings, meetings with voters, through mass media means and other forms of communication which exclude the violation of public order and ethic rules. Spreading electoral propaganda in favor of the candidate shall be allowed only after being registered by the elections authority.

[Art. 47 paragraph (1) amended by the Law no. 894-XIV from 23.03.2000]

[Art. 47 paragraph (2) excluded by the Law no.796-XV from 25.01.02]

[Art. 47 paragraphs (2-10) inserted by the Law no. 894-XIV from 23.03.2000]

2. Public institutions of broadcasting shall offer during electoral campaign free of charge broadcasting space to electoral competitors for public debates according to the limits determined by Central Elections Commission. In case of paid electoral advertisement, electoral competitors shall be offered broadcasting space that does not exceed two hours for the entire electoral campaign, inclusively no more than two minutes per day for each institution.

[Art. 47 paragraph (2) amended by the Law no.796-XV from 25.01.02]

3. Private institutions of broadcasting may, respecting equitable conditions for all electoral competitors, organize debates in form of round tables, inviting representatives of all electoral competitors, all together or in groups formed according to certain criteria announced in advance by the Central Elections Commission. The speeches of the participants in the program shall be timed, and still all electoral competitors shall have an equal amount of time. The broadcasting schedule of the respective program, approved by Central Elections Commission, shall be brought to the knowledge of electoral competitors 7 days prior to broadcasting each program. The broadcasting time for paid elections advertisement may not exceed two minutes per day for an electoral competitor of each institution.

[Art. 47 paragraph (3) in redaction of the Law no. 796-XV from 25.01.02]

4. In the period of electoral debates, beside the free of charge broadcasting time, it is not allowed to broadcast any advertisement material about the activity of electoral competitors or with the participation of them personally or their entrusted persons, of TV or radio reportages reflecting the meetings of electoral competitors with the voters, materials about working visits of candidates from among officials of republican or district level with collectives of workers. No electoral competitor shall have priorities due to the held position.

[Art. 47 paragraph (4) amended by the Law no. 796-XV from 25.01.02]

5. The electoral competitor shall be responsible for the content of electoral advertisement materials broadcast or published. Each advertisement material shall include the name of electoral competitor, printing date, and number of pieces as well as the name of the printing house, which has published it.

[Art. 47 paragraph (5) amended by the Law no. 796-XV from 25.01.02]

6. Broadcasting institutions, whether public or private, shall create to all electoral competitors equal conditions for purchasing broadcasting time, soliciting equal fees. Conditions for booking broadcasting time and the respective fees shall be 7 days before broadcasting the program. The broadcasting fee to be paid by electoral competitors may not exceed the regular price of price for commercial advertisements. The broadcasting time for electoral advertisements shall be offered for one and the same time when broadcasted.

[Art. 47 paragraph (6) amended by the Law no. 796-XV from 25.01.02]

7. All analytical, informational, entertainment and other transmissions that have connection, in one way or another, with electoral subjects are broadcasted in correspondence with proper regulation and concept. Transmissions that directly or indirectly have a certain connection with electoral subjects are broadcasted only with generic of "Electoral", for counting the time for broadcasting. In case when outside the transmissions with "Electoral" generic to an electoral subject were created some harms to his/her image, an unauthorized right to retort in the same conditions will be offered.

[Art. 47 paragraph (7) in redaction of the Law no. 176-XVI from 22.07.05]

8. On the elections day, mass media means, shall not make open the results of opinion polls of voters with regard to "aye" and "nay" or lack of votes for a respective candidate before the polling stations are closed.

9. The refusal to broadcast or publish electoral advertisement, under the present law, for money or free of charge may be contested in the law court.

10. Electoral competitors may organize meeting with the voters. Councils, electoral committees and local public administration authorities are obliged to organize them in such away that these unfold under equal conditions and terms.

11. During the electoral campaign, as well as during the referendum, the broadcasting time offered to press services of the Parliament, Government and President's administration may not be used for the purpose of electoral propaganda or that related to being in favor or disfavor of a referendum.

[Art. 47 paragraph (3) amended by the Law no. 480-XIV from 02.07.99]

12. Only after registration by the respective electoral authority electoral competitors are entitled to expose electoral billboards, the content of which may not run counter the law or the rules of ethics. The modality of location of electoral billboards in equal conditions on publicity panel, including private ones, is approved by Central Electoral Commission and brought to public knowledge concomitant with electoral period.

[Art. 47 paragraph (12) amended by the Law no. 248-XVI from 21.07.06]

13. Local public administration authorities shall be obliged, within a 3-day term after the registration of the electoral candidate, to determine and guarantee a minimum number of places specially designed for electoral purposes. The respective decisions (disposals) are immediately are posted up at headquarters of these authorities and informs the interested subjects by ways mass media and other means that are at its disposal.

[Art. 47 paragraph (13) amended by the Law no. 76-XVI from 10.04.08]

[Art. 47 paragraph (13) amended by the Law no. 248-XVI from 21.07.06]

[Art. 47 paragraph (13) in redaction of the Law no. 176-XVI from 22.07.05]

14. On the day of elections and a day before no propaganda is allowed.

[Art. 47 amended by the Law no. 268-XIV from 04.02.99]

15. Electoral publicity on line and on mobile telephone is assimilated to electoral publicity in mass-media.

[Art. 47 paragraph (15) amended by the Law no. 76-XVI from 10.04.08]

Chapter 8 - BALLOT PAPERS

Article 48. Model of ballot papers

1. Model and text of the ballot paper for the elections in the Parliament shall be approved by a decision of the Central Elections Commission. The Central Elections Commission shall determine the model of ballot paper for the local elections, while the text is approved by a decision of the respective district electoral council.

[Art. 48 paragraph (1) amended by the Law no. 1227-XIV from 21.09.00]

2. The ballot paper shall be divided in quadrilaterals, according to the number of electoral competitors participating in elections. The surface of the quadrilateral shall be large enough to offer space in order to include name and surname, year of birth, profession, position, working place of the independent candidate, name of the party, social-political organization or electoral

bloc which proposed the list of candidates or candidate, electoral sign or symbol of the electoral competitor, if wanted. No identical electoral signs or symbols shall be allowed.

[Art. 48 paragraph (2) amended by the Law no. 248-XVI from 21.07.06]

[Art. 48 paragraph (2) amended by the Law no. 276-XVI from 04.11.05]

[Art. 48 paragraph (2) amended by the Law no. 176-XVI from 22.07.05]

[Art. 48 paragraph (2) amended by the Law no. 31-XV from 13.02.03]

3. Electoral competitors are included in ballot papers according to the order of results of daily casting lots made by respective electoral body.

[Art. 48 paragraph (3) in redaction of the Law no. 76-XVI from 10.04.08]

4. In the quadrilateral, on the left side, there shall be printed the sign or symbol of the electoral competitor which proposed the list of candidates or candidate or the electoral sign of the independent candidate, if wanted. Electoral signs and symbols shall be presented to the respective electoral authority no later than the last day of registration of electoral competitors.

[Art. 48 paragraph (4) amended by the Law no. 248-XVI from 21.07.06]

5. In each quadrilateral, on the right side, at a distance equal both from the upper and lower sides, a circle with a diameter of 15 mm shall be printed, place where the voter applies the stamp "Voted" in case he gives his vote to the respective electoral competitor.

[Art. 48 paragraph (5) amended by the Law no. 894-XIV from 23.03.2000]

6. Ballot papers shall be elaborated according to the Law on the functioning of spoken languages on the territory of the Republic of Moldova.

7. In case different types of elections organized simultaneously, ballot papers shall differ by color.

Article 49. Preparation of ballot papers

1. Ballot papers shall be printed following the indications of the electoral authorities. Members of the electoral authorities as well as members and representatives of electoral competitors may assist while manufacturing the pattern of the ballot paper, when printing and when liquidating the pattern.

2. Ballot papers shall be printed no later than three days before elections in a quantity proportional to the number of voters. On each ballot paper are included 2 numbers that correspond one of them to district electoral council and other to polling station. The ballot papers after its printing are plaited in such a way that on the part on which the voter will apply the stamp "Voted" to be invisible.

[Art. 49 paragraph (2) amended by the Law no. 76-XVI from 10.04.08]

[Art. 49 paragraph (2) amended by the Law no. 248-XVI from 21.07.06]

[Art. 49 paragraph (2) amended by the Law no. 176-XVI from 22.07.05]

[Art. 49 paragraph (2) amended by the Law no. 796-XV from 25.01.02]

3. Printed ballot papers shall be kept by the district electoral council in order to be remitted no long before elections to the electoral committee of the polling station, confirming by a document of remittal. The Central Elections Commission shall send to electoral committees of polling stations created outside the Republic of Moldova, ballot papers with at least three days before elections, based on the number of voters included in the updated electoral lists, an additional number of 5 percent is allowed.

[Art. 49 paragraph (3) amended by the Law no. 796-XV from 25.01.02]

[Art. 49 paragraph (3) amended by the Law no. 1439-XIV from 28.12.00]

4. Police shall guard premises where ballot papers are kept. Only the chairman of respective the district electoral council or the chairman of the electoral committee of the polling station accompanied at least by two members of the council or committee.

5. Representative members of electoral competitors as well as the voters are entitled to take knowledge of the samples of the ballot papers at the electoral committee of the locality.

6. In parliamentary elections, the Central Elections Commission shall send ballot papers to the district electoral council no later than two days before elections.

[Art. 49 paragraph (6) amended by the Law no. 796-XV from 25.01.02]

[Art. 49 paragraph (6) amended by the Law no. 1227-XIV from 21.09.00]

Chapter 9 - BALLOT

Article 50. Time and place of ballot

The ballot shall take place on the elections day between 07.00 and 21.00. The electoral committee of the polling station shall bring to the knowledge of the public, information about the time and place of the ballot no later than 10 days before elections.

Article 51. Ballot conditions

1. Within the time designed for ballot it is forbidden to close the premises where the ballot takes place or to suspend the ballot except for cases of mass disorders, natural disasters, or other unexpected circumstances, which endanger the voters or make impossible the further performance of the ballot. In such cases, the chairman of the electoral committee of this polling station may suspend the ballot for 2 hours the most, time when the premises are appropriately brought in order or shall find another place for ballot, informing the voters about this decision.

[Art. 51 paragraph (1) amended by the Law no. 76-XVI from 10.04.08]

1'. On the local elections, in case when the procedure of ballot was suspended according to 1 par. didn't restart during 2 hours, the ballot is considered suspended for a period which did not get by 2 weeks and Central Elections Commission in 3 days will adopt a decision about the day when will restart the suspended ballot. The procedure of ballot will restart in the same legal conditions.

[Art. 51 paragraph (1') inserted by the Law no. 76-XVI from 10.04.08]

2. Persons entitled to assist at the ballot may not be forced to leave the premises of the polling station in case of ballot suspension.

Article 52. Ballot organization

1. The ballot shall take place in special rooms with tables where ballot papers are being handed, with cabins or rooms for secret ballot and ballot boxes. The ballot boxes are to be placed in such away, that the voter in order to reach it, has to pass through the cabin or secret ballot room. The polling station shall be endowed with sufficient cabins or rooms for secret ballot in order to avoid agglomeration.

2. In order to ensure the proper order and to avoid agglomeration, the electoral committee of the polling station shall determine a route for the voters, beginning with the entrance to the tables where ballot papers are handed and finally toward the rooms for secret ballot and ballot boxes.

3. The polling station shall be arranged in such a way as to allow the members of electoral committee and other persons authorized to assist at electoral procedures to supervise continuously and under all aspects the process of ballot, inclusively the identification of the voter, counting votes and elaboration of reports.

4. Local public administration authorities shall endow the polling station cabins, ballot boxes and other necessary materials.

5. The electoral committee of the polling station shall be responsible for the organization of ballot, for the secrecy of expressing the will of voters, for the endowment of rooms as well as for the maintenance of order.

Article 53. Ballot procedure

1. Each person shall vote personally. Voting instead of other persons is not allowed. The electoral committee of the polling station hands into the voter the ballot paper, according to the electoral list, only after the latter presents the identity act. After having received the ballot paper, the person shall sign in the electoral list where his name is indicated.

[Art. 53 paragraph (1) amended by the Law no. 248-XVI from 21.07.06]

[Art. 53 paragraph (1) amended by the Law no. 298-XVI from 17.11.05]

[Art. 53 paragraph (1) amended by the Law no.176-XVI from 22.07.05]

2. The voters from the area of the polling station who are not included in the electoral lists shall be included in an additional list after presenting a document certifying their legal residence located in the area of the respective polling station. The voters who came to the polling station with a certificate confirming the eligibility to vote shall be also included in the additional list. This certificate shall be kept by the polling station and is attached to the additional list. Voters who have not been included in the electoral lists drawn up by polling stations formed outside the territory of the Republic of Moldova may be included in the additional lists which shall contain the following:

a) name and surname of the voter;

b) date and place of birth;

c) last place of residence in the Republic of Moldova.

[Art. 53 paragraph (2) amended by the Law no. 1439-XIV from 28.12.00]

[Art. 53 paragraph(2) in redaction of the Law no. 268-XIV from 04.02.99]

3. The suffrage is made on the basis of following identity acts:

a) identity card of the citizen of the Republic of Moldova, together with attendance card where is mentioned the information about domicile and residence of voter on the territory of polling station;

b) ex-soviet passport 1974 model with mention regarding the citizenship of the Republic of Moldova, the state identity number of natural person (SIDNP) and with registration at domicile;

c) ex-soviet passport 1974 model without state identity number (SIDNP) with mentions: "valid for an unlimited term", citizenship of the Republic of Moldova and registration at domicile - for persons that relinquished to identity acts of the Republic of Moldova on religious grounds;

d) temporary identity act of F-9 type with mentions regarding the citizenship of the Republic of Moldova, domicile of holder;

e) passport for entry - exit from country, sailor's record, in case of Parliamentary elections or in case of national referendum, in polling stations constituted abroad the Republic of Moldova;

f) small book for serving militaries, book issued by Civil Service Center for persons that fulfills civil service.

[Art. 53 paragraph (3) in redaction of the Law no. 76-XVI from 10.04.08]

[Art. 53 paragraph (4) excluded by the Law no. 298-XVI from 17.11.05]

[Art. 53 paragraph (4) excluded by the Law no. 248-XVI from 21.07.06, paragraphs (5) - (6) become paragraphs (4)-(5)]

4. The chairman and members of the electoral committee of the polling station shall vote in the station where they unfold the activity, and if necessary, after being included in the additional list based on the certificate for vote.

[Art. 53 paragraphs (3)-(4) inserted by the Law no. 176-XVI from 22.07.05, paragraphs (3)-(4) become paragraphs (5)-(6)]

5. The chairman of the electoral committee of the polling station shall keep record of all-important events, which took place during the ballot and while counting the number of votes. Upon the request of the committee members or of persons authorized to assist the electoral procedure, the chairman shall note the comments and objections expressed with regard to the ballot procedure in a document that is attached to the reports of the electoral committee of the polling station.

[Art. 53 paragraphs (5)-(6) become paragraphs (4)-(5) by the Law no. 176-XVI from 2.07.05]

Article 54. Procedure of filling in the ballot paper

1. The voter shall fill in the ballot paper only in the room for secret ballot. The voter who is not capable to personally fill in is entitled to invite another person in the ballot room, except for members of polling station, representative members of the electoral competitors as well as persons authorized at the electoral procedure. These cases will be indicated in protocol of the electoral committee of polling station.

