



Strasbourg, 14 December 2010

Opinion no. 593/2010

CDL-EL(2010)034 Engl. only

# EUROPEAN COMMISSION FOR DEMOCRACY THROUGH LAW (VENICE COMMISSION)

# DRAFT ELECTION CODE OF THE VERKHOVNA RADA

**OF UKRAINE** 

#### **ELECTION CODE OF UKRAINE**

In accordance with the Constitution of Ukraine, this Code shall determine the guarantees of the citizens' right to participate by way of voting in the formation of representative government bodies of Ukraine, representative government body of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and representative bodies of local self-governance, and shall regulate the preparation and conduct of different types of elections.

#### **BOOK ONE GENERAL PART**

#### **CHAPTER I. GENERAL PRINCIPLES OF ELECTIONS**

#### **SECTION I. TYPES AND FORMS OF ELECTIONS**

#### Article 1. Elections as the Basis of a Representative Democracy

- 1. Elections in Ukraine shall be the main form of people's will expression and the way of direct exercise of power by the Ukrainian people.
- 2. The elections of the President of Ukraine, Members of Parliament of Ukraine, Members of Parliament of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, oblast, raion, village, settlement, city and city raion councils, village, settlement and city mayors are free and are held on the basis of universal, equal and direct suffrage by secret voting.

### Article 2. Legislation on Elections

- 1. The preparation and conduct of elections shall be governed by the Constitution of Ukraine, this Code, other laws of Ukraine, as well as other legislative acts adopted in accordance therewith and acts of the Central Election Commission.
- 2. This Code shall regulate the preparation and conduct of elections of the President of Ukraine, Members of Parliament of Ukraine, Members of Parliament of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, oblast, raion, village, settlement, city and city raion councils, village, settlement and city mayors as they are envisaged by the Constitution of Ukraine.

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

- 1. In accordance with the Constitution of Ukraine, the following types of elections shall be conducted in Ukraine:
  - 1) election of the President of Ukraine;
  - 2) election of the Members of Parliament of Ukraine;
  - 3) election of the Members of Parliament of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea;
- 4) election of deputies of village, settlement and city councils (hereinafter the "Territorial Community Council Elections");
- 5) election of village, settlement and city mayors (hereinafter the "Territorial Community Mayor Elections");
  - 6) election of raion council deputies;

- 7) election of oblast council deputies; and
- 8) election of deputies of city raion councils (in the city where there are respective raion councils).
- 2. The election of the President of Ukraine and election of the Members of Parliament of Ukraine shall be the nationwide elections.
- 3. The elections specified in clauses 3-8 of Part 1 of this Article shall be deemed local elections.

#### **Article 4. Forms of Elections**

- 1. The nationwide elections may be regular, extraordinary and repeated.
- 2. The local elections may be regular, extraordinary, interim, repeated or first.
- 3. The regular nationwide elections shall be held in connection with termination of powers of the President of Ukraine or Parliament of Ukraine. The term of such powers shall be established by the Constitution of Ukraine.
- 4. The regular local elections shall be all-round and shall be conducted in the whole territory of Ukraine.
- 5. The extraordinary elections shall be scheduled in connection with early termination of powers of an elected person or representative body. The extraordinary local elections may be also called due to other reasons envisaged by the Law of Ukraine "On Local Self-Government in Ukraine".
- 6. The repeated elections shall be conducted in the event the conducted elections have been recognized null and void or such as have not taken place.
- 7. The interim elections shall be conducted in the event of early termination of powers of a separate MP elected pursuant to the majority voting system.
  - 8. The first elections shall be conducted in the newly created administrative-territorial unit.
- 9. The local elections, in cases envisaged by Parts 5-8 of this Article, shall be conducted in separate administrative-territorial units.

### **Article 5. Subjects and Terms for Calling Elections**

- 1. Subjects of calling the regular and extraordinary elections shall be determined by the Constitution of Ukraine.
- 2. A subject of calling the repeated elections shall be an election commission that, in accordance with this Code, shall take charge of the preparation and conduct of the respective elections and establish their results (hereinafter the "Main Election Commission of the Respective Elections»). In separate cases envisaged by this Code, the subject of calling the repeated local elections shall be the Central Election Commission.
- 3. The first local elections shall be called by a body that made a decision on creation of the new administrative-territorial unit.
- 4. The terms of calling the elections of the President of Ukraine and Members of Parliament of Ukraine shall be specified by the Constitution of Ukraine and this Code.
- 5. The regular elections of Members of Parliament of the Autonomous of Crimea shall be called not later than one hundred days prior to the day of voting at such elections. Other local elections shall be called not later than ninety days prior to the day of voting at the respective elections.

#### **Article 6. Procedure for Calculating the Terms**

- 1. The terms as specified in this Code shall be calculated in calendar days.
- 2. In separate cases, as envisaged in this Code, the terms shall be calculated in years and month, as well as in hours and minutes.
- 3. The first day of the term calculated in days, which, in accordance with this Code, must start in connection with the occurrence of certain event, shall be a day following the day of occurrence of said event.
- 4. The last day of the term calculated in days, which, in accordance with this Code, must start in connection with the occurrence of certain event, shall be a day preceding the day of occurrence of said event.
- 5. The last day of the term calculated in years, which, in accordance with this Code, must start in connection with the occurrence of certain event, shall be a day coming on the respective date, when the event occurred, in the established number of years after the occurrence of the event.
- 6. The last day of the term calculated in months, which, in accordance with this Code, must start in connection with the occurrence of certain event, shall be a day coming on the respective date, when the event occurred, in the established numbers of months after the occurrence of the event.

### Article 7. Voting Day

- 1. The day of voting at the nationwide elections shall be specified pursuant to the Constitution of Ukraine and this Code.
- 2. The day of voting at the local elections shall be specified by a subject of calling the same pursuant to this Code.
  - 3. For certain types of elections this Code envisages the repeat voting day.
- 4. Sunday shall be the day of voting at elections, which procedure for preparation and conduct is governed by this Code.
- 5. The voting at the extraordinary, first, interim and repeated local elections may not be fixed for the day coming after the two hundred seventieth day prior to the voting at regular local elections.

#### Section II BASIC PRINCIPLES OF THE SUFFRAGE

Article 8. Electoral Rights of Ukrainian Citizens

- 1. Electoral rights of Ukrainian citizens shall be their rights to participate in the elections conducted in Ukraine, as guaranteed by the Constitution of Ukraine and this Code.
  - 2. The main electoral rights of Ukrainian citizens shall include:
  - 1) right to vote at the elections;
  - 2) right to be an election candidate; and
  - 3) right to participate in nominating the election candidates.
- 3. Ukrainian citizens shall also have other rights to participate in the election process, which are connected with their basic electoral rights.
- 4. The electoral rights of Ukrainian citizens shall be exercised in the scope and under the procedure envisaged by the Constitution of Ukraine and this Code.
- 5. Any direct or indirect privileges or restrictions related to the Ukrainian citizens' electoral rights and based on race, skin color, political, religious and other beliefs, sex, ethnic and social origin, property status, residence place, language or other features, shall be prohibited. The restrictions related to participation of Ukrainian citizens in the election process, except for those envisaged by the Constitution of Ukraine and this Code, shall not be allowed.
- 6. The electoral rights of Ukrainian citizens shall be protected by law. Citizens shall have the right to protect their electoral rights and other rights to participate in the election

process by way of appealing the breaches before the respective election commissions or litigating the same in a court manner. For breaching the electoral rights, the guilty persons shall bear responsibility in the procedure established by law.