[Art. 54 paragraph (1) amended by the Law no. 248-XVI from 21.07.06]

2. The voter shall apply the stamp with the word "Voted" in the internal part of the circle of one single quadrilateral of the ballot paper, which means that the person has given the vote to the respective electoral competitor. Circles from of other quadrilaterals shall remain clean.

[Art. 54 paragraph (2) amended by the Law no. 894-XIV from 23.03.2000]

3. No ballot paper may be taken out of the premises of the polling station.

4. A voter may give the vote for one electoral competitor only.

[Art. 54 paragraph (5) excluded by the Law no. 76-XVI from 10.04.08]

[Art. 54 paragraph (5) in redaction of the Law no. 248-XVI from 21.07.06]

[Art. 54 paragraph (5) in redaction of the Law no. 176-XVI from 22.07.05]

[Art. 54 paragraph (5) amended by the Law no. 796-XV from 25.01.02]

[Art. 54 paragraph (5) inserted by the Law no. 894-XIV from 23.03.00]

6. In case the voter filled in erroneously in the ballot paper, the electoral committee of the polling station shall annul upon request this ballot paper and hand in immediately another, but only once. This shall be mentioned in the report on the ballot and in the electoral list.

7. The voter shall introduce the filled in ballot paper into the ballot box.

[Art. 54 paragraph (7) amended by the Law no. 248-XVI from 21.07.06]

[Art. 54 paragraph (7) in redaction of the Law no. 298-XVI from 17.11.05]

[Art. 54 paragraph (7) in redaction of the Law no. 276-XVI from 04.11.05]

[Art. 54 paragraph (7) in redaction of the Law no. 176-XVI from 22.07.05]

Article 55. Ensuring security of the ballot process

1. On the elections day, at 07.00, the chairman of the electoral committee of the polling station, in the presence of at least half of members of the committee, shall verify the ballot boxes, seals them, verifies the electoral lists, ballot papers, stamps and form a protocol in 2 examples. This is signed by all the present members and one of examples is introduced in ballot boxes after what the chairman declares the ballot open.

[Art. 55 paragraph (1) amended by the Law no. 248-XVI from 21.07.06]

2. The ballot papers shall be kept in a safe place within the polling station, in packages of 100 pieces each, and are handed to the chairman of the electoral committee of the polling station, other committee members in order to be distributed to the voters according to necessity.

[Art. 55 paragraph (3) excluded by the Law no. 894-XVI from 23.03.00, paragraphs (4)-(10) become paragraphs (3)-(9)]

3. Members of the electoral committee of the polling station, representative members of the electoral competitors and persons authorized to assist at the electoral operations are obliged to wear visible badges of identity. Persons entering the polling station shall not wear or show badges, signs or other symbols or electoral propaganda.

4. In the situation when the voter, out of health reasons or based on other justified grounds may not personally come to the polling station the electoral committee of the polling station shall appoint, upon a verbal or written request of the latter, at least two members of the committee, who with help of an mobile ballot box and material necessary for the ballot shall go to the place where the voter resides in order to make it possible for him to vote. The requests are made prior 2 weeks of the beginning of the elections until the 15:00 hour in the day of election. The voting at the place of residence of elector is made on the basis of the electoral lists elaborate according to received requests. Persons not mentioned in this list have no right to vote in these conditions. In the electoral list, where the name of the person is indicated the following remark shall be written, "Voted where residing".

[Art. 55 paragraph (4) amended by the Law no. 76-XVI from 10.04.08]

[Art. 55 paragraph (4) amended by the Law no. 176-XVI from 22.07.05]

[Art. 55 paragraph (5) amended by the Law no. 268-XIV from 04.02.99]

5. Persons held in custody based on an arrest warrant till the sentence of the court is delivered as well as persons convicted to deprivation of liberty the sentence of which is not yet final, those who enforce an administrative sanction in form of arrest shall vote in compliance with paragraph (4).

6. In case the chairman of the electoral committee of the polling station authorizes the transportation of a mobile ballot box outside the premises of the station, this shall be communicated to representative members of the electoral competitors and persons authorized to assist at the electoral operations, offering them the possibility to accompany the mobile ballot box and, whether necessary, to make use of personal transportation means.

[Art. 55 paragraph (6) amended by the Law no. 176-XVI from 22.07.05]

7. The chairman of the electoral committee of the polling station shall be responsible for the order during elections within the polling station as well as on the territory surrounding it, in an area of 100 meters from the ballot place. Decisions taken for this purpose are binding for all.

8. The following persons are entitled to assist at all meetings of the electoral authorities, while counting and totalizing the number of votes, in procedures related to electoral lists, ballot papers, voting certificates, elaboration of totalization reports of elections or referendum results:

- a) members and representatives of the hierarchically superior electoral authorities;
- b) members representatives of electoral competitors in the electoral authorities;
- c) local, national, foreign and international observers accredited by the respective authorities
- d) mass media representatives.

No other person shall stay in the polling station longer than necessary for exercising the voting.

[Art. 55 paragraph (8) in redaction of the Law no. 796-XV from 25.01.02]

9. It shall be forbidden to enter the premises of the polling station with fire arms or light weapons, except for representatives of police who may enter to vote or to help restore the legal order when requested by the chairman of electoral committee of that polling station.

[Art. 55 paragraph (9) amended by the Law no. 248-XVI from 21.07.06]

[Art. 55 amended by the Law no. 268-XIV from 04.02.99]

Chapter 10 - VOTES' COUNTING AND TOTALIZATION OF THE ELECTIONS' RESULTS

Article 56. Votes' counting and totalization by the electoral committee of the polling station

1. After the expiration of the time reserved for voting, the chairman of the electoral committee of the polling station shall announce the conclusion of voting and shall order the closing of the polling station. The electoral committee of the polling station shall start counting the votes.

2. Before opening the ballot boxes, all unused ballot papers shall be counted and annulled by the electoral committee of the polling station, by applying the stamp "Annulled" after what this are tie apart and are sealed.

[Art. 56 paragraph (2) amended by the Law no. 248-XVI from 21.07.06, paragraph (5) become paragraph (3)]

3. Before counting the votes obtained by the competitors, the electoral committee of the polling station shall fix the number of voters that were issued ballot papers, based on the number of voters included in the electoral lists and additional lists, next to the names of whom there is a signature applied.

[Art. 56 paragraph (3) in redaction of the Law no. 248-XVI from 21.07.06, paragraphs (3-4) become paragraphs (4-5)]

4. After having checked the integrity of the seals from the ballot boxes, the chairman of the electoral committee of the polling station, in the presence of the committee's members and of the persons authorized to assist at electoral operations, shall open the boxes. First, the mobile ballot boxes shall be opened and the ballot papers from inside them shall be counted. Then, the rest of the boxes shall be opened.

5. The polling station shall be provided with enough desks, so that all the ballot papers taken from the boxes are counted in the same place, in the sight of all the members of the electoral committee of the polling station and of the rest present. On the desks deigned for votes' counting, there shall be put the pennants with the names of the electoral competitors.

[Art. 56 paragraph (5) amended by the Law no. 298-XVI from 17.11.05]

[Art. 56 paragraph (5) amended by the Law no. 176-XVI from 22.07.05]

6. The ballot papers from the mobile ballot boxes shall be counted at first separately, shall be confronted with the number of ballot papers issued for this purpose, than shall be added to the rest of the ballot papers in order to count the number of votes obtained by electoral competitors.

[Art. 56 paragraph (6) amended by the Law no. 248-XVI from 21.07.06]

[Art. 56 paragraph (6) amended by the Law no. 298-XVI from 17.11.05]

7. According to the procedure established by the electoral committee of the polling station or disposed by the Central Elections Commission or by the district electoral council, the members of the electoral committee of the polling station shall open the ballot papers to determine the voted electoral competitor. The ballot papers including the votes in favor of a given electoral competitor shall be counted and tied separately and once established the voting results, they shall be recorded in a special form for votes' counting and sent to the superior electoral body.

[Art. 56 paragraph (7) amended by the Law no. 248-XVI from 21.07.06]

[Art. 56 paragraph (7) amended by the Law no. 298-XVI from 17.11.05]

8. Before writing in the protocol the number of votes obtained by the electoral competitors, the members representing the electoral competitors and persons authorized to assist in electoral operations shall be given the possibility to check the data from the special form for votes' counting.

9. The electoral committee of the polling station shall not include invalid ballot papers in the total number of validly expressed votes.

10. Since the moment the polling station is closed, the electoral committee of the polling station shall assemble during the votes' counting and drawing up of the protocols and report of the electoral committee. The members of the electoral committee of the polling station shall stay at the polling station in order to participate in the electoral operations, save the cases of physical disability or other exceptional circumstances.

Article 57. Invalid ballot papers

1. Invalid shall be considered the ballot papers which:

a) the identity number of district and the identity number of polling station do not correspond with the number of respective district and polling station;

[Art. 57 paragraph (1) entry a) in redaction of the Law no. 76-XVI from 10.04.08]

b) are of a different model than the established one;

c) have the stamp "Voted" applied in several quadrilaterals;

[Art. 57 paragraph (1) entry c) amended by the Law no. 894-XIV from 23.03.00]

[Art. 57 paragraph (1) entry c) amended by the Law no. 796-XV from 25.01.02]

d) were not applied the stamp "Voted" in any circle of any quadrilateral;

[Art. 57 paragraph (1) entry d) amended by the Law no. 894-XIV from 23.03.00]

e) contain additional names of the electoral competitors written by the voters;

f) were deformed or scribbled in such a way that the voter's choice is not clear any more.

2. The ballot paper may not be declared invalid simply because the voter applied the stamp "Voted" several times in one quadrilateral or because the stamp was applied outside the circle from the quadrilateral or on the logotype or symbol of the electoral competitor, but the voter's choice is nevertheless clear.

[Art. 57 paragraph (2) inserted by the Law no. 796-XV from 25.01.02; paragraphs (2)-(3) become paragraphs (3)-(4)]

[Art. 57 paragraph (2) excluded by the Law no. 894-XIV from 23.03.00]

3. The chairman of the electoral committee of the polling station shall give the possibility to the members of the committee and to the persons authorized to assist at electoral operations to examine the ballot paper that is to be considered invalid.

4. If the members of the electoral committee of the polling station doubt the validity of the ballot paper, voting shall solve the problem, and the voting result shall be recorded in the protocol of the committee's meeting.

Article 58. Protocol and report of the electoral committee of the polling station

1. The electoral committee of the polling station shall draw up a protocol, in two copies, comprising:

- a) the number of voters included in the electoral lists;
- b) the number of voters included in the additional lists;
- c) the number of voters who were delivered ballot papers;
- d) the number of voters that took part in the elections;

[Art. 58 paragraph (1) entry e) excluded by the Law no. 248-XVI from 21.07.06]

[Art. 58 paragraph (1) entry e) inserted by the Law no. 176-XVI from 22.07.05, entries e)-i) become entries f)-j)]

e) the number that reflects the difference between the number of ballot papers received by voters and number of voters that took part to the elections;

[Art. 58 paragraph (1) entry g) excluded by the Law no. 248-XVI from 21.07.06]

[Art. 58 paragraph (1) entries f)-g) inserted by the Law no. 298-XVI from 17.11.05]

f) the number of ballot papers declared invalid;

g) the number of validly expressed votes for each electoral competitor (for each option regarding the questions subjected to referendum);

h) the total number of validly expressed votes;

[Art. 58 entry g) inserted by the Law no. 268-XIV from 04.02.99, entries g)-h) become entries h)-i)]

i) the number of ballot papers received by the electoral committee of the polling station;

j) the number of unused and annulled ballot papers.

2. In case of parliamentary elections, the form of the protocol shall be established by the Central Elections Commission, and in case of local elections - by the respective district electoral council. The respective district electoral council shall provide the electoral committees of the polling stations with the necessary number of forms of protocol in the day of elections.

[Art. 58 paragraph (2) amended by the Law no. 1227-XIV from 21.09.00]

3. The results of the votes' counting shall be examined in the meeting of the electoral committee of the polling station and shall be recorded in a protocol, signed by the chairman, deputy chairman, secretary and the rest of the committee's members. The absence of signature of some members of the electoral committee of the polling station shall not influence the validity of the protocol. The reasons of the signature's absence shall be mentioned in the committee's report.

4. The protocol on the elections' results shall be drawn up in several copies, in the presence of the members of the electoral committee of the polling station, representatives of the electoral competitors and of other authorized persons. One copy of the protocol shall be kept at the electoral committee of the polling station, one copy shall be submitted to the district electoral council, and the rest copies shall be necessarily handed over to the electoral competitors and observers.

[Art. 58 paragraph (4) amended by the Law no. 176-XVI from 22.07.05]

[Art. 58 paragraph (4) in redaction of the Law no. 894-XIV from 23.03.00]

5. The chairman of the electoral committee of the polling station shall prepare the committee's report based on the written record of the activities unfolded by the committee in the electoral period. The report shall include a short summary of the applications and contestations regarding the actions of the electoral committee of the polling station and of the decisions taken by the committee based on them. The chairman shall sign the report and shall give the possibility to the rest of the committee's members to write their comments and amendments to the report and to sign it. The applications and contestations shall be attached to the report.

6. The chairman of the electoral committee of the polling station shall convey to the district electoral council, as soon as possible, but not later than 18 hours after the announcement of the polling stations' closing, the ballot papers with the validly expressed votes for each electoral competitor, the protocol, the report, the invalid, annulled or contested ballot papers, the applications and contestations - all these being sealed in a box (package). The transportation of the sealed box (package) shall be escorted by the police, the chairman and by at least two

members of the electoral committee of the polling station. The electoral committees of the polling stations constituted abroad the Republic of Moldova shall submit, apart from the listed acts, the additional lists as well.

[Art. 58 paragraph (6) amended by the Law no. 248-XVI from 21.07.06]

[Art. 58 paragraph (6) amended by the Law no. 298-XVI from 17.11.05]

[Art. 58 paragraph (6) amended by the Law no. 1439-XIV from 28.12.00]

7. The stamps of the electoral committee of the polling station shall be closed in a box (package) that shall be kept at the polling station. After the termination of elections, the seals shall be forwarded to the district electoral councils, at their request.

[Art. 58 paragraph (7) amended by the Law no. 298-XVI from 17.11.05]

Article 59. Totalization of the voting results by the district electoral council

1. After having received the protocols and reports from the electoral committees of the polling stations, the district electoral council shall, at first, establish the number of voters who had participated in the elections and shall immediately convey this information to the Central Elections Commission. In case if the number of voters who had taken part in the elections from the entire district is smaller than needed for declaring the elections as valid in that district, the district council shall notify the Central Elections Commission about this fact. The Central Elections Commission or the district electoral council shall make a public announcement of declaring the elections as invalid nation-wide or in that particular district.

2. Based on the protocols submitted by the electoral committees of the polling stations, the district electoral council shall establish on the whole district:

a) the number of voters included in the electoral lists;

b) the number of voters included in the additional lists;

c) the number of voters who were delivered ballot papers;

d) the number of voters that took part in the elections;

[Art. 59 paragraph (2) entry e) inserted by the Law no. 176-XVI from 22.07.05, entries e)-i) become entries f)-j)]

e) the amount that reflects the difference between the number of received by voters of ballot and number of voters that took part to the elections;

[Art. 59 paragraph (2) entries f)-g) inserted by the Law no. 298-XVI from 17.11.05, entries f)-j) become entries h)-l)]

f) the number of ballot papers declared invalid;

g) the number of validly expressed votes for each candidate (for each options regarding the questions subjected to referendum);

h) the total number of validly expressed votes;

[Art. 59 paragraph (2) entry g) inserted by the Law no. 268-XIV from 04.02.99, entries g)-h) become entries h)-i)]

i) the number of ballot papers received by the district electoral council;

j) the number of unused and annulled ballot papers.

[Art. 59 paragraph (2) amended by the Law no. 248-XVI from 21.07.06]

3. The district electoral council shall record the results of totalization of the nation-wide number of votes in a protocol, signed by all the council members, who had the opportunity to make written comments on the protocol. A copy of protocol should be give to the representatives of electoral candidates and observers at their demand.

[Art. 59 paragraph (3) amended by the Law no. 248-XVI from 21.07.06]

[Art. 59 paragraph (3) amended by the Law no. 31-XV from 13.02.03]

4. The district electoral council shall submit the protocol on the totalization of the district elections' results to the Central Elections Commission within 48 hours after the polling stations were closed. Once the protocol is presented to the Central Electoral Commission, the district electoral council posts, at the entry of its centre, detailed information regarding the results of elections in the district.

[Art. 59 paragraph (4) amended by the Law no. 176-XVI from 22.07.05]

Article 60. Elections' results totalization by the Central Elections Commission

1. In case of nation-wide parliamentary, local elections and of republican referendum, the Central Elections Commission, based on the documents submitted by the district electoral councils, shall draw up, within 5 days a protocol comprising:

[Art. 60 paragraph (1) amended by the Law no. 1227-XIV from 21.09.00]

- a) the number of voters included in the electoral lists;
- b) the number of voters included in the additional lists;
- c) the number of voters who were delivered ballot papers;
- d) the number of voters that took part in the elections;

[Art. 60 paragraph (1) entry e) excluded by the Law no. 248-XVI from 21.07.06]

[Art. 60 paragraph (1) entry e) inserted by the Law no.176-XVI from 22.07.05, entries e)-g) become entries f)-h)]

e) the amount that reflects the difference between the number of received by voters of ballot and number of voters that took part to the elections;

[Art. 60 paragraph (1) entry f) excluded by the Law no. 248-XVI from 21.07.06, entries f), h), i), j), k) become entries e), f), g), h), i)]

[Art. 60 paragraph (1) entries f)-g) inserted by the Law no. 298-XVI from 17.11.05, entries f)-h) become entries h)-j)]

- f) the number of ballot papers declared invalid;
- g) the number of validly expressed votes for each candidate (for each option regarding the questions subjected to republican referendum);
- h) the total number of validly expressed votes;

[Art. 60 paragraph (1) entry g) inserted by the Law no. 268-XIV from 04.02.99]

i) the number of printed ballot papers.

[Art. 60 paragraph (1) entry k) inserted by the Law no. 298-XVI from 17.11.05]

2. Central Elections Commission shall record the totalization of all nation-wide voting results in a protocol signed by all commission's members and shall draw up a report regarding the results of elections. A copy of protocol should be give to the representatives of electoral candidates and observers at their demand.

[Art. 60 paragraph (2) amended by the Law no. 248-XVI from 21.07.06]

[Art. 60 paragraph (2) amended by the Law no. 31-XV from 13.02.03]

2¹. In case of disagreement with preliminary results, before validation the results by the courts electoral candidates may address to this courts to restart the number of votes.

[Art. 60 paragraph (21) inserted by the Law no. 76-XVI din 10.04.08]

3. The documents mentioned in paragraph (2) shall be submitted, if the case of Parliamentary Elections, to the Constitutional Court in order to confirm the results of elections and to validate the mandates.

[Art. 60 paragraph (3) excluded by the Law no. 248-XVI from 21.07.06]

Article 61. Announcement of preliminary results

1. Before getting the voting results from all the hierarchic inferior electoral councils and committees, the electoral authority in charge of totalization of the elections' results shall bring, periodically, to public knowledge the preliminary results, as soon as possible after their receiving.

2. After having got the voting results from all the hierarchic inferior electoral councils and committees, the electoral authority in charge of totalizing the elections' results shall bring, as soon as possible, to public knowledge the overall results of elections, if the contestations that were submitted to it or to the court do not influence the results of elections.

3. The following authorities shall be in charge of totalizing the final elections' results:

- a) Central Elections Commission - in case of parliamentary elections, general local elections and republican referendums;

[Art. 61 paragraph (3) entry a) amended by the Law no. 1227-XIV from 21.09.00]

- b) Respective district electoral council - in case of local elections and referendums.

Article 62. Keeping the electoral documents

1. The electoral documents shall be kept at the Central Elections Commission according to the Law of Archive Hoard of Republic of Moldova.

[Art. 62 paragraph (1) amended by the Law no. 248-XVI from 21.07.06]

2. At the end of the electoral period, the district electoral council shall dispose of the electoral documents and materials as described below:

a) shall be forwarded to the Central Elections Commission - lists of candidates, a copy of protocols and reports of district electoral councils of each polling stations, special form for counting the votes, stamps of district electoral councils and of electoral bureaus of polling stations, subscription lists of independent candidates, and also other electoral materials, financial report and delivering the financial documentation of rayon council (city) (local public authority of second level). In case of general local elections, list of alternate candidates, decreasing number from each electoral district;

[Art. 62 paragraph (2) entry a) amended by the Law no. 76-XVI from 10.04.08]

[Art. 62 paragraph (2) entry a) amended by the Law no. 298 -XVI from 17.11.05]

b) shall be forwarded to the court in the district of which the electoral council is situated - valid, no valid and canceled ballot papers, a copy of protocols and district electoral councils' reports, a special form for counting the votes, all appeals, together with adopted decisions regarding its solutions, and in case of general local elections - also the list of elected counselors, alternate candidates, decreasing number from each electoral district;

[Art. 62 paragraph (2) entry b) amended by the Law no. 76-XVI from 10.04.08]

c) shall be forwarded to the town hall in the district of which activated the district electoral council a copy of protocols and district electoral council's and electoral bureaus' of polling stations reports, polling boxes, copies of Electoral Code, instructions regarding the electoral bodies' activity and other electoral materials.

[Art. 62 paragraph (1) entries a)-c) in redaction of the Law no. 248-XVI from 21.07.06]

3. The Central Elections Commission shall ensure the access to the documents mentioned in this article according to the Law regarding the access to information.

[Art. 62 paragraph (3) in redaction of the Law no. 248-XVI from 21.07.06]

[Art. 62 paragraph (3) amended by the Law no. 1107-XIV from 30.06.2000]

[Art. 62 paragraph (3) amended by the Law no. 480-XIV from 02.07.99]

Chapter 11 - SUPERVISION OF ELECTIONS AND THEIR REFLECTION IN MASS MEDIA**Article 63. Observers**

1. At the request of the electoral opponents, the district electoral council shall accredit an observer for the supervision of elections at the polling stations. The trusted persons of the candidates may also be accredited as observers. If the district electoral council rejects the candidacy proposed for accreditation by the electoral opponent in compliance with the provisions of this Paragraph graph, it shall brief him on the grounds of the taken decision.

2. At the request of the electoral opponents, the Central Elections Commission shall accredit an observer for the supervision of elections at the polling stations established abroad the Republic of Moldova's territory. Both Republic of Moldova's citizens and representatives of international and foreign non-governmental organizations may be accredited as observers.

[Art. 63 paragraph (2) inserted by the Law no. 1439-XIV from 28.12.00, paragraphs (2)-(4) become paragraphs (3)-(5)]

3. The Central Elections Commission shall accredit, as observers of elections, representatives of international organizations, foreign governments and foreign non-governmental organizations.

[Art. 63 paragraph (3) amended by the Law no. 248-XVI from 21.07.06]

4. Based on the decision of the Central Elections Commission, the district electoral councils shall accredit observers representing qualified public associations from the Republic of

Moldova. Qualified shall be considered the public association dealing, according to its statute, with human rights' or democratic values' protection and is considered by the Central Elections Commission or, in case of rayon associations, by the district electoral council, as able to exercise civic functions during the elections.

[Art. 63 paragraph (4) amended by the Law no. 248-XVI from 21.07.06]

5. Observers accredited by Central Elections Commission can monitor the electoral process on the entire territory of the country and at all polling stations, but the observers accredited to district electoral councils - only on the territory of respective district. Accredited observers shall be entitled to assist at all the electoral operations, at all sessions of electoral bodies, including on the day of elections, without interfering with the electoral process, or at other electoral operations and to inform the chairman of the electoral council or committee about the found violations.

[Art. 63 paragraph (5) in redaction of the Law no. 248-XVI from 21.07.06]

[Art. 63 paragraph (5) amended by the Law no.176-XVI from 22.07.05]

6. Observers may be accredited before the beginning of the electoral period and they may unfold their activity and at day of elections and before the beginning, during it and after the finish of the electoral period. The statute of accreditation the observers will be approved by the decision of the Central Elections Commission.

[Art. 63 paragraph (6) amended by the Law no. 248-XVI from 21.07.06]

[Art. 63 paragraph (6) inserted by the Law no. 176-XVI from 22.07.05]

Article 64. Reflection of elections in mass media

1. During the electoral period, mass media shall reflect the unfolding of elections according to the regulation approved to this end by the Central Elections Commission.

2. Mass media representatives shall enjoy all the rights of accredited observers.

3. During the electoral period, every opinion sounding regarding the political preferences of voters can be made only after the Central Elections Commission was before hand noticed. The results of these soundings will be brought to public knowledge at least 5 days before the election day. In the elections' day, before the polling stations are closed, it shall be prohibited to publish in mass media the materials, including interviews with the voters, about the number of votes gathered by the electoral candidates over the day and about their chances, including the results of exit-poll. The qualified organizations that want to organize the exit-polls will coordinate this activity with Central Elections Commission, who will elaborate general rules in this domain.

[Art. 64 paragraph (3) in redaction of the Law no. 248-XVI from 21.07.06]

4. Mass media will broadcast, at the request of Central Election Commission, sociological, civic and electoral polls, will carry on informational campaigns of voters regarding the voting procedure and other voting particularities.

[Art.64 paragraph (4) in redaction of the Law no. 176-XVI from 22.07.05]

[Art. 64 paragraph (4) amended by the Law no. 796-XV from 25.01.02]

5. Public institutions of audiovisual are obliged and the private one have the right at request of Central Elections Commission to organize during all period of elections public debates in equitable conditions for all electoral candidates. They are offered minimum 90 minutes per day, time which can be used for one or more emissions.

6. Institutions of audiovisual have the right to choose the format of debates with condition to respect the equality for all electoral competitors regarding the time offered for participation to debates.

[Art. 64 paragraphs (5)-(6) inserted by the Law no. 176-XVI from 22.07.05]

Chapter 12 - COURT PROCEDURES

Section 1. Contestations of the management and unfolding of elections

Article 65. Contestations

1. Voters and electoral competitors may contest the actions (inaction) and decisions taken by the electoral committees and councils, actions (inactions) of electoral candidates in electoral bodies respecting the system of electoral hierarchic authorities and courts.

[Art. 65 paragraph (1) in redaction of the Law no. 76-XVI din 10.04.08]

[Art. 65 paragraph (1) amended by the Law no. 248-XVI from 21.07.06]

2. The contestation shall comprise its grounds, evidence it is based on, signature and identification data of the lodger.

Article 66. Contestation lodging

1. The actions and decisions taken by the electoral authorities may be contested within a 3-days term since the date the action or decision has been taken.

[Art. 66 paragraph (1) in redaction of the Law no. 403-XIV from 14.05.99]

2. Contestations regarding the actions and decisions of the electoral committees of the polling stations and of the district electoral councils shall be lodged with the court in the district of which the committee or council is situated.

3. Contestations regarding the actions and decisions of the Central Elections Commission shall be lodged with the Chisinau Court of Appeal.

[Art. 66 paragraph (3) amended by the Law no. 248-XVI from 21.07.06]

Article 67. Contestations' consideration

1. The contestations regarding the actions and decisions taken by the Central Elections Commission during the electoral period shall be considered within a 5-days term since their lodging, but not later than the day of elections.

2. The contestations regarding the actions and decisions taken by the district electoral councils and committees of the polling stations shall be examine by respective electoral organs or courts in 3-days term since their lodging, but not later than the day of elections.

[Art. 67 paragraph (2) amended by the Law no. 248-XVI from 21.07.06]

3. The contestations lodged with the courts in the elections' day shall be considered in the same day, and the contestations against the decisions taken by the electoral authority concerning the totalization of the elections' results and the court shall consider attribution of mandates at the same time with the confirmation of legality and validation of mandates.

[Art. 67 paragraph (3) in redaction of the Law no. 403-XIV from 14.05.99]

4. The courts' schedule shall be organized in such a manner that the contestations may be lodged with and considered without delay.

5. The contestations lodged with the courts shall be considered in compliance with the provisions of the Civil Procedure Code and the Law on administrative jurisdiction.

[Art. 67 paragraph (5) amended by the Law no. 796-XV from 25.01.02]

Article 68. Courts' judgments on contestations

1. The court shall adopt and deliver the judgment considered in compliance with the provisions of the Civil Procedure Code and the Law on administrative jurisdiction.

[Art. 68 paragraph (1) amended by the Law no. 796-XV from 25.01.02]

2. The court, having considered the materials on the confirmation of elections' legality and validation of mandates, shall adopt a judgment in which it shall confirm the elections' legality

from the respective district, shall validate the mandate of the elected counselors, as well as the list of subsidiary candidates.

[Art. 68 paragraph (2) amended by the Law no. 31-XV from 13.02.03]

[Art. 68 paragraph (2) phrase "and mayors" declared unconstitutional by the Constitutional Court Decision no. 13 from 14.03.02]

[Art. 68 paragraph (2) amended by the Law no. 796-XV from 25.01.02]

3. If the court had established the elections' legality, but there were found calculation errors, the court ex officio or upon the request of the parties in trial shall annul entirely or partly the protocol and shall exclude the electoral competitor which got less validly expressed votes, replacing him with another electoral competitor, which got a bigger validly expressed votes, in a decreasing order.

4. The court shall not confirm the results of the local elections in the respective district if it found violations committed during the elections or the totalization of results, if these violations had influenced the outcome of elections.

5. The court's judgment shall be final and enforceable since its delivery.

6. The court judgment may be appealed in recourse order within a 3-days term since its delivery.

7. The recourse shall be considered within a 3-days term since the getting of the respective file.

[Art. 68 in redaction of the Law no. 403-XIV from 14.05.99]

Section 2. Liability for violation of electoral legislation

Article 69. Legal liability

1. Persons who, by means of violence, deceit, threatening, substitution or by any other means, hinder the free exercise of the citizens' electoral rights, persons who purposefully spread misinformation about electoral competitors, commit other actions that infringe the honor and dignity of candidates, carry out election propaganda in the day of elections and in the bay before it, hinder the activity of the electoral councils and committees or the voting at the polling stations shall incur liability in compliance with the legislation into force.

2. For violation of the present Code Central Elections Commission may apply or may request application to the electoral competitors following sanctions:

a) admonishment;

b) annulment of registration;

[Art. 69 paragraph (2) inserted by the Law no. 176-XVI from 22.07.05]

3. Admonishment is applied by a Central Elections Commission decision, and the annulment of registration, by a final court decision.