# **Article 9. Suffrage (Franchise)**

- 1. Elections in Ukraine shall be general. The right to vote at the elections may be exercised by Ukrainian citizens who are eighteen years old on the day of voting.
- 2. A citizen, who is recognized by court as legally incapable, shall not have the right to vote.
  - 3. Ukrainian citizens, who have the right to vote, shall be the voters.
- 4. The reason for exercising by the voter of his/her right to vote at the elections shall be its inclusion to the voter list related to the respective election precinct in accordance with this Code and on the basis of data contained in the State Voter Register.
- 5. Each voter shall have the right to vote at the nationwide elections regardless of his/her place of residence or stay. A Ukrainian citizen, who is a voter living or staying out of Ukraine in the period of preparation and conduct of the nationwide elections, shall have the right to vote at such elections.
- 6. Each voter, who, in accordance with data of the State Voter Register, has the address in the territory of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, shall have the right to vote at the elections of Members of Parliament of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, expect for the case specified in Part 9 of this Article.
  - 7. The right to vote at other local elections shall be given to:
- 1) each voter related to the respective territorial community, all in terms of elections of deputies of village, settlement and city councils, and elections of village, settlement or city mayors.
- 2) each voter related to one of the territorial communities of the respective raion, all in terms of elections of raion council deputies;
- 3) each voter related to the territorial community of the oblast-level city or to one of the territorial communities of the respective raion, all in terms of elections of oblast council deputies;
- 4) each voter, who is related to the territorial community of the respective city and according to data of the State Voter Register has a voter address in the territory of the respective city raion, all in terms of elections of city raion council deputies (in cities divided into raions, where raion city councils are created).
- 8. The appurtenance of voter to the respective territorial community shall be determined by his/her voter address pursuant to data of the State Voter Register.
- 9. Military service conscripts and persons detained in penitentiary institutions shall not pertain to the respective territorial communities, regardless of their voter addresses, and shall not have the right to vote at local elections.

#### **Article 10. Documents Evidencing the Electoral Rights of Citizens**

- 1. A document evidencing the identity and Ukrainian citizenship of the voter and certifying its electoral rights, shall be:
  - 1) passport of the Ukrainian citizen;
- 2) temporary certificate of the Ukrainian citizen (for persons who were recently provided with the Ukrainian citizen status):
- 3) card (certificate) of the penitentiary institution that must contain: name, patronymic and surname, date of birth, citizenship, picture of the person, signature of director and seal of the institution (for persons who are detained in the penitentiary institutions);
  - 4) passport of the Ukrainian citizen for traveling abroad;
  - 5) diplomatic passport;
  - 6) service passport.

- 2. The documents specified in clauses 1 and 2 of Part 1 of this Article shall be a basis for obtaining a ballot paper and may be used at regular and special election precincts.
- 3. The document mentioned in clause 3 of Part 1 of this Article shall be a basis for obtaining a ballot paper and may be used at the special election precinct created in the respective penitentiary institution.
- 4. The documents mentioned in clauses 4 6 of Part 1 of this Article shall be a basis for obtaining a ballot and may be used at the out-of-country election precincts and special election precincts created on the ships sailing under the State Flag of Ukraine, as well as at the polar station of Ukraine.
- 5. The Ukrainian citizen passport may serve a ground for obtaining a ballot paper at the out-of-country election precincts created in the states, which the Ukrainian citizens are allowed visiting based on their Ukrainian citizen passport.

# Article 11. Citizen Rights to Participate in the Election Process, which Are Related to the Right to Vote

- 1. The voters, who have the right to vote at the respective elections, shall also have the right to:
- 1) be members of election commissions which arrange the preparation and conduct of the respective elections;
- 2) obtain and circulate the information related to the preparation and conduct of the respective elections, without spending their own funds;
  - 3) participate in the election campaign at the respective elections;
  - 4) supervise the conduct of the respective elections; and
- 5) litigate the breach of their own electoral rights, other rights and lawful interests in terms of participation in the election process of the respective elections.
- 2. The rights specified in Part 1 of this Article shall be exercised by the voters in the scope and in the procedure established by this Code.

#### Article 12. Right to be an Election Candidate

- 1. The Ukrainian citizens, who have the voter's status, shall have the right to qualify for electoral offices or for being elected to election bodies of state power, authorities of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and bodies of local self-governance, as candidates at the respective elections pursuant to requirements established by the Constitution of Ukraine and this Code.
- 2. A person, who has criminal records as a result of committing a deliberate offence, shall not have the right to be an election candidate if such records have not been discharged or cancelled in the procedure established by law.
- 3. The right to be an election candidate may not be restricted on the basis of place of residence in Ukraine.
- 4. The place of residence in Ukraine shall mean the residence in the territory within the state boarder of Ukraine. In accordance with this Code, the Ukrainian residency status shall be also given in connection with:
  - 1) stay on the ship sailing under the State Flag of Ukraine;
- 2) stay of Ukrainian citizens, in the established manner, in foreign diplomatic institutions of Ukraine as a result of their out-of-country assignment;
  - 3) stay at polar stations of Ukraine;
- 5) stay of Ukrainian citizens out of the country in military units of Ukraine in the procedure established by Ukrainian legislation.
- 5. Persons, who are living together with people specified in clause 2 of Part 4 of this Article as members of their families, shall be deemed Ukrainian residents, too.

- 6. One-time temporary (up to 60 days) stay of persons in the territory of foreign countries for official or private purposes shall not be deemed a residency out of Ukraine.
- 7. The respective elections candidates nominated and registered in the procedure established by this Code shall have the rights and guaranties of their activities within the election process, as it is envisaged by this Code for each type of elections.

# **Article 13. Right to Nominate the Election Candidates**

- 1. Ukrainian citizens, who have the right to vote, may nominate the elections candidates. The latter right shall be exercised by Ukrainian citizens through political parties and their organizations respectively set forth in Parts 3 and 4 of this Article, pursuant to the procedure established hereby.
- 2. The voters, who meet the requirements specified in Part 1 of Article 12 of this Code in terms of the respective elections, shall have the right to nominate themselves as candidates in terms of the respective elections (hereinafter "self-nomination"), in the event and in the procedure established herein.
- 3. In the event of the nationwide elections, the candidates may be nominated by a party registered in the procedure established by law not later than three hundred sixty five days prior to the election day, or by a party created by way of integration (merger) of parties, provided that all integrated parties were registered not later than three hundred sixty five days prior to the election day.
- 4. In the event of local elections, the candidates may be nominated by the respective political party chapter in the procedure established by law, provided that such party meets the requirements set by Part 3 of this Article.
- 5. Political parties, their chapters that nominated the candidates (hereinafter "subjects of candidate nomination), candidates who used the right of self-nomination at the elections, shall have the rights and guaranties of their activities in the election process, as established by this Code for each type of elections.

# Article 14. Equal Suffrage

- 1. Elections shall be conducted on the basis of an equal suffrage. Ukrainian citizens shall participate in elections on equal basis.
- 2. Each voter shall have one vote (at elections where this Code envisages the application of majoritarian election system of multiple mandate district, each voter has an equal number of votes in the respective district) at each elections where he/she has the right to take part. A voter may use his/her vote only at one election precinct where he/she is included to the voter list. A voter shall exercise its right to vote at elections in the procedure established herein.
- 3. The candidates nominated and registered in the procedure envisaged by this Code shall have equal rights in the election process, where they have been nominated, and shall take part in this process on conditions equal for the respective elections.
- 4. Parties (party's chapters), which got the status of a subject of election process in accordance with this Code, shall have the equal rights and possibilities to participate in the election process of nationwide (respective local) elections in the procedure and within the limits established hereby.
- 5. The equality of rights and possibilities of candidates and parties (party's chapters), who are subjects of the election process, in terms of participation in the election process of the respective elections, shall be provided and guaranteed:
- 1) by prohibition of candidates' privileges or restrictions based on race, skin color, political, religious and other beliefs, sex, ethnic and social origin, property status, residence place (except for restriction regarding the participation in the local elections as established by this Code), language or other features;

- 2) by prohibition of intervention of state authorities, authorities of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and bodies of self-governance, and their officials, with the election process, except for cases envisaged hereby;
- 3) by equal and unprejudiced attitude of state authorities, authorities of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, bodies of local self-governance, state and municipal enterprises, institutions, establishments, organizations and their officials towards the candidates and parties (party's chapters), which are subjects of the election process;
- 4) by prohibition of use (for financing the election campaign) of other funds, except for resources of the electoral fund of a party (candidate, party's chapter) and funds of the State Budget of Ukraine or respective local budget allocated for conducting the election campaign, all in the procedure and within the limits established by this Code; and
- 5) by equal and unprejudiced attitude of mass media towards the candidates, parties (party's chapters), which are subjects of the election process.

# **Article 15. Direct Suffrage**

The elections governed by this Code shall be direct. The voters shall elect the President of Ukraine, Members of Parliament of Ukraine, Members of Parliament of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, local councils, village, settlement and city mayors by way of voting for candidates (voter lists of candidates) registered in the procedure established by this Code. Results of elections shall be determined directly on the basis of the voting outcome.