4. Admonishment is applying for violation of the present Code, except Articles 70 and 71.

[Art. 69 paragraphs (2)-(4) inserted by the Law no. 76-XVI from 10.04.08]

[Art. 69 paragraph (2) excluded by the Law no. 79-XVI from 06.04.06]

[Art. 69 completed by the Law no. 268-XIV from 04.02.99]

Article 70. Criminal liability

1. The following actions shall be considered as criminal offences, for which criminal sanctions shall be applicable according to the Criminal Code's provisions:

a) hindrance of free exercise of the citizens' rights to elect and be elected, same perpetration joined by the cause of severe bodily injuries and jeopardizing of human lives;

b) falsification by any means the results of elections;

c) opening the ballot boxes before the term established by law for the end of voting;

d) assault of the polling stations' premises, stilling of the ballot boxes or the electoral documents.

2. The criminal cases concerning the offences provided in paragraph (1) shall be dealt by the prosecution authorities.

3. The chairmen of the electoral authorities and other officials shall be bound to inform immediately the prosecution authorities about the actions which, in their view, comprise the elements of the criminal offences related to elections and which became known to them.

[Art. 70 paragraph (3) amended by the Law no. 268-XIV from 04.02.99]

4. The criminal cases concerning the facts enumerated at paragraph (1) committed in the period of elections are examined by the prosecutors office in 5 days term.

[Art. 70 paragraph (4) inserted by the Law no. 176-XVI from 22.07.05]

Article 71. Administrative liability

1. The following actions shall be considered as administrative offences, if not declared criminal offences in compliance with article 70 of this Code, for which administrative sanctions shall be applicable according to the Administrative Offences Code's provisions:

[Art. 71 paragraph (1) completed by the Law no. 268-XIV from 04.02.99]

a) failure of officials to supply information and materials requested by electoral authorities, as well as failure to fulfill their decisions;

b) destruction, deterioration by any means of the electoral lists or electoral billboards;

c) holding by officials of electoral assemblies with alcoholic beverages' selling and drinking and failure to take certain measures for the proper unfolding of these assemblies;

d) acknowledged including in the electoral lists of persons who are not entitled to vote according to this Code, of fake persons or willful including of one person in several lists, as well as the groundless refusal to receive and settle the contestations regarding electoral operations;

e) deliberate acceptance to include a person in several lists of candidates;

f) failure of the electoral authorities' members to bring to the public knowledge the proposals of candidates' nomination;

g) use of funds received from abroad or undeclared publicly;

h) hindrance of access in the voting premises or hindrance of the exercise of the voting rights by the qualified voters;

i) refusal to fulfill the orders of the chairman electoral committee of the polling station regarding the assurance of order in the voting premises and on the neighboring territory;

j) unjustified handing over of the ballot paper to the voter included in the electoral list or handing over of more ballot papers than prescribed by law to one person;

k) groundless leaving of the voting premises before the totalization of elections' results and signing the protocol by the members of the electoral committee of the polling station;

l) continuing of election propaganda in the day of elections and the day before it;

[Art. 71 paragraph (1) entry l) amended by the Law no. 268-XIV from 04.02.99]

m) taking of the ballot paper handed over for voting away from the polling station premises;

n) faking of signatures on subscription lists.

2. Finding of the administrative offences provided in paragraph (1) shall be made in protocols drawn up, upon the case, by the mayor of locality, chairmen of the electoral authorities or by the police officers fulfilling their duties of ensuring the security of electoral operations.

3. Protocols of finding the administrative offences shall be transmitted to the court in the district of which the offence had occurred.

4. Courts will exam the cases concerning administrative offences in 2 days. The decisions adopted may be contested in appeal in 2 days. Appeal court will solve it in 2 days.

[Art. 71 paragraph (4) inserted by the Law no. 176-XVI from 22.07.05]

Title III PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS

Article 72. Scope of this title

The provisions of this title (Article 72 - Article 94) shall be applicable only to parliamentary elections.

Article 73. Parliamentary elections

1. The Parliament shall be elected by universal, equal, direct, secret and freely expressed suffrage for a 4-years mandate.
2. The parliamentary elections shall take place on a single national electoral district, on which 101 deputies shall be elected.

Article 74. Administrative electoral districts and polling stations. District electoral councils and electoral committees of the polling stations

1. For the purposes of management and unfolding of elections, the Central Elections Commission shall set up, at least 55 days before them, administrative electoral districts corresponding to second level administrative-territorial units of the Republic of Moldova and, at least 50 days before the elections, district electoral councils under the conditions set forth in Article 27, which shall be applied accordingly. The powers of the district electoral councils are indicated in Article 28, save the provisions of entry g), which shall be applied accordingly.
[Art. 74 paragraph (1) amended by the Law no. 796-XV from 25.01.02]
[Art. 74 paragraph (1) amended by the Law no. 268-XIV from 04.02.99]
2. Electoral districts shall be divided in polling stations, under the conditions set forth in Article 29, which shall be applied accordingly.
3. In the polling stations electoral committees shall be set up, the constitution mode of which is provided in Article 29 and Article 30 and shall be applied accordingly.

Article 75. Candidates running for the Parliament deputy position

1. As Parliament deputies there may be elected Republic of Moldova citizens who are qualified voters, who have reached (including in the elections' day) the age of 18 years, have the domicile in the country and meet the requirements set forth by this Code.
2. At the moment or registration in the quality of candidate for deputy function, the person that has the citizenship of another state declares, on his own responsibility, the holding of foreign state citizenship or the fact of document presentation for obtaining the citizenship of foreign state.
3. At the moment of deputy mandate validation, the specified person in paragraph (2) must documentary confirm the renunciation or initiation of renunciation procedure to the citizenship of foreign state or withdrawal of application regarding the obtaining of foreign state citizenship.
4. In case the person does not declare the holding of foreign state citizenship at the moment of his registration in the quality of candidate to deputy function or it's obtaining during the period of exercising the mandate is considered a ground for cancellation of deputy mandate validation by the Constitutional Court at the Central Election Commission notification.
[Art.75 in redaction of the Law no. 273-XVI from 07.12.07]

Article 76. Fixing the date of elections

1. Elections of the Parliament deputies shall take place 3 months the most since the Parliament's mandate expiration.
2. The date of the parliamentary elections shall be fixed by a Parliament decision, issued at least 60 days before the elections' day.
[Art. 76 paragraph (2) amended by the Law no. 796-XV from 25.01.02]
3. In case of Parliament's dissolution, the date of the new Parliament elections shall be fixed in the same decree of the President of the Republic of Moldova. Anticipated elections shall take place within 45 days the most after the coming into force of the decree.
[Art. 76 paragraph (3) in redaction of the Law no. 894-XIV from 23.03.00]

Article 77. Registration of the electoral competitors

In order to be registered by the Central Elections Commission, the electoral competitors shall submit the documents provided in Article 44.

Article 78. Special conditions for subscription lists

1. The subscription lists in support of independent candidates shall be drawn up and checked under the provisions of Article 42 and Article 43, which shall be applied accordingly.

2. In order to be registered by the Central Elections Commission, the independent candidate shall submit subscription lists, containing at least 2000 and at most 2500 signatures of supporters who are qualified voters.

[Art. 78 paragraph (2) amended by the Law no. 268-XIV from 04.02.99]

3. If during the verification of the subscription lists by the Central Elections Commission fake signatures or repeated signatures in several lists are detected, these signatures shall be excluded.

4. If during the verification it is established that the required number of signatures is not fulfilled or if after the exclusion of invalid signatures their number is reduced comparing to the minimal number of signatures provided by paragraph (2), the independent candidate shall not be registered and this decision shall be brought to his knowledge within 24-hours since it has been taken.

[Art. 78 paragraph (4) in redaction of the Law no. 268-XIV from 04.02.99]

5. It shall be prohibited to submit additional subscription lists after the verification of the subscription lists, after the registration of necessary documents stipulated in Article 44, by the Central Elections Commission.

[Art. 78 paragraph (5) in redaction of the Law no. 248-XVI from 21.07.06]

Article 79. Special conditions for the registration of the candidates' lists

The number of candidates included in the lists on the date of registration shall not be lower than 51 persons and not greater than the number of seats in the Parliament, provided in the Constitution, plus two subsidiary candidates.

Article 80. Modification of the candidates' lists

1. Electoral competitors shall be entitled to withdraw their candidacy, to withdraw the whole list of candidates, to repeal the decision of including a certain candidate in the list.

[Art. 80 paragraph (1) amended by the Law no. 76-XVI from 10.04.08]

[Art. 80 paragraph (1) amended by the Law no. 248-XVI from 21.07.06]

[Art. 80 paragraph (1) amended by the Law no. 268-XIV from 04.02.99]

2. The decision on the withdrawal of the candidacy or of the candidates' list shall be taken by the person or formation that nominated him/it, shall be submitted to the Central Elections Commission which shall bring it to public knowledge.

3. The candidate may be replaced before the expiration of the candidates' registration term. The Central Elections Commission shall bring the registration of the new candidate to public knowledge.

[Art. 80 paragraph (4) excluded by the Law no. 76-XVI from 10.04.08]

Article 81. Electoral lists

Electoral lists for parliamentary elections shall be drawn up under the conditions of Chapter 5 (Article 39 and Article 40) which shall be applied accordingly.

Article 82. Electoral campaign for parliamentary elections

Electoral campaign for parliamentary elections shall be carried out in compliance with Chapter 7 (Article 45 - Article 47) which shall be applied accordingly.

Article 83. Ballot papers

1. Ballot papers shall be drawn up in compliance with Chapter 8 (Article 48 and Article 49) which shall be applied accordingly.
2. Independent candidates shall be included in the ballot paper in a special quadrilateral, in which the candidate's name, surname and the formula "independent candidate" shall be put down.

Article 84. Ballot

Ballot at the parliamentary elections shall be performed in compliance with Chapter 9 (Article 50 - Article 55) which shall be applied accordingly.

Article 85. Votes' counting and elections' results totalization

Votes' counting and parliamentary elections' results totalization shall be performed in compliance with Chapter 10 (Article 56 - Article 60) which shall be applied accordingly.

Article 86. Establishing the representation threshold

1. After having got the protocols of the district electoral councils, in which the results of the votes' counting from all electoral districts are indicated, the Central Elections Commission shall totalize the number of valid express votes, accumulated by each political party, other social-political organization and by each electoral bloc, in order to find if they have reached the minimum representation threshold.
2. The minimum representation threshold shall be considered the following proportions from the total number of validly expressed votes per country:
 - a) for political parties, other social-political organizations - 6 percent;
[Art. 86 paragraph (2) entry a) amended by the Law no. 76-XVI from 10.04.08]
[Art. 86 paragraph (2) entry a) amended by the Law no. 176-XVI from 22.07.05]
[Art. 86 paragraph (2) entry b) excluded by the Law no. 76-XVI from 10.04.08]
[Art. 86 paragraph (2) entry b) amended by the Law no. 176-XVI from 22.07.05]
[Art. 86 paragraph (2) entry c) excluded by the Law no. 176-XVI from 22.07.05]
[Art. 86 paragraph (2) inserted by the Law no. 480-XIV from 02.07.99, paragraph (2) become paragraph (3)]
3. The political parties, other social-political organizations and electoral blocs that have accumulated a lower number of votes than that provided in paragraph (2) shall be excluded from the operation of mandates' attribution, by the decision of the Central Elections Commission.
[Art. 86 in redaction of the Law no. 796-XV from 25.01.02]
[Art. 86 in redaction of the Law no. 894-XIV from 23.03.00]

Article 87. Counting of mandates obtained by the electoral competitor

1. The number of mandates obtained by the electoral competitors shall be counted by the Central Elections Commission by successive division of the number of validly expressed votes for each electoral competitor, except for independent candidates, to 1, 2, 3, 4... etc. till the figure corresponding to the number of seats in the Parliament.
2. From the results of all divisions and from the number of validly expressed votes for independent candidates, there shall be taken in decreasing order as many numbers as many

mandates are to be attributed. The political party, other social-political organization, electoral bloc shall be attributed as many mandates as many numbers in this decreasing row it has.

3. The independent candidate shall be considered elected if the number of validly expressed votes obtained by him represents at least 3 percent of all the validly expressed votes per country.

[Art. 87 paragraph (3) inserted by the Law no. 894-XIV from 23.03.2000]

[Art. 87 paragraph (3) abrogated by the Law no. 268-XIV from 04.02.99]

Article 88. Attribution of mandates

1. The Central Elections Commission in the registration order on the lists shall attribute the mandates to electoral competitors.

2. If the last non-attributed mandate has several claimants with the same number of votes, the Central Elections Commission shall attribute it by drawing of lots and shall draw up a protocol of this fact.

3. If a political party, other social-political organization or an electoral bloc obtains a number of mandates greater than the number of candidates included in the lists, the surplus of numbers from the decreasing row of the respective formation shall be eliminated and replaced with the numbers from the decreasing row of other electoral competitors.

4. The candidates that were included in the list but have not been elected shall be declared subsidiary. The subsidiary candidate shall be declared as elected by the Constitutional Court if, for some reasons, a mandate belonging to the political party, social-political organization or the electoral bloc he represents becomes vacant. The subsidiary candidate may decline the mandate of deputy by lodging a statement with the Constitutional Court.

[Art. 88 paragraph (4) in redaction of the Law no. 1107-XIV from 30.06.00]

[Art. 88 paragraph (4) in redaction of the Law no. 480-XIV from 02.07.99]

5. If after the unfolding of elections and attribution of mandates, the electoral competitor that submitted his/its list of candidates does not have subsidiary candidates, the vacant mandates shall pass to the next electoral competitors, according to the decreasing row set up at the mandates' attribution.

[Art. 88 paragraph (5) inserted by the Law no. 1107-XIV from 30.06.00, paragraph (5) become paragraph (6)]

[Art. 88 paragraph (5) excluded by the Law no. 480-XIV from 02.07.99, paragraph (6) become paragraph (5)]

6. If the deputy's mandate gained by the independent candidate became vacant, the completion of vacancy shall be performed by the restoration of the decreasing row by the Central Elections Commission, excluding the number that belongs to that candidate and including the next number from the row.

Article 89. Confirmation of the voting results and validation of mandates by the Constitutional Court

[Art. 89 title amended by the Law no. 480-XIV from 02.07.99]

1. The Central Elections Commission within 48 hours, after the totalization of the voting results, shall submit to the Constitutional Court the documents indicated in Article 60 and the lists of elected deputies and subsidiary candidates.

[Art. 89 paragraph (1) in redaction of the Law no. 1107-XIV from 30.06.00]

[Art. 89 paragraph (1) inserted by the Law no. 480-XIV from 02.07.99, paragraphs (1-2) become paragraphs (1-3)]

2. Within a 10-days term after the documents have been received from the Central Elections Commission, the Constitutional Court shall confirm or infirm by notice the lawfulness of elections. At the same time, the Constitutional Court shall validate the mandates of the elected deputies.

[Art. 89 paragraph (2) amended by the Law no. 248-XVI from 21.07.06]

3. If the elections are found lawful, the Central Elections Commission shall issue identification cards to the elected deputies.

[Art. 89 paragraphs (4) and (5) excluded by the Law no. 1107-XIV from 30.06.00]

Article 90. Confirmation of elections' results by the Central Elections Commission

1. The protocol on the elections' results, together with the Constitutional Court's notice, by which the lawfulness of elections is confirmed and the decision on the validation of at least 2/3 of the total number of deputies' mandates, shall be forwarded to the Parliament within 2 days. One copy of these documents shall be forwarded to the Central Elections Commission.