#### **Article 16. Free Elections**

- 1. Elections in Ukraine shall be free. Ukrainian citizens shall be provided with conditions for free formation of their will and its free expression when voting. Control over content of the voter's will expression shall be prohibited.
- 2. Ukrainian citizens shall have the right to freely campaign for or against the candidates nominated for participation in the respective elections, parties (party's chapters), which are subjects of the respective election process, freely and comprehensively discuss the election programs of candidates and parties, and political, business and personal characters of candidates.
- 3. Violence, threats, cheat, bribery or any other actions interfering with the free formation and expression of the voter's will shall be prohibited.
- 4. Information agencies and mass media shall provide information about the election process and events connected with elections on the basis of parity, authenticity, fullness and accuracy of circulated data.
- 5. Servicemen (except for those of military commands (units) deployed out of Ukraine) shall vote at the regular election precincts located out of military commands (units).
- 6. In order to meet conditions of free will expression, the military service conscripts shall be provided with vacation for participating in voting at the election day. Such vacation shall be equal at least to four hours falling within the voting time prescribed by this Code. A commander may not attend the precinct at the time of conscripts' voting thereat.

# **Article 17. Voluntary Participation in the Elections**

Ukrainian citizens shall participate in the elections on a voluntary basis. Nobody may be forced to participate or not to participate in the voting at elections, as well as in nomination of candidates, election campaign or performance of other election-related procedures envisaged by this Code.

# **Article 18. Secret Voting**

- 1. The voting at elections in Ukraine shall be secret. The content of will expression of a particular voter may not be established or disclosed in any way.
- 2. Members of election commissions and other persons may not take any actions or disclose the data, which enable to establish the content of will expression of a particular voter.

# Article 19. Personal Voting

- 1. Each voter shall vote at elections personally. The voting in favor of other persons or transfer by a voter of the right to vote to any other person shall be prohibited.
- 2. If the voter, who as a result of physical defects can not fill in the ballot paper or put it down into the ballot box, is assisted in taking said actions based on his/her will expression in cases set out by this Code, such assistance shall not mean the voting in place of such voter.

Article 20. One-time Voting

- 1. Each voter, who has the right to vote at the respective elections, may exercise such right only on a one-time basis when conducting said elections.
- 2. If different elections are conducted at the same time, the voter may exercise its right to vote only at one precinct common for all elections conducted simultaneously.

# Article 21. Fair Elections Responsibility for Breaching Elections-Related Legislation

- 1. Compliance with basic election principles, exercise of electoral rights of citizens and appropriate performance of election procedures and techniques shall be guaranteed.
- 2. Persons guilty of breaching elections-related legislation shall be brought to criminal, administrative or other responsibility in the manner established by law.

#### Section III. ELECTION PROCESS

#### **Article 22. Election Process**

- 1. The election process is a performance by subjects, which are set out in Article 24 hereof, of procedures connected with preparation and conduct of the respective nationwide or local elections, as well as with determination and official announcement of their results.
- 2. The election process of nationwide elections shall be carried out in all territory of Ukraine and in the Out-of-country Election District. The election process of the respective local elections shall be carried out in the territory of Autonomous Republic of Crimea, village, settlement and city community, raion, oblast and city raion respectively.
- 3. The election process of regular nationwide elections shall start ninety days prior to the election day at the respective elections. The election process of extraordinary nationwide elections shall start from the day following the date of official publication of decision on their conduct.
- 4. The starting date of the election process of regular and extraordinary elections of Members of Parliament of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea shall be set out in Article 392 of this Code. The election process of other regular, extraordinary and first local elections shall start seventy days prior to the day of voting at the respective elections.
- 5. The election process shall be completed in fifteen days after the day of official announcement of elections results by the respective election commission.

- 6. The election process must include the following procedures:
- 1) drafting and specifying of voter lists;
- 2) creation of temporary election commissions and formation of their staff;
- 3) nomination and registration of candidates;
- 4) conduct of election campaign;
- 5) voting;
- 6) calculation of voters' votes and establishment of outcome of voting at the election precincts;
  - 7) establishment of results of elections and official announcement thereof; and
  - 8) termination of activities of temporary election commissions.
  - 7. The election process may include the following procedures:
  - 1) creation and specifying of boarders of territorial districts;
  - 2) specifying of boarders and creation of the election precincts;
  - 3) repeat voting; and
  - 4) calculation of the voters' votes and establishment of outcome of the repeat voting.
- 8. The election process shall include other electoral procedures envisaged by this Code.
- 9. Procedures set out in clause 8 of Part 6 and clauses 1 and 2 of Part 7 of this Article, in cases stipulated by this Code, may be performed out of the election process time limits as determined by Part 2 4 of this Article.

### **Article 23. Basic Principles of the Election Process**

The election process of each of the elections envisaged by this Code shall be performed based on the following principles:

- 1) compliance with citizens electoral rights set forth in the Constitution of Ukraine and Articles 8, 9, 11 13 of this Code;
- 2) compliance with basic principles of suffrage as stipulated in the Constitution of Ukraine and Articles 14 21 hereof;
  - 3) legality and prohibition of interference of any person with the election process;
  - 4) political pluralism and multi-party system;
- 5) publicity and openness of the election process, provision of appropriate information to voters and other subjects of the election process; and
- 6) freedom in elections campaign, equal access of all candidates and subjects of their nomination in terms of the respective elections to mass media regardless of their ownership form, except for mass media where political parties are founders.

# **Article 24. Subjects of the Election Process**

- 1. A subject of the election process of the respective elections shall be:
- 1) voter who has the right to vote at the elections pursuant to Article 9 of this Code;
- 2) election commission created in accordance with this Code, which is authorized to arrange the preparation and conduct of the respective elections;
- 3) party (party's chapter) that is a subject of candidate nomination in terms of the respective elections in cases envisaged by this Code;
- 4) candidate nominated or registered for the purpose of participating in the respective elections in the procedure established by this Code; and
- 5) official observer representing certain candidate or party (party's chapter), which is a subject of the respective election process, or representing certain public organization, registered in the procedure set out in this Code.
- 2. The election process of each of the elections mentioned in Article 4 of this Code shall have its own subjects.
- 3. Precinct election commissions are at the same time subjects of all election processes, in which organization and conduct they participate. Territorial election commissions may simultaneously be subjects of the election process of different local elections in cases determined by this Code.

# Article 25. Publicity and Openness of the Election Process

- 1. Each elections envisaged in this Code shall be prepared and conducted in public and in an open manner.
- 2. In order to provide public and open election process, the election commissions, which organize the preparation and conduct of the respective elections, shall:
- 1) inform citizens about their staff, location and working schedule, Territorial Election Districts and precincts, main rights of voters, including the right to litigate illegal decisions, acts or inactivity of elections commissions and their members, state authorities and bodies of self-governance, enterprises, establishments, institutions and organizations, their directors and other officials:
- 2) provide the possibility to acquaint the voters, other subjects of the respective election process with voter lists, data on candidates registered with regard to the respective elections, election programs of candidates or subjects of their nomination;
- 3) provide the voters with explanations regarding the voting procedure, including the procedure for filling in ballot papers;
- 4) announce in public the results of calculation of the voter's votes, outcome of voting and results of elections; and
  - 5) provide other information in cases and in the procedure envisaged herein.
- 3. Citizens shall be informed about elections-related decisions of election commissions and decisions of state authorities, authorities of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and bodies of local self-governance, through printed mass media in the procedure established by this Code or, if it is impossible, they shall be officially announced in the other manner.
- 4. Bodies maintaining the State Voter Register shall inform the voters about their including to the voter list at the respective election precinct, addresses of respective election precinct commissions, as well as about the time and place of voting.
- 5. Mass media must highlight the process of preparation and conduct of elections in an unbiased manner, ensure the compliance with requirements of the Constitution of Ukraine, this Code and other laws when conducting election campaigns.
- 6. Representatives of mass media shall have a guaranteed access to all public events related to elections. Representatives of mass media may access the meetings of election commissions and precincts on the voting day on terms and conditions set forth in clause 6 of Part 2 of Article 114 hereof.
- 7. Elections commissions, their members, bodies of executive power, authorities of the Autonomous Republic of Crimean, bodies of local self-governance and officials of these bodies must, within their powers, provide mass media with data on preparation and conduct of elections.
- 8. When conducting the nationwide elections, the foreign diplomatic institutions of Ukraine, at which out-of-country election precincts are created, must ensure the publication in local mass media accessible to Ukrainian citizens of data on the time and place of voting, location of the respective election commissions and voting premises, terms and procedure for applying to precinct election commissions, in particular with respect to inclusion of voters to voter lists at the out-of-country election precinct, as well as on the procedure for voting and filling in ballot papers.