[Art. 90 paragraph (1) amended by the Law no. 248-XVI from 21.07.06]

2. The Central Elections Commission shall order the publication of the final results of elections within a 24-hours term since the respective documents from the Constitutional Court have been received.

Article 91. Invalid elections

The Central Elections Commission shall find the elections as invalid if they were attended by less than 1/2 of the persons registered in the electoral lists.

Article 92. Null elections

If the Constitutional Court finds that during the elections and/or during the counting of votes violations of this Code had occurred, which impacted the outcome of elections and attribution of mandates, the elections shall be declared null.

Article 93. Repeated ballot

1. If the elections have been declared invalid or null, the Central Elections Commission shall hold, within a 2-weeks term, repeated ballot based on the same electoral lists, for the same candidacies and with the same electoral councils and committees.

[Art. 94 paragraph (1) in redaction of the Law no. 796-XV from 25.01.02]

[Art. 94 paragraph (1) amended by the Law no. 894-XIV from 23.03.00]

2. Electoral competitors guilty of fraud of Electoral Code's provisions shall be excluded from the ballot papers, in base of a final court decision and the electoral councils and committees that have committed such frauds, shall be replaced.

[Art. 93 paragraph (2) amended by the Law no. 76-XVI from 10.04.08]

[Art. 93 paragraph (2) amended by the Law no. 248-XVI from 21.07.06]

[Art. 94 paragraph (2) inserted by the Law no. 894-XIV from 23.03.00, paragraph (2) become paragraph 3)]

3. New elections shall take place under the conditions exposed in this Code.

T i t l e I V

ELECTIONS OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA

[Title IV (Articles 95-117) excluded by the Law no. 1227-XIV from 21.09.2000]

Article 118. Scope of this title

The provisions of this title (Article 118 - Article 140) shall be applicable only to the elections of local councilors and councils.

[Art. 118 amended by the Law no. 31-XV from 13.02.03]

[Art. 118 phrase "mayors and" declared unconstitutional by the Constitutional Court Decision no. 13 from 14.03.02]

[Art. 118 amended by the Law no. 796-XV from 25.01.02]

Article 119. Local elections

1. The mayors of towns (cities), sectors, and counselors of rayon, city (municipal) councils, of sector and villages shall be elected by universal, equal, direct, secret and freely expressed suffrage for a 4-years mandate, which starts running effectively since the day of the local nation-wide elections.

[Art. 119 paragraph (1) amended by the Law no. 76-XVI from 10.04.08]

[Art. 119 paragraph (1) amended by the Law no. 248-XVI from 21.07.06]

[Art. 119 paragraph (1) amended by the Law no. 31-XV from 13.02.03]

[Art. 119 paragraph (1) amended by the Law no. 796-XV from 25.01.02]

2. The number of councilors shall be established in the Law on local public administration.

3. In the administrative-territorial units with special status, the local elections shall unfold according to the provisions of this Code and the acts issued by representative authorities of the respective administrative-territorial units.

Article 120. Electoral districts and polling stations. District electoral councils and electoral committees of the polling stations

1. To hold the local councils' elections, each rayon, administrative-territorial unit with special status, city (municipality), village (commune) shall constitute a single electoral district. The electoral districts of the city (municipality), village (commune) shall be constituted by the district electoral councils of the second level administrative-territorial units of the Republic of Moldova with at least 45 days before the day of elections.

[Art. 120 paragraph (1) amended by the Law no. 248-XVI from 21.07.06]

[Art. 120 paragraph (1) amended by the Law no. 31-XV from 13.02.03]

[Art. 120 paragraph (1) phrase "and of mayors" declared unconstitutional by the Constitutional Court Decision no. 13 from 14.03.02]

[Art. 120 paragraph (1) amended by the Law no. 796-XV from 25.01.02]

[Art. 120 paragraph (1) amended by the Law no. 268-XIV from 04.02.99]

2. The district electoral councils of the city (municipality), village (commune) shall be constituted by the district electoral councils of the second level administrative-territorial units of the Republic of Moldova with at least 40 days before the day of elections. Their constitution mode and duties shall be provided by Article 27 and Article 28, which shall be applied accordingly. If new or partial elections are held, the district electoral councils shall be constituted by the Central Elections Commission.

[Art. 120 paragraph (2) amended by the Law no. 248-XVI from 21.07.06]

[Art. 120 paragraph (2) amended by the Law no. 796-XV from 25.01.02]

[Art. 120 paragraph (2) inserted by the Law no. 268-XIV from 04.02.99, paragraph (2) become paragraph (3)]

3. The electoral districts for the local councils' elections shall be divided in polling stations, for which electoral committees shall be set up. The electoral committees of the polling stations shall be constituted and shall exercise their powers under the conditions set forth in Article 29 and Article 30, which shall be applied accordingly.

[Art. 120 paragraph (3) amended by the Law no. 31-XV from 13.02.03]

[Art. 120 paragraph (3) phrase "and of mayors" declared unconstitutional by the Constitutional Court Decision no.13 from 14.03.02]

[Art. 120 paragraph (3) amended by the Law no. 796-XV from 25.01.02]

Article 121. Special powers of the electoral council

In the localities where, for the holding of local elections a single polling station is set up, the district electoral council shall exercise also the powers of the electoral committee of the polling station.

Article 122. Fixing the date of elections

1. The date of the local nation-wide or anticipated elections shall be fixed by a Parliament decision, issued at least 60 days before the elections' day.

[Art. 122 paragraph (1) in redaction of the Law no. 796-XV from 25.01.02]

2. Central Elections Commission under the conditions provided by this Code shall fix new and partial elections and the date of the repeated ballot.

Article 123. Special limitations of the right to vote

1. The servicemen fulfilling the in-term military service may not attend the local elections.

2. Voters who do not live in the respective administrative-territorial unit shall not attend the local council's elections.

[Art. 123 paragraph (2) amended by the Law no. 31-XV from 13.02.03]

[Art. 123 amended by the Law no. 796-XV from 25.01.02]

Article 124. Special conditions in order to be elected

1. As councilors in the local councils may be elected the Republic of Moldova citizens who are qualified voters, who have reached (including in the elections' day) the age of 18 years.

[Art. 124 paragraph (1) amended by the Law no. 268-XIV from 04.02.99]

2. Have the right to be elected as a mayor the citizens of Republic of Moldova with right to vote who have reached (including in the elections day) the age of 25 years.

[Art. 124 paragraph (2) inserted by the Law no. 31-XV from 13.02.03]

[Art. 124 amended by the Law no. 796-XV from 25.01.02]

[Art. 124 paragraph (2) amended by the Law no. 268-XIV from 04.02.99]

Article 125. Nomination, submittal of candidacies and registration of candidates

Nomination, submittal of candidacies and registration of candidates shall be effected under the conditions of Chapter 6 (Article 41- Article 44) which shall be applied accordingly.

Article 126. Special conditions for the submission of candidacies by political parties, other social-political organizations and electoral blocs

1. The number of candidates registered on the lists shall contain at least 1/2 of the mandates provided for the respective electoral district and at most 5 subsidiary candidates.

[Art. 126 paragraph (1) amended by the Law no. 368-XVI from 23.12.05]

[Art. 126 paragraph (1) amended by the Law no. 31-XV from 13.02.03]

2. Parties and other social-political organization may propose only one candidate for position of mayor in each electoral district. One may not candidate in several electoral districts of the same level.

[Art. 126 paragraph (2) in redaction of the Law no. 31-XV from 13.02.03]

[Art. 126 paragraph (2) in redaction of the Law no. 796-XV from 25.01.02]

3. One may run for the position of councilor, both for the council of the first level administrative-territorial unit of the Republic of Moldova, and for the second level administrative-territorial unit. One may run for the position mayor and local counselor, but can not run for these positions in more then one electoral district of the same level.

[Art. 126 paragraph (3) amended by the Law no. 31-XV from 13.02.03]

[Art. 126 paragraph (3) amended by the Law no. 796-XV from 25.01.02]

[Art. 126 paragraph (3) amended by the Law no. 480-XIV from 02.07.99]

[Art. 126 paragraph (3) inserted by the Law no. 268-XIV from 04.02.99]

Article 127. Special conditions for the submission of candidacies by independent candidates

The citizen of the Republic of Moldova may submit his candidacy as independent candidate in order to be elected in the local council, if he is supported by at least 2 percent of the total number of voters from the respective district, divided to the number of mandates for the respective council, but not less than 50 persons and for position of mayor if he is supported by 5 percent of the number of electors from the electoral district but not less than 150 persons and no more than 10 000 persons.

[Art. 127 amended by the Law no. 31-XV from 13.02.03]

[Art. 127 provision "to be elected for the position of mayor - if he is supported by 5 percent of the number of electors from the electoral district but not less than 150 persons and no more than 10 000 persons" declared unconstitutional by the Constitutional Court Decision no. 13 from 14.03.02]

[Art. 127 amended by the Law no. 796-XV from 25.01.02]

Article 128. Electoral lists

Electoral lists for local elections shall be drawn up under the conditions of Chapter 5 (Article 39 and Article 40) which shall be applied accordingly. The modification of electoral lists shall be made under the conditions of chapter 80 which shall be applied accordingly.

[Art. 128 amended by the Law no. 76-XVI from 10.04.08]

Article 129. Electoral campaign

Electoral campaign for local elections shall be carried out in compliance with Chapter 7 (Article 45 - Article 47), which shall be applied accordingly.

Article 130. Ballot papers

Ballot papers shall be drawn up for the elections of the rayon, city (municipality), sector, village (commune) councils, under the conditions set forth by Chapter 8 (Article 48 and Article 49), which shall be applied accordingly.

[Art. 130 amended by the Law no. 248-XVI from 21.07.06]

[Art. 130 amended by the Law no. 31-XV from 13.02.03]

[Art. 130 phrase "and for election of mayors of city (municipality), villages (communes)" declared unconstitutional by the Constitutional Court Decision no. 13 from 14.03.02]

[Art. 130 amended by the Law no. 796-XV from 25.01.02]

Article 131. Ballot

Ballot at the local elections shall be performed under the conditions set forth by Chapter 9 (Article 50 - Article 55) which shall be applied accordingly.

Article 132. Votes' counting and elections results totalization

1. Votes' counting and local elections results totalization shall be performed in compliance with Chapter 10 (Article 56 - Article 60) which shall be applied accordingly.

2. In the protocols of the electoral councils and committees there shall be indicated the number of votes gained by each candidate running for the councilor's position, the name and surname of the elected councilors and the name of the political party, other social-political organization or electoral bloc that appointed them, or the mentioning "independent candidate".

[Art. 132 paragraph (2) amended by the Law no. 31-XV from 13.02.03]

[Art. 132 paragraph (2) phrases "of mayor" and "and mayors" declared unconstitutional by the Constitutional Court Decision no. 13 from 14.03.02]

[Art. 132 paragraph (2) amended by the Law no. 796-XV from 25.01.02]

Article 133. Attribution of the councilors' mandates

1. The councilors' mandates for the rayon, city (municipality), village (commune) councils shall be attributed by the respective district electoral councils.

[Art. 133 paragraph (1) amended by the Law no. 248-XVI from 21.07.06]

[Art. 133 paragraph (1) amended by the Law no. 842-XV from 14.02.02]

2. The attribution of councilors' mandates to the political parties, other social-political organizations, electoral bloc shall be effected by the successive division of the number of validly expressed votes for each political party, other social-political organization, electoral bloc to 1, 2, 3, 4... etc. till the figure corresponding to the number of mandates provided for the respective electoral district.

3. From the results of all divisions and from the number of validly expressed votes for independent candidates, there shall be taken in decreasing order as many numbers as many mandates are to be attributed in that electoral district. The political party, other social-political organization, electoral bloc shall be attributed as many mandates as many numbers in this decreasing row it has.

4. The independent candidate shall be declared elected if the number of validly expressed votes obtained by him fits in the decreasing row.

5. The candidates running for the councilor's position shall be attributed mandates in the order of their registration on the lists, beginning with the list for which most votes have been expressed.

6. If the last non-attributed mandate has several claimants with the same number of votes, the district electoral council shall attribute it by drawing of lots and shall draw up a protocol of this fact.

7. If a political party, other social-political organization or an electoral bloc obtains a number of mandates greater than the number of candidates included in the lists, the surplus of numbers from the decreasing row of the respective formation shall be eliminated and replaced with the numbers from the decreasing row of other electoral competitors.

8. If in the ballot papers for the councils' elections there had been included only independent candidates, the district electoral council shall draw up the list of candidates with the number of votes obtained by them in decreasing order, attributing to each from the list one mandate, until the number of mandates is exhausted.

9. The candidates that were included in the list but have not been elected shall be declared subsidiary candidates. If the councilor's mandate belonging to a political party, other social-political organization or an electoral bloc becomes vacant before the expiration of the term, this mandate shall be attributed to one of the subsidiary candidates of the respective formation, in the order of their registration in the list. In case when the list of subsidiary candidates of a party, other social-political organizations or another electoral block is finished, the mandate vacancy is completed by reestablishment of decreasing series, by excluding the respective electoral candidate and including in a decreasing number another candidate from the series.

[Art. 133 paragraph (9) amended by the Law no. 248-XVI from 21.07.06]

10. If the councilor's mandate gained by the independent candidate became vacant, the completion of vacancy shall be performed by the restoration of the decreasing row, excluding the number that belongs to that candidate and including the next number from the row.

11. If only independent candidates were included in the ballot paper, in case a vacant mandate appears, the subsidiary candidate shall get the councilor's mandate under the conditions set forth in paragraph (10).

12. The mandates shall be attributed to subsidiary candidates by the Central Elections Commission in compliance with the provisions of this article and based on the electoral documents that it has.

Article 134. The election of mayor

1. The mayor is considered elected when receives more than half valid votes from electors that took part to the elections.

2. In case when no one of candidate receive more than half valid votes during 2 weeks will have place the second round of suffrage with those 2 candidates that get most votes in the first one. They will be registered in the ballot papers in decreasing order of accumulated number of votes in the first round. If more candidates accumulated an equal number of votes, the district electoral council makes the lot, mentioning this fact in a protocol.

[Art. 134 paragraph (2) amended by the Law no. 76-XVI from 10.04.08]

3. At the second round of suffrage is considered elected that candidate who had received most votes. In case of parity will win the candidate that received most votes in the first round of suffrage.

[Art. 134 inserted by the Law no. 31-XV from 13.02.03]

[Exclusion of Art. 134 declared unconstitutional by the Constitutional Court Decision no. 13 from 14.03.02]

[Art. 134 excluded by the Law no. 796-XV from 25.01.02]

[Art.134 paragraph (3) amended by the Law no. 268-XIV from 04.02.99]

Article 135. Confirmation of the elections' lawfulness and validation of mandates

1. The district electoral councils of the first level administrative-territorial units shall submit the protocols on the elections' results to the respective sector or municipal courts, and the second level ones - to the courts from the district of the second level administrative-territorial units. The district electoral council of the Chisinau municipality shall submit these documents in the sector court from the district where the Chisinau municipality district electoral council is situated.

[Art. 135 paragraph (1) amended by the Law no. 796-XV from 25.01.02]

[Art. 135 paragraph (1) in redaction of the Law no. 403-XIV from 14.05.99]

2. The courts within a 10-days term after the reports have been received from the district electoral councils, shall confirm or infirm by judgment the lawfulness of elections from each electoral district and shall forward it within 24 hours after the judgment is adopted to the Central Elections Commission and respective district electoral councils which shall publish the final results of elections.