### Section IV. TERRITORIAL ORGANIZATION OF ELECTIONS

# Article 26. System of Territorial Organization of Elections

- 1. The system of territorial organization of the nationwide elections shall consist of:
- 1) single nationwide election district;
- 2) Territorial Election Districts (including Out-of-country Election District); and
- 3) election precincts.
- 2. Additional elements of territorial organization of elections of Ukrainian MP shall be established by this Code.

- 3. Particulars of the system of territorial organization of each of local elections shall be set herein.
- 4. The system of territorial organization of each of local elections shall include the regular election precincts and special election precincts created in permanent medical institutions located in the territory of administrative-territorial unit where the respective local elections take place.

# **Article 27. Single Nationwide Election District**

- 1. The Single Nationwide Election District is a territorial unit where the nationwide elections are conducted and such elections outcome is established.
- 2. The Single Nationwide Election District shall include the whole territory of Ukraine and Out-of-country Election District.
  - 3. For the purposes of this Code, the territory of Ukraine shall include:
  - 1) area limited by the State Boarder of Ukraine;
  - 2) sea and river ships sailing under the State Flag of Ukraine; and
  - 3) Antarctic scientific and research polar stations of Ukraine.

#### **Article 28. Territorial Election District**

- 1. A Territorial Election District is an interim territorial election unit where the District Election Commission is created and where the results of voting within the respective framework are established. The Territorial Election District shall be created for effective organization of preparation and conduct of the nationwide elections.
- 2. The territory of Ukraine shall be divided to the Territorial Elections Districts in accordance with Article 30 of this Law.
- 3. The number of Territorial Election Districts within the territory of Ukraine shall be determined by the Central Election Commission and may not be less than 220 and may not exceed 240.
- 4. A Territorial Election District shall be designated by an area where there are elections precincts included therein. Each Territorial Election District shall have its respective number. The center of Territorial Election District in the territory of Ukraine shall be a location of the District Election Commission that is identified on the basis of address of its premises.

# **Article 29. Out-of-country Election District**

- 1. An Out-of-country Election District as a Territorial Election District shall consist of all out-of-country election precincts created pursuant to this Code. The Out-of-country Election District shall be a single one.
  - 2. The Out-of-country Election District shall not be assigned any number.

#### **Article 30. Creation of Territorial Election Districts**

- 1. The Territorial Election Districts within the territory of Ukraine shall be created by the Central Election Commission by way of determination of their territory (establishment of their boarders/limits).
- 2. The Territorial Election Districts shall be formed along with approximately equal number of permanent election precincts.
- 3. A Territorial Election District shall include one or several raions, cities of oblast level (republic level while in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea). More than one Territorial Election District may be created in the territory of Kyiv, Sevastopol and other big cities. A Territorial Election District may not be created from territories which have no joint boarders.

- 4. When making decision on creation of a Territorial Election District, another decision is to be made regarding the center of said Territorial Election District located at the place (address of premises) of the respective District Election Commission.
  - 5. No decision on creation of the Out-of-country Election District shall be made.

# Article 31. Change of Boarders of Territorial Election Districts

- 1. In the event of creation of new election precincts in the procedure stipulated by Article 40 hereof, the Central Election Committee may make a decision to change the boarders of two or more adjacent Territorial Election Districts in compliance with requirements of Part 3 of Article 30 of this Code.
- 2. The Central Election Commission may make a motivated decision on changing the center of a Territorial Election Districts located at the place (address of premises) of the respective District Election Commission.
- 3. A decision to change the boarders and centers of Territorial Election Districts may not be made after the election process of nationwide elections has been started.

# Article 32. Official Announcement of Information about the Territorial Election Districts

- 1. A decision of the Central Elections Commission on changes of boarders or centers of Territorial Election Districts shall be published in nationwide printed mass media, regional printed mass media of the respective region as determined by Part 2 of Article 133 of the Constitution of Ukraine, as well as announced through the official website of the Central Election Commission.
- 2. Not later that on the fifth day of the election process of the nationwide elections, the Central Election Commission shall publish in nationwide and regional printed mass media the list of election districts as of the day of starting of the election process with indication of their numbers, boarders and addresses of premises of the respective District Election Commissions.

#### **Article 33. Election Precinct**

An election precinct is a territorial election unit that consolidates certain number of voters based on the joint voting place and is designated for meeting conditions of the voters' recordkeeping, organization and conduct of voting at the elections, and calculation of the voter's votes.

#### **Article 34. Types of Election Precincts**

- 1. An election precinct may be regular, special or out-of-country.
- 2. A regular election precinct shall be a permanent body and used upon all elections conducted in the respective territory.
- 3. A special or out-of-country election precinct may be permanent or temporary (created for the period of conducting the respective elections), as it is envisaged by Articles 36 and 37 hereof.

### **Article 35. Regular Election Precinct**

- 1. A regular election precinct shall be designated for organization and conduct of voting at the election addresses of voters.
- 2. A regular election precinct shall be designated by its territory and its boarders. A regular election precinct shall have its respective number (within the respective Territorial Election District), address of voting premises and place of location (address of office premises) of the Precinct Election Commission.
- 3. A regular election precinct shall be created within one settlement or city raion. As an exception, all dwelling houses of another settlement, if the general number of voters thereof does not exceed 100 people, may join the election precinct, provided the voters are furnished with vehicles in order to get to the voting place.

# **Article 36. Special Election Precinct**

- 1. A special election precinct is designated for organization and conduct of voter's voting at places of their stay which are set out in Part 2 of this Article and which limit their relocation as a result of particular conditions or special regime of their stay with the respective establishment or institution. A special election precinct guarantees that the voters shall vote without breaching said conditions or regime.
- 2. The places of voters' stay, which limit their relocation and condition the necessity of creation of special election district, shall be:
  - 1) permanent medical institutions;
- 2) specialized recreation and rehabilitation institutions for people having diseases and traumas of locomotor system;
  - 3) penitentiary institutions as envisaged by the Criminal Procedure Code of Ukraine;
- 5) investigatory isolation ward and other, envisaged by the Criminal Procedure Code of Ukraine, facilities of detention of persons, who are subject to incarceration as a preventive measure:
  - 5) Antarctic scientific and research polar stations of Ukraine; and
- 6) river and sea ships sailing under the State Flag of Ukraine out of internal and territorial waters of Ukraine.
- 3. A special election commission shall be specified by the establishment, institution (or subdivision of such establishment or institution) or ship where it has been created (hereinafter "precinct area"). The area of a special election precinct shall not be included to the territory of a regular election precinct within which the respective establishment or institution (or subdivision of such establishment or institution) is located. The location of a special election precinct shall be a place (address) of location of the establishment, institution or their subdivision, or ship registration port. A special election precinct shall have its respective number (within the respective Territorial Election District).
- 4. A special election commission created at places of voters' stay as determined in clauses 1-5 of Part 2 of this Article, shall be permanent. Temporary special election precincts shall be created on the ships sailing under the State Flag of Ukraine.
- 5. Special election commissions created at places of citizens stay as set out in clauses 3-6 of Part 2 of this Article shall not be included to the system of territorial organization of local elections.

## **Article 37. Out-of-country Election Precinct**

- 1. The out-of-country election precinct is designated for organization and conduct of the voting process for voters residing or, at the day of voting at the nationwide elections, staying in the respective territory of certain foreign country.
- 2. The permanent out-of-country election precinct is also designated for organization of recordkeeping regarding the voters residing or staying for a long time in the territory of foreign country, where a significant number of Ukrainian citizens, who have the right to vote, is living.
- 3. The out-of-country election precinct shall not be included to the system of territorial organization of local elections.
- 4. The out-of-country election precinct shall be created at the foreign diplomatic establishment of Ukraine or military command (unit) deployed out of Ukraine.
- 5. A temporary out-of-country election precinct with voting premises located out of the institution may be created at the foreign diplomatic establishment of Ukraine for the period of conduct of nationwide elections in the procedure defined herein. A temporary out-of-country election precinct may be created only in the territory of the big city of foreign country, where at least one thousand citizens of Ukraine with the right to vote reside or stay, all according to data of the State Voter Register
- 6. A out-of-country election precinct shall be determined on the basis of territory of a consular district or it part, area of deployment of the military command (unit) of Ukraine (hereinafter "precinct area"). A out-of-country election precinct shall have its respective number (within the respective Out-of-country Election District), address of voting premises and place of location (address of office premises) of the Precinct Election Commission.
- 7. An out-of-country election precinct, which voting premises are located at the building of foreign diplomatic establishment of Ukraine abroad or at the place of deployment of military command (unit) of Ukraine abroad shall be a permanent election precinct.
- 8. In order to ensure the timely creation of temporary out-of-country election precincts, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine shall, at once after announcing about the beginning of the election process of nationwide elections, address the authorities of foreign countries with request to provide their consent for creation of election precincts with voting premises out of facilities of out-of-country election precincts of Ukraine.