3. At the same time with the elections' lawfulness confirmation, the respective courts shall validate the mandates of elected councilors, which shall be recorded as well in the judgment. The person elected in the same time in functions provided by Article 7 of the Law regarding the statute of local electee shall present the court his agreement for validation of one of these functions. The courts shall confirm also the list of subsidiary candidates.

[Art. 135 paragraph (3) amended by the Law no. 31-XV from 13.02.03]

[Art. 135 paragraph (3) phrase "and mayors" declared unconstitutional by the Constitutional Court Decision no. 13 from 14.03.02]

[Art. 135 paragraph (3) amended by the Law no. 796-XV from 25.01.02]

4. The council shall be considered as lawfully created after the validation of mandates of at least 2/3 of the total number of councilors.

5. The district electoral council shall issue identification cards, the model of which shall be approved by the Central Elections Commission, to the elected councilors and mayors.

Article 136. Invalid elections

Elections shall be considered invalid in some districts if they were attended by less then 1/4 of the persons registered in the electoral lists. The decision of about invalid elections will be adopted by the Central Election Commission in base of documents present by the district electoral councils.

[Art. 136 amended by the Law no. 248-XVI from 21.07.06]

Article 137. Null elections

Elections shall be declared null if during the electoral operations violations of this Code had occurred, which impacted the outcome of elections and attribution of mandates. The Central Elections Commission based on the judgment delivered by the respective court shall take the decision on the declaration of elections as null.

Article 138. Repeated ballot

1. If in some districts or polling stations the elections were declared invalid or null, the Central Elections Commission shall hold, within a 2-weeks term, repeated ballot based on the same electoral lists, for the same candidacies and with the same electoral councils and committees.

[Art. 138 paragraph (1) amended by the Law no. 796-XV from 25.01.02]

2. Electoral competitors guilty of fraud of Electoral Code's provisions shall be excluded from the ballot papers in base of the final decision of court and the electoral councils and committees that have committed such frauds, shall be replaced.

[Art. 138 paragraph (2) amended by the Law no. 76-XVI from 10.04.08]

[Art. 138 paragraph (2) amended by the Law no. 248-XVI from 21.07.06]

3. Repeated ballot shall be organized according to the provisions of chapters 9 and 10 and is considered valid whatever the number of voters that took part to the elections.

[Art. 138 paragraph (3) in redaction of the Law no. 76-XVI from 10.04.08]

[Art. 138 paragraph (3) in redaction of the Law no. 248-XVI from 21.07.06]

[Art. 138 paragraph (3) inserted by the Law no. 268-XIV from 04.02.99]

Article 139. New elections

1. New elections shall take place if:

a) the council have resigned, have been dissolved or its composition reduced with more than 1/3 than the number established by the Law on local public administration;

[Art. 139 paragraph (1) exclusion of entry b) declared unconstitutional by the Constitutional Court Decision no. 13 from 14.03.02]

[Art. 139 paragraph (1) entry b) excluded by the Law no. 796-XV from 25.01.02]

b) if the mayor was revoked, dismissed or can not exercise his duties;

[Art. 139 paragraph (1) entry c) amended by the Law no. 796-XV from 25.01.02]

c) after repeated ballot, the council or the mayor was not elected;

[Art. 139 paragraph (1) entry d) excluded by the Law no. 76-XVI from 10.04.08]

[Art. 139 paragraph (1) entry c) phrase "and/or mayor" declared unconstitutional by the Constitutional Court Decision no. 13 from 14.03.02]

[Art. 139 paragraph (1) entry b) excluded by the Law no. 796-XV from 25.01.02]

e) administrative-territorial reform has occurred and in the newly-created administrative-territorial units it is necessary to elect the local public authorities (councils, mayors).

[Art. 139 paragraph (1) in redaction of the Law no. 31-XV from 13.02.03]

[Art. 139 paragraph (1) phrase "(councils, mayors)" declared unconstitutional by the Constitutional Court Decision no. 13 from 14.03.02]

[Art. 139 paragraph (1) entry f) amended by the Law no. 796-XV from 25.01.02, entries c)-f) become entries b)-d)]

[Art. 139 paragraph (1) entries e)-f) inserted by the Law no. 778-XIV from 03.02.00]

2. If the dismissal of position of mayor appear in the last year before the expiry of mandate the new elections are not organized.

[Art. 139 paragraph (2) inserted by the Law no. 248-XVI from 21.07.06, paragraphs (2-3) become paragraphs (3-4)]

3. The Central Elections Commission shall fix the date of new elections, with at least 60 days before the elections, at the proposals of local public administrative authority.

[Art. 139 paragraph (3) amended by the Law no. 248-XVI from 21.07.06]

[Art. 139 paragraph (2) amended by the Law no. 796-XV from 25.01.02]

4. New elections shall take place under the conditions exposed in this Code.

Article 140. Partial elections

1. If after the elections the necessary number of councilors has not been elected, the Central Elections Commission shall hold, within a 2-weeks term, partial elections in one or several districts.
2. In order to fill the vacant mandates, partial elections shall be carried out under the conditions provided in Titles I, II and V.
3. The date of the partial elections shall be established by the decision of the Central Elections Commission with at least 60 days before the elections' day.

Title VI REFERENDUM

Article 141. Scope of this title

The provisions of this title (Article 141 - Article 202) shall apply only to the organization and development of republican and local referendums.

Chapter 13 - REPUBLICAN REFERENDUM

Article 142. Republican referendum

1. The republican referendum shall develop for the purpose of exercising the people's power and its direct participation at the management and administration of the state affairs.
2. The republican referendum shall be held by universal, equal, direct, secret and freely expressed suffrage, in compliance with the Constitution and this Code's provisions.
[Art. 142 paragraph (3) abrogated by the Law no. 268-XIV from 04.02.99, paragraph (4) become paragraph (3)]
[Art. 142 paragraph (3) is declared unconstitutional by the Constitutional Court Decision no. 15 from 27.05.98]
3. The acts adopted by republican referendum shall have legal power after their confirmation by the Constitutional Court and shall be enforceable on the whole territory of the Republic of Moldova.
[Art. 142 paragraph (3) in redaction of the Law no. 268-XIV from 04.02.99]
[The phrasing "shall not require the confirmation" from Article 142 paragraph (4) is found unconstitutional by the Constitutional Court Decision no. 15 from 27.05.1998]

Article 143. Types of republican referendum

1. Depending on the legal aspect of the issue subjected to referendum, the republican referendums may be constitutional, legislative and advisory.
[Art. 143 paragraph (1) amended by the Law no. 796-XV from 25.01.02]
[Art. 143 paragraph (1) amended by the Law no. 1107-XIV from 30.06.00]
2. To constitutional referendum issues regarding the revision of Constitution shall be subjected.
[Art. 143 paragraph (2) in redaction of the Law no. 796-XV from 25.01.02]
[Art. 143 paragraph (2) in redaction of the Law no. 1107-XIV from 30.06.00]
3. To legislative referendum draft-laws or some legal provisions of major importance shall be subjected.
[Art. 143 paragraph (3) inserted by the Law no. 796-XV from 25.01.02, paragraph (3) become paragraph (4)]
[Art. 143 paragraph (3) excluded by the Law no. 1107-XIV from 30.06.00, paragraph (4) become paragraph (3)]

4. To advisory referendum issues of national importance, pursuing to ask the opinion of the people on such issues and further adoption, by competent public authorities, of some final decisions shall be subjected. The text of the question of advisory referendum must be neuter without the suggestion of the answer.

[Art. 143 paragraph (4) amended by the Law no. 248-XVI from 21.07.06]

Article 144. Initiation of the republican referendum

1. Republican referendum may be initiated by:

a) a number of at least 200 000 citizens of the Republic of Moldova who are qualified voters. In case of constitutional referendum the provisions of Article 141 paragraph (1) entry a) of the Constitution shall apply;

[Art. 144 paragraph (1) entry a) amended by the Law no. 1107-XIV from 30.06.00]

[Art. 144 paragraph (1) entry a) amended by the Law no. 268-XIV from 04.02.99]

b) a number of at least 1/3 of the parliamentary deputies;

c) the President of the Republic of Moldova;

d) the Government.

2. The subjects mentioned in paragraph (1) may initiate any type of referendum provided in Article 143.

3. If the referendum is initiated by the subjects provided in paragraph (1) entry a), subscription lists shall be attached to the proposal on the holding of the referendum.

4. The proposal on the holding of the referendum shall include the issues to be subjected to referendum, clearly expressed and excluding their ambiguous interpretation, as well as the purpose of its holding, the planned date of its unfolding. Issues that exclude each other may not be subjected to referendum.

[Art. 144 paragraph (4) amended by the Law no. 268-XIV from 04.02.99]

Article 145. Limitations on the unfolding of the republican referendum

1. The republican referendum shall not be carried out in case of declaration of an emergency situation, siege or war and before 120 days after the termination of these situations. If the date of the republican referendum was fixed for the day in which later on the emergency situation, siege or war was declared, it shall be repealed ex officio or postponed for another day, having due observance of the conditions enshrined in this Code. The authority that has issued the act of the referendum's declaration shall adopt the decision on the postponing of the republican referendum.

[Art. 145 paragraph (1) amended by the Law no. 1227-XIV from 21.09.00]

2. The republican referendum may not take place, also, 120 days before and 120 days after the day of the nation-wide parliamentary and local elections, as well as in the day of their unfolding or the day of another republican referendum.

[Art. 145 paragraph (2) amended by the Law no. 480-XIV from 02.07.99]

Article 146. Issues subjected to republican referendum

1. To republican referendum may be subjected the following issues:

a) adoption of the Constitution of the Republic of Moldova;

b) approval of the constitutional laws passed by the Parliament for the amendment of the provisions on the sovereign, independent and unitary character of the state, as well as on the permanent neutrality of the state;

c) other important issues of the society and the state.

[Art. 146 entry c) excluded by the Law no. 1227-XIV from 21.09.00, entry d) become entry c)]

2. Organization and unfolding of referendum regarding the issues pointed out in paragraph (1) entry b) shall be mandatory.

[Art. 146 amended by the Law no. 1107-XIV from 30.06.00]

Article 147. Issues that are not to be subjected to republican referendum

To republican referendum may not be subjected the following issues:

- a) regarding the taxes and budget;
- b) regarding the act of pardon and amnesty;
[Art. 147 entries a)-b) in redaction of the Law no. 1107-XIV from 30.06.00, entries a)-e) become entries c-g)]
- c) regarding extraordinary or emergency measures necessary to ensure the public order, health and security of the population;
- d) regarding the election, appointing, dismissal of persons to/from certain positions, which lie with the competence of the Parliament, the President and the Government of the Republic of Moldova;
- e) which fall under the competence of the prosecution authorities and courts.
[Art. 147 in redaction of the Law no. 796-XV from 25.01.02]

Article 148. Initiation of referendum for the revision of the Constitution

1. The initiation of referendum for the revision of the Constitution shall be carried out in compliance with the provisions of Article 141 of the Constitution.
2. The proposal to unfold the referendum for the revision of the Constitution shall be submitted to the Constitutional Court, which shall perform, in term of 10 days, the constitutionality review of the issues to be subjected to the referendum and shall give its notice on it.
3. After the Constitutional Court has performed the constitutionality review of the issues to be subjected to the referendum, the proposal to unfold the referendum together with the Constitutional Court's notice shall be submitted to the Parliament for consideration.
4. The revision of Constitution may not be subjected to referendum if it concerns the suppression of the citizens' rights and fundamental freedoms or their guarantees.
5. If the revision of the same constitutional provisions is initiated concomitantly by the Parliament and by the citizens, the consideration of the revision proposals in the Parliament shall cease.
[Art. 148 inserted by the Law no. 796-XV from 25.01.2.02]
[Art. 148 excluded by the Law no. 1107-XIV from 30.06.00]
[Art. 149 excluded by the Law no. 1227-XIV from 21.09.00]

Article 150. Decision or decree on the unfolding of the republican referendum

1. Within a 6-months term since the submission of the proposals to initiate the referendum, the Parliament shall adopt one of the following decisions:
[Art. 150 paragraph (1) amended by the Law no. 480-XIV from 02.07.99]
 - a) to declare the referendum, that shall unfold after at least 60 days from the adoption of this decision;
 - b) to reject the proposal to unfold the referendum, if it was submitted by the deputies;
[Art. 150 paragraph (1) entry b) amended by the Law no. 1107-XIV from 30.06.00]
 - c) to settle the problems planned to be subjected to the referendum without its further unfolding.
[Art. 150 paragraph (1) entries b), c) amended by the Law no. 796-XV from 25.01.02]
[Art. 150 paragraph (1) entry c) amended by the Law no. 1107-XIV from 30.06.00]
2. In the decision or decree to unfold the republican referendum there shall be indicated the date of referendum, the name of the draft-law or draft decision that is planned to be adopted, their text and/or the questions that will be subjected to referendum.
[Art. 150 paragraph (2) excluded by the Law no. 1107-XIV from 30.06.00, paragraph (3) become paragraph (2)]
[Art. 150 paragraph (2) inserted by the Law no. 480-XIV from 02.07.99, paragraph (2) become paragraph (3)]
[Art. 150 paragraph (3) abrogated by the Law no. 268-XIV from 04.02.99]

Article 151. Fixing the date of republican referendum

1. The date of the republican referendum shall be fixed by the Parliament in its decision if the referendum is initiated by a group of citizens or parliamentary deputies and by the President of the Republic of Moldova in a decree if the referendum is initiated by him and has an advisory character.

[Art.151 paragraph (1) amended by the Law no. 480-XIV from 02.07.99]

2. The date of referendum shall be fixed with at least 60 days before it takes place.

Article 152. Initiation of the republican referendum by a group of citizens

1. In order for the citizens to initiate a republican referendum, they shall set up an initiative group during their assembly that is to be attended by at least 300 persons who are qualified voters. With at least 10 days before the assembly, the initiators shall be bound to communicate in written to the local public administration authorities, on the territory of which the assembly will occur, the time, place and purpose of the assembly.

2. Before the assembly begins, all participants at the assembly shall be recorded and to this end a list shall be drawn up containing their name, surname and domicile.

3. At the assembly there shall be elected a chairman and a secretary. The agenda of the assembly shall include the discussion of the necessity to hold a republican referendum and the formulation of questions to be subjected to it.

4. If the proposal to hold the republican referendum is adopted with the majority of the participants' votes, an initiative group shall be appointed that will collect the signatures of the referendum's supporters. The initiative group shall include at least 100 persons who are qualified voters. The members of the initiative group shall elect from among them an executive committee, comprised of a chairman, a deputy chairman and a secretary, that will represent the group and manage its activity.

5. At the assembly, a protocol shall be drawn up, containing the results of the voting for the issues included on the agenda. The chairman and the secretary of the assembly shall sign the documents of the assembly: the list of participants, the protocol, the precise and correct wording of the questions planned to be subjected to republican referendum and the list of members of the initiative group with the indication of their identification information.

Article 153. Registration of the initiative group

1. The Central Elections Commission shall register the initiative group for the holding of the republican referendum. In order to be registered, the Commission shall be provided with the following documents:

[Art. 153 paragraph (1) amended by the Law no. 268-XIV from 04.02.99]

a) the papers of the citizens' assembly at which the initiative group was elected, authenticated by the mayoralty of the locality on the territory of which the assembly had taken place;

b) the statement of the initiative group's members on their consent to participate in the collection of signatures of the referendum's supporters;

c) the application concerning the registration of the initiative group.

2. The Central Elections Commission shall adopt within a 15-days term from the submission of the documents indicated in paragraph (1) a decision on the registration of the initiative group or on the refusal to do so. In its decision on the registration of the initiative group, there shall be indicated the term of collecting the signatures of the republican referendum's supporters, which may not be shorter than 2 months and longer than 3 months.

3. After the registration of the initiative group, its members shall be issued identification cards, the model of which is established by the Central Elections Commission.

4. The information on the registration of the initiative group and the issues planned to be subjected to republican referendum shall be brought to public knowledge by mass media means.

Article 154. Collection of signatures

1. As of the date the initiative group is registered, its members shall be entitled to collect freely the signatures of the republican referendum's supporters, on certain lists, hereinafter called subscription lists.
2. The collection of signatures shall be effected in compliance with Article 42, which shall be applied accordingly.

Article 155. Special conditions for subscription lists

Each sheet of paper from the subscription lists shall contain the question or questions planned to be subjected to republican referendum. It shall be prohibited to collect signatures on the lists that do not include the text of the question.

Article 156. Responsibility for the accuracy of the subscription lists' draw up

1. The signatures' collector shall sign each sheet of paper of the subscription lists, and shall make a short notice of confirmation of the fact that the signatures have been collected personally by him and that he has verified the identification information of the persons the name of which is on the list, based on the identification documents. Each sheet of paper shall be authenticated with the stamp of the respective local public authority.
2. The members of the initiative group have the obligation to warn each citizen on the fact that he may sign only one subscription list.
3. The subscription lists shall be considered null and void if they were filled in before the registration of the initiative group; if the signatures' collector does not sign them; if they were not authenticated with the stamp of the respective local public authority.

Article 157. Submission and verification of the subscription lists

1. Not any later than the last day of the signatures' collection, the initiative group shall draw up a protocol, indicating the date of the initiative group's registration, the number of the collected signatures, the date of the signatures' collection termination. The protocol, signed by the initiative group's members and the subscription lists shall be submitted to the Central Elections Commission.
2. Within a 15-days term since the submission of the subscription lists, the Central Elections Commission shall verify the authenticity of signatures (each of them or by choosing some of them) from the submitted lists. If in the subscription lists there are two or more signatures of the same person, they shall be excluded. After the verification of the subscription lists the Central Elections Commission shall take a decision on the initiation of referendum.
[Art. 157 paragraph (2) amended by the Law no. 31-XV from 13.02.03]
3. If the necessary number of signatures was not submitted, the Central Elections Commission shall take a decision on the refusal of the proposal to hold a republican referendum and shall annul the registration of the initiative group.
4. The protocol of the subscription lists' verification, the verified lists and the Central Elections Commission's decision on the initiation of referendum shall be transmitted, within a 3-days term, to the Permanent Bureau of the Parliament.

Article 158. Electoral districts, polling stations, electoral councils and committees

1. For purposes of management and unfolding of the republican referendum, the Central Elections Commission shall set up administrative electoral districts corresponding to second level administrative-territorial units of the Republic of Moldova and district electoral councils under the conditions set forth in Article 27, which shall be applied accordingly.
[Art. 158 paragraph (1) amended by the Law no. 796-XV from 25.01.02]
[Art. 158 paragraph (1) amended by the Law no. 268-XIV from 04.02.99]

2. The powers of the district electoral councils are expressed in Article 28, which shall be applied accordingly.
 3. Electoral districts shall be divided in polling stations, under the conditions set forth in Article 29, which shall be applied accordingly. For each polling station there shall be set up electoral committees of the polling station, which shall be constituted and shall fulfill its powers in compliance with Article 29 and Article 30, which shall be applied accordingly.
 4. The powers of the district electoral councils and of the electoral committees of the polling stations shall expire after the confirmation of the republican referendum's results by the Constitutional Court.
 5. If the electoral district represents a single locality and there is only one polling station, an electoral committee of the polling station shall not be set up there, the powers of which are to be fulfilled by the district electoral councils.
- [Art. 159 excluded by the Law no. 480-XIV from 02.07.99]

Article 160. Granting of support to the electoral councils and committees for the organization of the republican referendum, management of the activity, modification of the composition and dissolution

Granting of support for the management of the activity, modification of the composition and dissolution of the electoral councils and committees for the organization of the republican referendum shall be effected under the conditions provided by Article 31 - Article 34, which shall be applied accordingly.

Article 161. Lists of citizens entitled to participate in the republican referendum

The lists of citizens entitled to participate in the republican referendum (electoral lists) shall be drawn up under the conditions provided by Chapter 5 (Article 39 and Article 40), that shall be applied accordingly.

Article 162. Ballot papers

1. In the ballot paper there shall be printed the text of the issue or of the draft-law subjected to republican referendum. On the right of the text of the issue or of the draft-law, there shall be placed horizontally two quadrilaterals with the words "aye" or "nay", and beneath - two circles.
[Art. 162 paragraph (1) in redaction of the Law no. 480-XIV from 02.07.99]
2. If several issues are subjected to referendum, for each of them there shall be drawn up separate ballot papers. In case of several concomitant referendums, the ballot papers shall bear different colors.
[Art. 162 paragraph (2) amended by the Law no. 480-XIV from 02.07.99]
3. The ballot papers shall be drawn up in compliance with the Law on the functioning of spoken languages on the territory of the Republic of Moldova.
4. The number of printed ballot papers shall be equal to the number of persons included in the electoral lists.
[Art. 162 paragraph (4) amended by the Law no. 796-XV from 25.01.02]
5. The ballot papers containing the same question must have the same format, must be printed with the same fonts, on paper of the same color and density.
6. The model and text of the ballot papers and the model of the protocols of the electoral councils and committees for the organization of the republican referendum shall be approved by the Central Elections Commission.
[Art. 162 paragraph (6) amended by the Law no. 268-XIV from 04.02.99]
7. The ballot papers shall be distributed to the district electoral councils with 3 days and to the electoral committees of the polling stations - 1 day, before the date of the republican referendum.
[Art. 162 paragraph (7) amended by the Law no.796-XV from 25.01.02]

Article 163. Propaganda

Free discussions of all the aspects of the issues subjected to republican referendum shall take place in compliance with Article 47, which shall be applied accordingly.

Article 164. Ballot

1. Ballot at the republican referendum shall be performed under the conditions set forth by Chapter 9 (Article 50 - Article 55), which shall be applied accordingly.

2. The voter shall fill in the ballot paper by applying the stamp "Voted" in just one of the circles situated beneath the quadrilaterals in which the words "aye" or "nay" are inscribed, expressing in such a way his choice.

[Art. 164 paragraph (2) amended by the Law no. 796-XV from 25.01.02]

[Art. 164 paragraph (2) in redaction of the Law no. 480-XIV from 02.07.99]

Article 165. Supervision of the republican referendum and its reflection in mass media

The supervision of the republican referendum and the reflection in mass media of its management and unfolding shall take place in compliance with Chapter 11 (Article 63 and Article 64) that shall be applied accordingly.

Article 166. Votes' counting and totalization of the republican referendum's results

1. Votes' counting and totalization of the republican referendum's results shall be performed in compliance with Chapter 10 (Article 56 - Article 60), which shall be applied accordingly.

2. In the protocol of the totalization of the republican referendum's results there shall be indicated the number of votes "aye" and the number of votes "nay".

[Art. 166 paragraph (2) amended by the Law no. 480-XIV from 02.07.99]

3. The results of the republican referendum shall be considered by the Central Elections Commission that will take a decision on it.

Article 167. Confirmation of republican referendum's results

1. The decision of Central Elections Commission and the protocol on the referendum's results shall be transmitted to the Constitutional Court.

2. The Constitutional Court shall consider the documents transmitted by the Central Elections Commission and shall confirm or infirm by decision the results of the republican referendum, within a 10-days term.

Article 168. Adoption, publication and coming into force of the decision subjected to republican referendum

1. The decision shall be considered as adopted by republican referendum, if the majority of the citizens that attended the referendum voted for it. If the referendum concerns a constitutional law, it shall be considered as approved if it was voted by at least half of the total number of persons registered in the electoral lists.

[Art. 168 paragraph (1) amended by the Law no. 1107-XIV from 30.06.00]

2. The decision adopted by republican referendum shall be published in a special edition of the Official Monitor of the Republic of Moldova. The date of the decision's adoption shall be considered the day of the republican referendum. The decision shall come into force on the date of its publication in the Official Monitor or on the date indicated in it.

Article 169. Repealing or amendment of the decision taken by republican referendum

Repealing or amendment of the decision taken by republican referendum shall take place, also, by republican referendum or by using the procedures provided for revision of the Constitution.

Article 170. Documents of the republican referendum

The documents of the republican referendum shall be kept in compliance with the provisions of Article 62, which shall be applied accordingly.

Article 171. Invalid republican referendum

The Central Elections Commission shall declare as invalid the republican referendum if it was attended by less than 3/5 of the persons registered in the lists.

[Art. 171 amended by the Law no. 480-XIV from 02.07.99]

Article 172. Null republican referendum

The Constitutional Court shall declare null the republican referendum on the whole republic or in certain administrative-territorial units if during the voting or votes' counting severe violations of this Code had occurred, which impacted the outcome of the whole referendum.

Article 173. Repeated republican referendum

1. If the republican referendum was declared null, the Central Elections Commission shall hold, within a 1-month term, repeated referendum in the entire republic or in certain administrative-territorial units.

2. Electoral councils and committees guilty of frauds shall be replaced.

[Art. 173 paragraph (2) amended by the Law no. 248-XVI from 21.07.06]

3. Repeated republican referendum shall be organized and unfolded according to the provisions of this title and of this Code.

Article 174. New republican referendum

New republican referendum concerning the same issue may be carried out after the expiration of at least two years since the last republican referendum.

Chapter 14 - LOCAL REFERENDUM

Article 175. Local referendum

Local referendum is the consultation of citizens on issues of a special interest to the village (commune), sector, city (municipality), rayon, and administrative-territorial unit with a special status. Revocation of mayor of village (commune), sector, city (municipality) is made, also, by local referendum.

[Art. 175 amended by the Law no. 248-XVI from 21.07.06]

[Art. 175 amended by the Law no. 31-XV from 13.02.03]

[Art. 175 amended by the Law no. 796-XV from 25.01.02]

Article 176. Limitations on the organization of the local referendum

1. The local referendum shall not be carried out in case of declaration of an emergency situation, siege or war. If the date of the local referendum was fixed for the day in which later on the emergency situation, siege or war was declared, it shall be repealed ex officio or postponed for another day, having due observance of the conditions enshrined in this Code.

2. The local referendum may not take place, also, 120 day before and 120 days after the day of holding on the same territory of any kind of elections or referendum, unless it is organized on the same day.

3. The decision on the postponing of the local referendum shall be adopted by the Central Elections Commission at the proposal of the local council or of the representative authority of the administrative-territorial unit with a special status which has issued the act on the holding of the referendum.

[Art. 176 paragraph (3) in redaction of the Law no. 796-XV from 25.01.02]

4. The local referendum for revocation of the mayor may be initiate after expiry 1year from the entrance into this position or from the date of the previous local referendum for the revocation of the same mayor. The revocation of mayor can not be initiated in the last 6 months before the expiry of his mandate.

[Art. 176 paragraph (4) inserted by the Law no. 31-XV from 13.02.03]

[Art.176 paragraph (4) excluded by the Law no. 796-XV from 25.01.02]

Article 177. Issues subjected to local referendum

1. To local referendum there may be subjected issues of particular importance for the respective locality and which lie with the competence of the local public administration.

2. The revocation of mayor by referendum can be initiated in case when the last does not respect the interests of local community, does not exercise in an adequate way the attributions of local electee provided by Law, infringes moral and ethic norms, facts confirmed according to established method.

[Art. 177 paragraph (2) inserted by the Law no. 31-XV from 13.02.03]

[Art. 177 exclusion of paragraph (2) declared unconstitutional by the Constitutional Court Decision no. 13 from 14.03.02]

[Art. 177 paragraph (2) excluded by the Law no. 796-XV from 25.01.02]

Article 178. Issues that are not to be subjected to local referendum

To local referendum there may not be subjected the following issues:

a) regarding taxes and budget;

b) regarding extraordinary or emergency measures necessary to ensure the public order, health and security of the population;

c) regarding the election, appointing, dismissal and revocation of persons to/from certain positions, which lie with the competence of the Parliament, the President and the Government of the Republic of Moldova;

d) regarding the revocation of the mayor on base of law court final judgment;

[Art. 178 entry d) inserted by the Law no. 31-XV from 13.02.03, entries d)-e) become entries e)-f)]

e) which fall under the competence of the courts or prosecution authorities;

f) regarding the modification of the administrative-territorial subordination of the localities, save the cases provided by the Law on the special legal status of Gagauzia (Gagauz-Yeri).

[Art. 178 paragraph (2) excluded by the Law no. 796-XV from 25.01.2002]

[Art. 178 entry e) amended by the Law no. 480-XIV from 02.07.99]

[Art. 178 amended by the Law no. 268-XIV from 04.02.99]

Article 179. Fixing the date of local referendum

The date of the local referendum shall be fixed by the Central Elections Commission at the proposal of the council of the village (commune), city (municipality), rayon, administrative-territorial unit with a special status.

[Art.179 amended by Law nr.248-XVI from 21.07.06]

[Art.179 in redaction of Law nr.796-XV from 25.01.02]

Article 180. Initiation of the local referendum

The local referendum may be initiated:

a) by 1/2 of the elected councilors and in case of revocation of mayor by secret vote - by 2/3 of the elected councilors;

[Art. 180 entry a) amended by the Law no. 248-XVI from 21.07.06]

b) by the mayor of the village (commune), city (municipality) except the case when is initiated a referendum for mayor's revocation;

[Art. 180 entry b) amended by the Law no. 248-XVI from 21.07.06]

[Art. 180 entry b) amended by the Law no. 31-XV from 13.02.03]

[Art. 180 entry b) amended by the Law no. 796-XV from 25.01.02]

c) by the representative authority of the administrative-territorial unit with a special status;

d) by 10 percent of the citizens who are qualified voters, residing on the territory of the administrative-territorial unit.

Article 181. Registration of the initiative group

1. If the initiative to hold the local referendum belongs to the citizens, an initiative group shall be set up, made of at least 20 citizens who are qualified voters, residing on the territory of the administrative-territorial unit. The assembly held for the constitution of the initiative group shall be attended by at least 30 persons. At least 3 days before the assembly, the initiators shall be bound to communicate in written to the mayor the time, place and purpose of it.

[Art. 181 paragraph (1) amended by the Law no. 796-XV from 25.01.02]

2. The local public administration authorities shall register the initiative group for the holding of the local referendum within 5 days since the submission of the application for registration, protocol of the constitution and of the formulated questions. In case of local referendum initiation for mayor's revocation the initiative group is registered by district court (rayon) or municipal in whose jurisdiction is situated the respective locality.

[Art. 181 paragraph (2) amended by the Law no. 31-XV from 13.02.03]

[Art. 181 paragraph (2) amended by the Law no. 796-XV from 25.01.02]

[Art 181 paragraph (2) amended by the Law no. 1217-XIV from 31.07.00]

3. In the decision on the registration, there shall be indicated the term of collecting the signatures, which shall not be shorter than 30 and longer than 60 calendar days, as well as the questions planned to be subjected to local referendum.

4. After the registration of the initiative group, its members shall be issued identification cards, the model of which is established by the Central Elections Commission.