#### Article 38. Size of Election Precinct

- 1. The size of election precinct, regardless of its type, shall be determined on the basis of an approximate number of voters related to such precinct. The number of voters at the respective election precinct may not exceed 2,500 people, except for the case set forth in Part 4 of this Article.
  - 2. According to their size, the election precincts shall be divided to:
  - 1) big with approximate number of voters from 1,500 to 2,500;
  - 2) medium with approximate number of voters from 500 to 1,500; and
  - 3) small with approximate number of voters from 50 to 500;
- 3. As an exception, the election precincts may be created with approximate number of voters up to 50 people, however such number should be at least 5.
- 4. An out-of-country election precinct may have the number of voters which exceed 2,500 people, if in the respective territory it is not possible to create one more out-of-country election precinct or extra number of votes may not be assigned to the other out-of-country election precinct.
- 5. An approximate number of voters at the regular or out-of-country election precinct shall be determined by the body of maintenance of the State Voter Register at the location of the respective precinct. An approximate number of voters at the special election precinct shall be determined by the body specified in Part 1, Article 41 of this Code.

## Article 39. Voting and Office Premises of the Precinct Election Commission

- 1. The election precinct shall have only one premise designed for voting.
- 2. The voting premises must have the following area:
- 1) for big election precinct at least 90 m2;
- 2) for medium election precinct at least 75 m2; and
- 3) for small election precinct at least 50 m2;
- 3. If the election precinct has no premises with respective area, the voting premises of the respective election precinct may have a lesser area, however it must be at least 50% of the size of area as established by this Code.
- 4. Voting premises of the special election precinct must be freely accessed by members of election commission, candidates, attorneys and authorized persons, official supervisors and representatives of mass media. Directors of establishments and institutions, where such precincts are created, must provide members of election precincts, voters, included to the list of the election precinct, candidates, attorneys and authorized persons, official supervisors and representative of mass media, with an unimpeded access to the voting premises.
- 5. Office premises of the Precinct Election Commission must be equipped with at least one phone line.
- 6. Voting premises and office premises of the Precinct Election Commission must meet the established requirements regarding sanitary and technical norms and must have the respective electric power supply.
- 7. Other requirements to the voting and office premises of the Precinct Election Commission shall be established by the Central Election Commission.

### Article 40. Procedure for Making Decisions with Regard to Election Precincts

- 1. The Central Election Commission shall, not later than at the tenth day after receiving submission of a body specified in Article 41 of this Code, make a decision about:
- 1) creation, liquidation, change of territory, change of address of voting premises, change of place of location (address of office premises) of the Precinct Election Commission of regular or special election precinct;
- 2) rejection of submission in the event of absence of its appropriate substantiation in accordance with requirements envisaged by Articles 41-46 of this Code or if the Commission makes a conclusion on inexpediency of creation, liquidation, change of territory, change of address of voting premises, change of place of location (address of office premises) of the Precinct Election Commission of regular or special election precinct.
- 2. Submission with respect to creation of a permanent election precinct shall be left without consideration per se if it was received by the Central Election Commission after the election process has started. Submission with respect to creation of a temporary (for the period of election process) special or out-of-country election precinct shall be left without consideration per se if it was received by the Central Election Commission at least 50 days prior to the day of voting at the respective elections.
- 3. The decision envisaged by Parts 1 and 2 of this Article shall be made in the form of resolution of the Central Election Commission. One resolution may contain decisions regarding the optional number of election precincts.
- 4. When creating the election precinct, the latter is assigned its respective number within the territorial or Out-of-country Election District.

## Article 41. Bodies Authorized to Make Submissions Regarding Election Precincts

- 1. A submission to the Central Election Commission with respect to creation, liquidation, change of territory, change of address of voting premises, change of place of location (address of office premises) of the Precinct Election Commission of regular or special election precinct shall be made respectively by an executive committee of city council (city of oblast or, in case of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, republic levels), raion, Kyiv and Sevastopol city state administration. The submission shall be certified by seal of the respective body.
- 2. The submission to the Central Election Commission with respect to creation, liquidation, change of territory, change of address of voting premises, change of place of location (address of office premises) of out-of-country election precinct shall be made by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine. The submission shall be certified by the Ministry's seal.

# Article 42. Content of Submission Regarding the Creation of Regular Election Precinct

- 1. A submission regarding the creation of new regular election precinct as specified in Part 1 of Article 41 of this Code must contain:
- 1) grounds for creating the election precinct (first submission in connection with entry into force of this Code, creation of the new settlement, new microdistrict or complex of dwelling buildings in the city; significant increase of the number of voters at the existing regular election precinct):
- 2) proposal regarding the territory (settlement, list of streets and list of dwelling houses; other features, which allow to identify the territory) of the election precinct to be created;
- 3) proposals regarding the change of territories of adjacent election precincts (if needed) in connection with creation of the election precinct proposed in the submission;
- 4) approximate number of voters at the newly created election precinct and (if needed) change of approximate number of voters at the adjacent election precincts;
- 5) place of location (address) and description (type of premises, area, floor, availability) of the premises proposed to be used for voting at the election precinct; and
- 6) place of location (address) of the premises proposed to be used as an office of the Precinct Election Commission for the time of its operation.
- 2. If the submission proposes to join all dwelling houses of the other settlement to the regular election precinct created in the settlement, the body making such submission states therein that the voters will be provided with vehicles in order to get to the voting place.

# Article 43. Content of Submission Regarding the Creation of Special Election Precinct

- 1. A submission regarding the creation of a permanent special election precinct as specified in Part 1 of Article 41 of this Code must contain:
- 1) grounds for creating the election precinct (first submission in connection with entry into force of this Code, creation of the new establishment or institution as indicated in Part 2 of Article 36 of this Code, or their subdivision, occurrence of circumstances related to reorganization of the establishment or institution, change of regime of the establishment (institution) or conditions of the voters' stay thereat);
- 2) proposals regarding the territory (establishment, institution, branch or other subdivision of establishment or institution, polar station; other features which allow to identify the territory) of the newly created election precinct;
- 3) proposals regarding the change of territories of adjacent election precincts (if needed) in connection with creation of the election precinct proposed in the submission;

- 4) approximate number of voters at the newly created election precinct and (if needed) change of approximate number of voters at the adjacent election precincts;
- 5) place of location (address) and description (type of premises, area, floor, availability) of the premises proposed to be used for voting at the election precinct;
- 6) place of location (address) of the premises proposed to be used as an office of the Precinct Election Commission for the time of its operation; and
- 7) obligations of the management of establishment or institution regarding the provision of members of the respective election commission and persons, who have the right to be present upon voting and calculation of votes in accordance with this Code, with unimpeded access to the voting premises.
- 2. The submission regarding the creation of a temporary special election precinct on the ship sailing under the State Flag of Ukraine must contain:
  - 1) name of the ship;
  - 2) ship registration port;
  - 3) approximate number of voters on the ship;
- 4) last, before the day of voting at the respective nationwide elections, day of departure of ship from the registration port; and
- 5) approximate time of arrival of the ship at the Ukrainian port nearest to the day of voting at the respective nationwide elections.