5. The information on the registration of the initiative shall be published in the local press.

Article 182. Collection of signatures

1. The right to collect the citizens' signatures for the supporting of the local referendum shall lie with the members of the initiative group, registered under the conditions of Article 181.

2. The collection of signatures shall be effected in compliance with Article 42, which shall be applied accordingly.

3. In order to carry out the local referendum, it shall be necessary to collect the signatures of at least 10 percent of the total number of citizens who are qualified voters, residing on the respective administrative-territorial unit.

Article 183. Special conditions for subscription lists

Each sheet of paper from the subscription lists shall contain the question or questions planned to be subjected to referendum. It shall be prohibited to collect signatures on the lists that do not include the text of the question.

Article 184. Responsibility for the accuracy of the subscription lists' draw up

1. The signatures' collector must sign each sheet of paper of the subscription lists, and shall make a short notice of confirmation of the fact that the signatures have been collected personally by him and that he has verified the identification information of the persons the name of which is on the list, based on the identification documents. Each sheet of paper shall be authenticated with the stamp of the respective local public authority.
2. The person collecting the signatures in the subscription lists has the obligation to warn each citizen on the fact that he may sign only one subscription list.
3. The subscription lists shall be considered null and void if they were filled in before the registration of the initiative group; if they are not signed by the signatures' collector; if they were not authenticated with the stamp of the respective local public authority.

Article 185. Submission and verification of the subscription lists

1. Authenticated subscription lists shall be submitted to the local council or the representative authority of the administrative-territorial unit with a special status. In case of local referendum initiation for mayor's revocation, the subscription lists shall be presented to district court (rayon) or municipal in the area where the respective locality is situated.
[Art. 185 paragraph (1) amended by the Law no. 31-XV from 13.02.03]
[Art. 185 paragraph (1) amended by the Law no. 796-XV from 25.01.02]
[Art. 185 paragraph (1) amended by the Law no. 1217-XIV from 31.07.00]
2. The submitted subscription lists shall be verified within a 15-days term. The signatures appearing twice or more times shall be excluded. If during the verification it is found that the necessary number of signatures was not collected, the procedure shall cease, and the registration of the initiative group shall be repealed.

Article 186. Adoption and publication of the decision on the holding of the local referendum

1. After the expiration of 15 days since the submission of the subscription lists or the adoption of the decision by the local council, of the representative authority of the administrative-territorial unit with a special status, the respective local council or the representative authority of the administrative-territorial unit with a special status shall adopt the decision on the holding of the local referendum or the refusal to hold it.
[Art. 186 paragraph (1) amended by the Law no. 31-XV from 13.02.03]
[Art. 186 paragraph (1) phrase "or mayor" declared unconstitutional by the Constitutional Court Decision no. 13 from 14.03.02]
[Art. 186 paragraph (1) amended by the Law no. 796-XV from 25.01.02]
2. The decision on the holding of the local referendum shall comprise:
 - a) the proposal on the date of the referendum, which may take place at least after one month, but not later than 45 days since the date of the decision's adoption;
[Art. 186 paragraph (2) entry a) amended by the Law no. 796-XV from 25.01.02]
 - b) the issues that are to be subjected to referendum;
[Art. 186 paragraph (2) entry c) excluded by the Law no. 796-XV from 25.01.02]
 - c) the reasons of mayor's dismiss in case of such a referendum.
[Art. 186 paragraph (2) entry c) inserted by the Law no. 31-XV from 13.02.03]
3. The issues that are to be subjected to local referendum shall be expressed clearly, excluding their ambiguous interpretation. To one referendum may not be subjected issues, which exclude one another.
4. The decision on the holding of the local referendum shall be published within 3 days since it was adopted.

Article 187. Electoral districts and polling stations

1. For purposes of holding the local referendum, electoral districts shall be set up, if the case, in the village (commune), city (municipality), rayon, administrative-territorial unit with a special status

[Art. 187 paragraph (1) amended by the Law no. 248-XVI from 21.07.06]

[Art. 187 paragraph (1) amended by the Law no. 842-XV from 14.02.02]

2. The electoral districts shall be constituted by the Central Elections Commission with at least 30 days before the day of the local referendum at the proposal of the local public administration authorities.

3. The respective district electoral councils shall constitute the polling stations with at least 20 days before the day of the local referendum, on the base of proposals presented by city hall.

[Art. 187 paragraph (3) amended by the Law no. 248-XVI from 21.07.06]

4. The polling stations shall be constituted according to the administrative-territorial principle, by the division of the locality in polling stations, with at least 30 and at most 3000 voters. The polling stations shall be numbered.

5. In the localities where for purposes of local referendum a single polling station is set up, the district electoral council shall fulfill also the powers of the electoral committee of the polling station.

Article 188. Constitution of the electoral councils and committees for the unfolding of the local referendum

1. District electoral councils for holding of the local referendum shall be constituted by the Central Elections Commission at the proposal of the local councils or of the representative authorities of the administrative-territorial unit with a special status, comprised of 5-11 members, with at least 25 days before the day of the local referendum. The modality of its organization and function is provided in Articles 27 and 28.

[Art. 188 paragraph (1) amended by the Law no. 248-XVI from 21.07.06]

[Art. 188 paragraph (1) amended by the Law no. 796-XV from 25.01.02]

2. For the holding of the local referendum, the district electoral councils shall set up electoral committees of the polling stations, at the proposal of the local public administration authorities, comprised of 5-11 members, with at least 20 days before the day of the local referendum. The modality of its organization and function is notified in Articles 29 and 30.

[Art. 188 paragraph (2) amended by the Law no. 248-XVI from 21.07.06]

[Art. 188 paragraph (2) amended by the Law no. 96-XV from 25.01.02]

3. To hold the local referendum, the chairmen of the electoral councils of the rayon, the electoral council of the Chisinau municipality and of the electoral councils of the administrative-territorial unit with a special status, shall be elected by the respective councils.

[Art. 188 paragraph (3) amended by the Law no. 248-XVI from 21.07.06]

[Art. 188 paragraph (3) in redaction of the Law no. 796-XV from 25.01.02]

4. Councilors from the local councils, members of the initiative group, members of political parties, other social-political organizations running in the elections may not be included within the composition of the electoral councils for the holding of the local referendum.

[Art. 188 paragraph (4) amended by the Law no. 796-XV from 25.01.02]

5. At the first meeting of the district electoral council of the second level administrative-territorial unit there shall be elected by the majority vote, for purposes of holding the local referendum, the deputy chairman and the secretary of the council, and at the first meeting of the district electoral council of the village (commune), city (municipality) and at the first meeting of the electoral committee of the polling station there shall be elected the chairman, deputy chairman and the secretary of the council.

[Art. 188 paragraph (5) amended by the Law no. 248-XVI from 21.07.06]

[Art. 188 paragraph (5) in redaction of the Law no. 796-XV from 25.01.02]

6. During two days since its constitution, the electoral councils and committees shall bring to public knowledge their composition and premises, the contacts.

7. The powers of the electoral councils and committees for the performance of the local referendum shall expire after the confirmation of its results.

Article 189. Cumulating of duties by the electoral councils and committees

If the local referendum is unfolding concomitantly with the (local, parliamentary) elections or the republican referendum, the electoral councils and committees in charge of the elections, constituted in compliance with Chapter 3, shall fulfill the duties of the electoral councils and committees in charge of the referendum.

[Art. 189 amended by the Law no. 1227-XVI from 21.09.00]

Article 190. Granting of support to the electoral councils and committees for the organization of the local referendum, management of the activity, modification of composition and dissolution

Granting of support, management of activity, modification of composition and dissolution of the electoral councils and committees for the organization of the local referendum shall be effected under the conditions provided by Article 31 - Article 34, which shall be applied accordingly.

Article 191. Duties of the electoral councils and committees in charge of the local referendum

The electoral councils and committees in charge of the local referendum shall fulfill the duties provided, respectively, in Article 28 and Article 30, which shall be applied accordingly.

Article 192. Lists of citizens entitled to participate in the local referendum

The lists of citizens entitled to participate in the local referendum (electoral lists) shall be drawn up under the conditions provided by Chapter 5 (Article 39 and Article 40), that shall be applied accordingly.

Article 193. Ballot papers

1. In the ballot paper there shall be printed the text of the issue subjected to local referendum. On the right of the text of the issue there shall be placed horizontally two quadrilaterals with the words "aye" and "nay", and beneath - two circles.

[Art. 193 paragraph (1) amended by the Law no. 480-XIV din 02.07.99]

2. If several issues are subjected to referendum, for each of them there shall be drawn up separate ballot papers. In case of several concomitant referendums, as well as in case of concomitant referendums and elections, the ballot papers shall bear different colors.

3. The ballot papers shall be drawn up in compliance with the Law on the functioning of spoken languages on the territory of the Republic of Moldova.

4. The number of printed ballot papers shall be equal to the number of persons included in the electoral lists.

[Art. 193 paragraph (4) amended by the Law no. 796-XV from 25.01.02]

5. The ballot papers containing the same question must have the same format, must be printed with the same fonts, on paper of the same color and density.

6. The model and text of the ballot papers and the model of the protocols of the electoral councils for the organization of the local referendum shall be approved by the Central Elections Commission and the text of the ballot papers - by the district electoral councils.

[Art. 193 paragraph (6) amended by the Law no. 248-XVI from 21.07.06]

7. The ballot papers shall be distributed to the electoral committees of the polling stations with 2 days before the date of the local referendum.

Article 194. Propaganda

Free discussions of all the aspects of the issues subjected to local referendum shall take place in compliance with Article 47, which shall be applied accordingly.

Article 195. Ballot

1. Ballot at the local referendum shall be performed under the conditions set forth by Chapter 9 (Article 50 - Article 55), which shall be applied accordingly.

2. The voter shall fill in the ballot paper by applying the stamp "Voted" in just one of the circles situated beneath the quadrilaterals in which the words "aye" or "nay" are inscribed, expressing in such a way his choice.

[Art. 195 paragraph (2) amended by the Law no. 796-XV from 25.01.02]

[Art. 195 paragraph (2) in redaction of the Law no. 480-XIV from 02.07.99]

Article 196. Votes' counting and totalization of the local referendum's results

1. Votes' counting and totalization of the local referendum's results shall be performed in compliance with Chapter 10 (Article 56 - Article 60), which shall be applied accordingly.

2. In the protocol of the totalization of the local referendum's results there shall be indicated the number of votes "aye" and the number of votes "nay".

[Art. 196 paragraph (2) amended by the Law no. 480-XIV from 02.07.99]

3. The results of the local referendum shall be considered by the district electoral council that will take a decision on it.

Article 197. Confirmation of local referendum's results

1. Within a 2-days term since the totalization of the local referendum's results, the district electoral council shall transmit to the respective district court the report on the referendum's performance, to which the protocol and all the contestations shall be attached, together with explanatory notes on their settlement. The council of the Chisinau municipality shall transmit these documents to the Court of Appeal of Chisinau.

[Art. 197 paragraph (1) amended by the Law no. 248-XVI from 21.07.06]

[Art. 197 paragraph (1) amended by the Law no. 191-XV from 08.05.03]

2. The court shall, within a 10-days term, confirm or infirm the lawfulness of the local referendum and its results.

3. Within 24-hours since the judgment of the court's judgment have been adopted, it shall be forwarded to the Central Elections Commission and district electoral council in charge of the referendum, that will publish the final results of the local referendum.

[Art. 197 paragraph (3) amended by the Law no. 268-XIV from 04.02.99]

Article 198. Adoption of decision by local referendum, its repealing or amendment

1. The decision shall be considered as adopted if the majority of the citizens who attended the referendum voted it. The date of the decision's adoption shall be considered the date of the local referendum.

2. In case in which the mayor is dismissed by referendum Central Elections Commission will appoint a new day of elections according to Title V (Articles 118 - 140), which is applied accordingly.

[Art. 198 paragraph (2) inserted by the Law no. 31-XV from 13.02.03, paragraph (2) become paragraph (3)]

[Art.198 par.(2) excluded by Law nr.796-XV from 25.01.02; par.(3) become parl.(2)]

3. The decision adopted by local referendum shall be repealed or amended, also, by local referendum or by the decision of the respective local council, adopted with the votes of 2/3 of the total number of councilors, according to the Law on local public administration.

Article 199. Invalid local referendum

The local referendum shall be considered as invalid if it was attended by less than half of the persons registered in the electoral lists. The decision of invalid local referendum is adopted by the Central Election Commission in base of documents presented by district electoral councils.
[Art. 199 amended by the Law no. 248-XVI from 21.07.06]

Article 200. Null local referendum

The court in the judicial district of which the local referendum has occurred shall declare it null on the whole respective district or in certain polling stations if during the voting or votes' counting severe violations of this Code had occurred, which impacted the outcome of the referendum.

Article 201. Repeated local referendum

If the local referendum has been declared null, the authorities that have taken the decision on the unfolding of the referendum shall hold, within a 2-weeks term, repeated referendum according to the provisions of this title and of this Code. Electoral councils and committees guilty of frauds shall be replaced.
[Art. 201 amended by the Law no. 248-XVI from 21.07.06]

Article 202. New local referendum

New local referendum concerning the same issue may be carried out after the expiration of at least one-year since the last referendum.

T i t l e V I I FINAL AND TRANSITORY PROVISIONS

Article 203. Coming into force

The present Code shall come into force on the date of its publication.
[Article 203 as amended by the Law no. 268-XIV from 04.02.1999]
[The phrasing "and shall be applied since the date of its adoption" from Article 203 is declared unconstitutional by the Constitutional Court Decision no. 15 from 27.05.1998]

Article 204. Transitory provisions

After the coming into force of this Code:

1. The Parliament shall adopt, within 10 days, a decision on the creation of the Central Elections Commission (permanent authority), under the conditions of Section 1 of Chapter 3 (Article 16 - Article 22).
2. The authorities provided in Article 16 paragraph (2) shall submit to the Parliament, within a 5-days term, the candidacies for the constitution of the Central Elections Commission.
3. The Government:
 - a) within a month term:
 - shall make proposals to the Parliament on the bringing of the legislation in compliance with this Code;
 - shall provide the Central Elections Commission with premises, financial means and technical-material facilities.
 - b) shall foresee in the draft law on the state budget for the year 1998 the necessary expenses for the activity of the Central Elections Commission and for the organization and holding of elections.

4. The parliamentary elections of the XIVth legislature shall take place on March 22, 1998, according to the decree of the President of the Republic of Moldova no. 371-II from November 18, 1997. All the terms related to the unfolding of the parliamentary elections of the XIVth legislature shall start running since the publication date of this Code.

5. The Central Elections Commission:

a) shall draft and adopt its Rules within 10 days after the constitution;

b) shall submit to the Government the draft estimate of expenses for its activity and for the organization of elections;

c) shall start, after the constitution, the exercise of its duties, provided in Article 22.

6. It shall be prohibited to set up and run electoral authorities no provided by this Code.

Article 205. Final provisions

At the date of the coming into force of this Code, there shall be abrogated: the Law no.1040-XII from May 26, 1992 on the referendum, the Law no. 1609-XII from October 14, 1993 on parliamentary elections, the Law no. 308-XIII from December 7, 1994 on local elections, the Law no. 833-XIII from May 16, 1996 on the elections for the position of the President of the Republic of Moldova, the Law no. 1133-XIII from April 2, 1997 on the revocation of the mayor of the village (commune), city.

PRESIDENT OF THE PARLIAMENT

Dumitru MOTPAN

Chisinau, November 21, 1997

No. 1381-XIII