# Article 44. Content of Submission Regarding the Creation of Out-of-Country Election Precinct

A submission regarding the creation of an out-of-country election precinct as specified in Part 1 of Article 41 of this Code must contain:

- 1) name of foreign country where the out-of-country election precinct is created;
- 2) name and address of the foreign diplomatic institution of Ukraine, at which the election precinct is created, name and address of military command (unit) deployed out of Ukraine;
- 3) grounds for creating the election precinct (first submission in connection with entry into force of this Code, creation of the new foreign diplomatic establishment of Ukraine, change of boarders of a consular district, obtaining of a permit of the foreign country to open an election precinct in the premises out of the building of said foreign diplomatic establishment of Ukraine;
  - 4) proposals regarding the territory of election precinct to be created;
- 5) proposals regarding the change of territories of adjacent election precincts (if needed) in connection with creation of the election precinct proposed in the submission;
- 6) approximate number of voters at the newly created election precinct and (if needed) change of approximate number of voters at the adjacent election precincts;
- 7) availability (if needed) of the written consent of competent authorities of the country of stay regarding the creation of out-of-country election precinct, including along with premises designated for voting and located out of the building of foreign diplomatic establishment of Ukraine;
- 8) place of location (address) and description (type of premises, area, floor, availability) of the premises proposed to be used for voting at the election precinct;
- 9) place of location (address) of the premises proposed to be used as an office of the Precinct Election Commission for the time of its operation.

# Article 45. Procedure for Liquidation of the Election Precinct

- 1. The respective body mentioned in Part 1 of Article 15 of this Law may make a submission to the Central Election Commission regarding the liquidation of permanent election precinct due to the following reasons:
- 1) significant decrease of approximate number of voters at the permanent regular election precinct;

- 2) liquidation (closing) of establishment or institution or their subdivision, polar station where the permanent special election precinct is created:
  - 3) significant decrease of approximate number of voters in the respective foreign country;
  - 4) redeployment of a military command (unit) deployed out of Ukraine; and
  - 5) closing of the foreign diplomatic establishment of Ukraine.
  - 2. The submission indicated in Part 1 of this Article must contain:
- 1) grounds of liquidation of a regular election precinct (approximate number of voters with indication of real possibility to include such voters to the other election precinct);
- 2) proposals regarding the change of territories of adjacent election precincts in connection with liquidation of election precinct;
- 3) approximate number of voters at election precincts where the voters of a liquidated election precinct are included.
- 3. The single in settlement regular election precinct may be liquidated as an exception and only upon decrease of voters' number to 100 people and less, provided that the settlement voters are provided with vehicles in order to get to the voting premises of a regular election precinct, to which territory it is proposed to assign the settlement.
- 4. A permanent special election precinct operating at the establishment or institution mentioned in clauses 1-5 of Part 2 of Article 36 of this Code shall be liquidated upon decrease of the approximate number of voters of said precinct to 4 and less.
- 5. Temporary election precincts shall be deemed liquidated from the day of completion of the respective election process.

# Article 46. Procedure for Change of Address of Voting Premises of the Election Precinct and Change of Location of the Precinct Election Commission

- 1. The respective body specified in Part 1 of Article 41 of this Code may address the Central Election Commission and make a submission to the latter in terms of changing the voting premises or place of location (address of office premises) of certain Precinct Election Commission operating at the respective election precinct.
- 2. The Central Election Commission may, on the basis of its decision authorize the body mentioned in Part 1 of Article 41 of this Code, consider the possibility to change the voting premises or place of location (address of office premises) of certain Precinct Election Commission operating at the respective election precinct, and make the respective submission to the Central Election Commission, if the available premises do not comply with requirements to such premises as established by this Code and acts of the Central Election Commission.
- 3. The respective body must consider the instruction of the Central Election Commission set forth in Part 2 of this Article and make the respective submission not later than on the thirtieth day of the date of taking a decision by the Central Election Commission.
- 4. If the Central Election Commission did not obtain the respective submission within the term set out in Part 3 of this Article, it shall litigate the inactivity of the respective body in the procedure established by the Administrative Procedure Code of Ukraine.
- 5. The Central Election Commission shall make a decision regarding the voting premises or place of location (address of office premises) of the Precinct Election Commission operating at the respective election precinct, all in the procedure and in terms specified in Article 40 of this Code.
- 6. As an exception, the Central Election Commission may consider the issue mentioned in Part 1 of this Article after the election process has started, however it should not be later than fifty days prior to the date of voting at the respective elections.
- 7. The number of certain election precinct within the respective Territorial Election District may be changed only as an exception on the basis of the Central Election Commission.

#### Article 47. Official Announcement of Information about Election Precincts

- 1. A decision of the Central Elections Commission on creation, liquidation, change of territory, change of address of the voting premises, changes of address of office premises of the Precinct Election Commission of election precincts shall be published in nationwide printed mass media, regional printed mass media of the respective region as determined by Part 2 of Article 133 of the Constitution of Ukraine, as well as announced through the official website of the Central Election Commission.
- 2. Not later than 40 days prior to the day of voting at the nationwide elections or regular local elections, the Central Election Commission shall publish, in regional and local printed mass media of the respective region, the full list of permanent and temporary election precincts of each of Territorial Election District located within the region, which are used at the respective elections, with indication of their numbers, territories, approximate number of voters, addresses of voting premises, place of location (address of office premises) of the respective Precinct Election Commissions.
- 3. The information envisaged in Part 2 of this Article in terms of out-of-country election precincts shall be published in nationwide printed mass media in the same terms. The respective foreign diplomatic institution of Ukraine in the country, where the out-of-country election precinct is created, shall publish the notice on creation of out-of-country election precinct, with indication of its number, territory, approximate number of voters, address of voting premises, place of location (address of office premises) of the Precinct Election Commission, in printed mass media accessible by Ukrainian citizens residing or staying in the respective territory or, if it is impossible, shall officially announce about such notice in the other manner and within the term set out in Part 2 of this Article.

#### CHAPTER II. ELECTION PROCESS ADMINISTRATION BODIES

#### **Section V. Election Commissions**

### **Article 48. Election Commissions**

- 1. Election commissions as provided by this Code shall be established and shall operate in Ukraine as independent election process administration bodies which pursuant to their powers shall ensure implementation of the basic principles of suffrage and election process foundations determined by the Constitution of Ukraine and this Code, exercise of electoral rights of Ukrainian citizens, preparation and conduct of elections.
  - 2. Election commissions include:
  - 1) The Central Election Commission:
  - 2) District Election Commissions on nationwide elections;
  - 3) Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea;
  - 4) Territorial Election Commissions on local elections;
  - 5) Precinct Election Commissions.
- 3. Election commissions shall act on the basis of, and within such powers and in such manner as determined by, the Constitution of Ukraine, this Code, and other laws of Ukraine.
- 4. No one shall have the right to interfere with the activities of election commissions, in particular with the resolution of any matters within their powers, except for the cases envisaged by the law.

# Article 49. The System of Election Commissions on Nationwide Elections

- 1. The system of election commissions that organize preparation and conduct of nationwide elections includes:
  - 1) The Central Election Commission;
  - 2) District Election Commissions:
  - 3) Precinct Election Commissions.

- 2. The powers of election commissions with respect to administration of nationwide elections shall cover the following:
- 1) The Central Election Commission: the whole territory of Ukraine and out-of-country election district:
  - 2) a District Election Commission: the respective territorial district;
  - 3) an Election Precinct Commission: the respective election precinct.
- 3. The powers of the District Election Commission of an Out-of-country Election District shall be exercised by the Central Election Commission.
- 4. The system of election commissions that organize preparation and conduct of nationwide elections shall be headed by the Central Election Commission which shall constitute the highest level commission with respect to all district and election precinct commissions regarding such elections.

#### **Article 50. Election Commissions on Local Elections**

- 1. The election commissions that administer preparation and conduct of local elections include:
  - 1) The Central Election Commission;
  - 2) Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea;
  - 3) Oblast Election Commissions:
  - 4) Raion Election Commissions:
  - 5) City Election Commissions;
  - 6) City Raion Election Commissions (in the cities where city raion councils are elected);
  - 7) Settlement Election Commissions;
  - 8) Village Election Commissions;
  - 9) Election Precinct Commissions on local elections.
- 2. The election commissions specified in clauses 3-8 of part one of this Article shall be territorial election commissions on local elections.
- 3. The powers of election commissions with respect to administration of local elections shall cover the following:
- 1) The Central Election Commission: the whole territory of Ukraine with respect to all local elections;
- 2) Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea: the territory of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea with respect of elections of the Members of Parliament of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea;
- 3) Territorial Election Commission: the territory of the respective administrative-territorial unit or territorial community regarding the respective local elections;
- 4) Election Precinct Commission: the respective election precinct regarding all local elections where voting is held simultaneously at this election precinct.
- 4. No district election commissions shall be established at local elections. In the events stipulated by this Code, Raion, City (in the regional or republican (in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea) centers), and City Raion Election Commissions shall exercise powers and authorities of District Election Commissions in the relevant (single-mandate, multiple mandate) election district with respect to the organization of preparation and conduct of elections of deputies of an oblast council, or a city council respectively, or city mayors (cities with raion structure) conducted in the relevant territory.
- 5. The Central Election Commission (hereinafter the "Commission") is a commission of a higher level with respect to all territorial and precinct election commissions on local elections. The Commission shall generally manage and control the activities of election commissions on local elections and their consulting and methodological support.
- 6. The Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea is the main election commission in the election of Members of Parliament of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea. The system of election commissions that organize preparation and conduct of such elections shall be headed by the above commission which shall constitute the higher level commission with respect to all indicated election commissions regarding such elections.

7. The Territorial Election Commission is the main election commission on the relevant local elections. The system of election commissions that organize preparation and conduct of such elections shall be headed by the above commission which shall constitute the higher level commission with respect to all indicated election commissions regarding such elections.

#### Article 51. Status of the Central Election Commission

- 1. The Central Election Commission shall be a permanent collegial state body acting on the basis of the Constitution of Ukraine, this Code, and other laws of Ukraine authorized to organize preparation and conduct of nationwide and local elections, all-Ukrainian and local referendums in accordance with the procedure and to the extent provided by this Code and other laws of Ukraine.
- 2. The Commission, pursuant to its powers and authorities, shall ensure compliance with the basic principles of suffrage and fundamentals of the election process and referendum process stipulated by the Constitution of Ukraine and this Code, exercise of electoral rights of Ukrainian citizens and the right to take part in the referendum, uniform application of the laws of Ukraine on elections and referendums throughout the whole territory of Ukraine.
  - 3. The Commission shall be a legal entity with a seal bearing its name.
- 4. The Commission operates on a regular basis. A member of the Commission shall be a civil servant.
- 5. Formation procedure, composition, powers and authorities, and organization of activities of the Commission shall be determined by the Constitution of Ukraine, this Code, and other laws of Ukraine.

# **Article 52. Status of Other Election Commissions**

- 1. Election Commissions shall be special collegial state bodies authorized to organize preparation and conduct of elections and ensure exercise of electoral rights of Ukrainian citizens, compliance with and uniform application of the election laws of Ukraine.
- 2. A District Election Commission, the Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, and a Territorial Election Commission shall be a legal entity.
- 3. A Precinct Election Commission shall not be a legal entity. Financial, material and technical provision of activities of a Precinct Election Commission during the relevant election process shall be ensured by a District Election Commission of a territorial district on the nationwide elections, an Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, or a relevant Territorial Election Commission in accordance with the procedure established by this Code.
- 4. The Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and Territorial Election Commissions shall be permanent bodies. District Election Commissions and Precinct Election Commissions shall be temporary bodies created for the period of preparation and conduct of the relevant elections taking into consideration requirements of this Code.
- 5. Every election commission shall be a subject of the relevant election process, and entitled to be a party in a judicial examination of election disputes, to apply within their powers to state authorities and bodies of local self-governance, as well as to enterprises, agencies, institutions, and organizations, and their officials.
- 6. Every election commission shall have its own seal, the sample of which shall be approved by the Central Election Commission.

#### Section VI. THE CENTRAL ELECTION COMMISSION

# **Article 53. Underlying Principles of the Commission Activities**

- 1. The Commission shall base its activities on the principles of the rule of law, legality, independence, objectivity and impartiality, competence, professional and collegial consideration and resolution, reasonableness of decisions made, transparency and publicity.
- 2. The Commission and its members shall act only on the basis of, and within such powers and in such manner as determined by, the Constitution of Ukraine, this Code, and other laws of Ukraine.

# Article 54. Independence of the Commission

- 1. The Commission shall exercise its powers independently, irrespective of other state authorities, authorities of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, local self-government authorities, their officials. Legality of any decisions, acts or omissions of the Commission shall be subject to judicial control.
  - 2. Members of the Commission pursuant to this Code shall be officials.
- 3. Interference of any authorities, officials, citizens and their associations in resolution of the issues falling within the competence of the Commission shall be prohibited unless it is stipulated by the laws of Ukraine.
- 4. Guarantees of the Commission's independence in exercising its powers and authorities shall be established by the Constitution of Ukraine, this Code, and other laws of Ukraine.

#### Article 55. Openness and Publicity in the Commission Activities

- 1. The Commission activities shall be open and public.
- 2. The following persons shall have the right to take part in the Commission meeting without any permit or invitation by the Commission:
- 1) during the elections of the President of Ukraine: candidates for the post of the President of Ukraine, representatives of the candidates for the post of the President of Ukraine in the Central Election Commission, proxies of the candidates for the post of the President of Ukraine in the nationwide election district;
- 2) during the elections of Members of Parliament of Ukraine: candidate Members of Parliament of Ukraine, representatives of parties subjects of the election process in the Central Election Commission, authorized persons of parties that are subjects of the election process in the nationwide election district:
- 3) during the all-Ukrainian referendum: authorized representatives of the stirring groups of all-Ukrainian referendum or other subject of initiating all-Ukrainian referendum, authorized representatives of a subject of the process of all-Ukrainian referendum.
- 3. The following persons shall also have the right to take part in the Commission meeting without any permit or invitation by the Commission:
- 1) official observers from foreign countries and international organizations registered by the Commission:
- 2) mass media representatives accredited by the Commission, maximum two persons from each mass media.

- 4. Representatives of a subject of the submission of an application or complaint, subject of the process of lodging a complaint, and other parties concerned shall have the right to take part in the Commission meeting during consideration of an application or complaint.
- 5. Other persons, excluding those indicated in parts 2 and 3 of this Article, shall have the right to take part in the Commission meeting by invitation or permit of the Commission that shall be fixed in the relevant protocol decision of the Commission.
- 6. No closed meetings or other forms of closed consideration of the issues considered by the Commission shall be allowed.
- 7. The Commission's decisions shall be published in the central and local mass media in the events, under the procedure and within the terms established by this Code and other laws of Ukraine.
- 8. The Commission shall have its official print media called Bulletin of the Central Election Commission.
- 9. The Commission shall have its official web-site where the Commission's decisions, information of the elections, referendums, and other materials concerning the Commission activities shall be placed.

#### Article 56. Location of the Commission

- 1. The location of the Commission shall be the city of Kyiv, the capital of Ukraine.
- 2. The State Flag of Ukraine shall be placed on the building in which the Commission is located.
- 3. The State Emblem of Ukraine and the State Flag of Ukraine shall be mandatory attributes of the Commission meeting room.

# Article 57. Composition of the Commission and Its Formation Procedure

- 1. A member of the Commission shall be appointed to the office by the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine based on proposal of the President of Ukraine.
- 2. A nomination document of the President of Ukraine regarding appointment of a member(s) of the Commission shall take into consideration proposals of groups of deputies formed during the current convocation of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine.
  - 3. The Commission shall consist of 15 members.
- 4. Candidates nominated by the President of Ukraine as members of the Commission shall be previously discussed in deputy groups. Resolution of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine regarding appointment of members of the Commission shall be made in the event that conclusions of the relevant committee of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine are available.
- 5. The Commission shall elect the Head of the Commission, two Deputy Heads of the Commission, and the Secretary of the Commission from among the members of the Commission according to the procedure set firth in this Code.
  - 7. The term of office of the Commission member shall be 7 years.

#### **Article 58. Requirements to the Commission Members**

1. Any citizen of Ukraine who at the day of appointment is at least twenty five years old, has a voting right, has been residing in Ukraine pursuant to part four of Article 6 of this Code for at least five last years and has a good command of the official state language, may be a Member of the Commission.

- 2. No citizen with a conviction for any intentional crime if such conviction has not been expunged or liquidated according to the procedure established by the law, and no citizen found legally incapacitated, in full or in part, may be appointed as a member of the Commission.
- 3. The Head of the Commission, Deputy Heads of the Commission, Secretary of the Commission, as well as at least five other members of the Commission should have a master's or a specialist's degree, specializing in "law" or "international law", or an academic degree in the field of legal sciences or public administration.
- 4. No member of the Commission may concurrently be a Member of Parliament of Ukraine or have any other representative mandate, be a member of other election commissions and referendum commissions, any stirring group of all-Ukrainian or local referendum, be engaged in entrepreneurial activity, act as a proxy of any third parties regarding the Commission matters, work on a part-time basis (except for scientific, teaching or creative activities), be a member of any board or other supervisory or executive bodies of any profitable organizations.
- 5. Status of a member of the Commission shall be inconsistent with the status of a candidate in any elections specified in Article 4 of this Code. A member of the Commission, simultaneously with a consent to be nominated as a candidate or submission of an application of self-nomination, should submit an application regarding earlier termination of his/her powers in the Commission according to clause 1 part three of Article 65 of this Code, and should terminate its powers on the same day.
- 6. No member of the Commission may be registered as a representative or a proxy of any candidate registered to take part in the elections, or a representative or a proxy of any political party or its organization being a subject of the relevant election process.
- 7. Any member of the Commission who had been a member of any political party before his/her appointment to the office should terminate his/her membership in such party before taking an oath.

#### Article 59. Oath of a Member of the Commission

- 1. A member of the Commission shall take an oath at the plenary meeting of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine at which the decision on his/her appointment was made, in the following form:
- "I (full name), understanding my high responsibility, swear to the Ukrainian people that in exercising my powers in the Central Election Commission I will comply with the Constitution and laws of Ukraine, non-party position, be fair, objective and impartial in resolving issues falling within the competence of the Commission, ensure implementation and protection of electoral rights of Ukrainian citizens and the right to take part in the referendum."
- 2. A person who took the oath of a member of the Commission shall immediately affix his/her signature to the oath.
- 3. A person who failed to take an oath on the day of his/her appointment as a member of the Central Election Commission shall be deemed as refusing from the appointment.
- 4. A member of the Commission upon taking an oath shall be given an accreditation signed by the President of Ukraine.
- 5. The Commission shall be plenipotentiary if at least 10 members of the Commission have taken an oath.

# Article 60. Election of the Head of the Commission, Deputy Heads of the Commission and the Secretary of the Commission

- 1. The Head of the Commission, Deputy Heads of the Commission, and the Secretary of the Commission shall be elected by the Commission from among the members of the Commission at its meeting by secret ballot by the majority of the Commission members.
- 2. Candidates for the office of Deputy Heads of the Commission and the Secretary of the Commission shall be nominated by the Head of the Commission.
- 3. The procedure for electing the Head of the Commission, Deputy Heads of the Commission and the Secretary of the Commission shall be determined by the Rules of Procedures of the Central Election Commission.
- 4. The Head of the Commission, Deputy Heads of the Commission and the Secretary of the Commission shall acquire their powers upon the approval of the protocol of the counting commission by the Commission concerning the results of a secret ballot on the relevant elections.

#### Article 61. Powers and Authorities of the Head of the Commission

- 1. The Head of the Commission shall:
- 1) generally manage activities of the Commission, Secretariat and Services of the Commission, organize their operation;
- 2) convene and conduct the Commission meeting, offer agenda of the Commission meeting;
- 3) inform on behalf of the Commission the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine and the President of Ukraine of the results of elections of the President of Ukraine, Members of Parliament of Ukraine, and results of all-Ukrainian referendum;
- 4) sign resolutions of the Commission, appendices to such resolutions and minutes of the Commission meetings;
  - 5) ensure consideration of appeals submitted to the Commission;
- 6) represent the Commission in its relations with voters, state authorities, authorities of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, bodies of local self-governance, public associations, election commissions, referendum commissions, enterprises, agencies, institutions and organizations, relevant authorities of foreign countries and international organizations;
- 7) submit for approval by the Commission a provision on the Commission Secretariat, Commission services, patronage service, their structure and personnel;
- 8) introduce for consideration by the Commission a nomination document regarding appointment and removal of the head of the Commission Secretariat, managers of the Commission services:
- 9) appoint and remove officials of the Commission Secretariat (excluding the head of the Commission Secretariat), officials of the Commission Services (excluding managers of the Commission services), officials of the patronage service (nominated by the respective Commission members);
- 10) resolve other issues according to the Law of Ukraine "On State Service" and other laws of Ukraine:
- 11) submit to the Commission for approval a financial report of expending funds of the State Budget of Ukraine allocated for preparation and conduct of the relevant elections and referendums and upon the approval by the Commission sent its to the Accounting Chamber within the term set forth by applicable laws of Ukraine;
- 12) introduce for consideration by the Commission proposals regarding honorary awards of the Commission;
  - 13) exercise powers of the Commission member prescribed by this Code;
  - 14) exercise other powers according to this Code and other laws of Ukraine.

2. The Head of the Commission within his/her powers shall issue orders and instructions regarding organization of the activities of the Commission, its Secretariat and Commission services.

# Article 62. Powers and Authorities of a Deputy Head of the Commission

A Deputy Head of the Commission shall:

- 1) fulfill certain obligations resulting from the Commissions powers, upon the decision of the Commission, order or instruction of the Head of the Commission;
- 2) exercise certain powers of the Head of the Commission stipulated by this Code on instruction of the Head of the Commission in the event that he/she is absent or unable to perform his/her duties:
  - 3) exercise powers of the Commission member prescribed by this Code;
  - 4) exercise other powers according to this Code and other laws of Ukraine.

# Article 63. Powers and Authorities of the Secretary of the Commission

The Secretary of the Commission shall:

- 1) ensure preparation of the Commission meetings, as well as issues and materials introduced for consideration;
- 2) ensure notification of the Commission members of the time of the meeting and issues to be submitted for consideration;
  - 3) sign minutes of the Commission meetings;
- 4) ensure record keeping of the Commission, communication of the Commission decisions and orders and instructions of the Head of the Commission to all members of the Commission, other election commissions, referendum commissions, state authorities, authorities of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and bodies of local self-governance, enterprises, agencies, institutions and organizations, their officials, subjects of the election process and referendum process, as well as ensure provision of mass media with the relevant information;
  - 5) exercise powers of the Commission member prescribed by this Code;
  - 6) exercise other powers according to this Code and other laws of Ukraine.

# Article 64. Powers and Authorities of a Member of the Commission

- 1. A member of the Commission shall exercise powers in accordance with the distribution of responsibilities among the members of the Commission approved by the Commission, as well as perform certain instructions made by the Head of the Commission or a Deputy Head of the Commission in the event when he/she exercises powers of the Head of the Commission in the cases prescribed by this Code.
  - 2. A Member of the Commission shall:
- 1) prepare issues for consideration by the Commission, take part in the consideration of the items on the agenda of the Commission meeting;

- 2) upon the decision of the Commission or in separate cases on the instruction of the Head of the Commission, represent the Commission in its relations with state authorities, authorities of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, bodies of local self-governance, election commissions, referendum commissions, public associations, agencies, enterprises, institutions and organizations;
- 3) consider requests and proposals that came in his/her name, as instructed by the Head of the Commission, consider requests and proposals that came in the name of the Commission and the Head of the Commission:
- 4) conduct personal reception of citizens, officials and representatives of enterprises, agencies, institutions, and organizations, as well as subjects of the election process and referendum process, or their authorized representatives;
- 5) submit proposals to the Commission with respect to appeals to the Constitutional Court of Ukraine regarding official interpretation of the Constitution of Ukraine and the laws of Ukraine on elections and referendums;
- 6) submit proposals to engage scientists and professionals in expert, analytic and other work related to exercising Commission powers;
- 7) submit proposals to the Head of the Commission for encouraging or holding any of the Secretariat or Commission services employees disciplinarily liable;
- 8) exercise any other authorities in accordance with this Code and other laws of Ukraine.
- 3. A member of the Commission, in exercising of his/her authorities, shall have the right to:
- 1) speak at the Commission meetings, submit proposals regarding issues falling within its competence, demand voting on such proposals;
- 2) submit proposals (requirements) with respect to election process or referendum process that should be considered by the Commission;
- 3) in the event of his/her objection to any decision made by the Commission, present in writing his/her individual opinion to be attached to the minutes of the Commission meeting;
- 4) examine any documents, materials and information at the disposal of the Commission;
- 5) in order to exercise his/her powers, give instruction to the employees of the Secretariat of the Commission and Commission services;
- 6) be present at all events held by the Commission, by the Secretariat of the Commission, and by the Commission services;
  - 7) have access to reading the database of the State Voter Register;
- 8) demand and obtain from executive bodies, authorities of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, bodies of local self-governance, their officials, managers and other officials of enterprises, agencies, institutions and organizations of all forms of ownership, election commissions, referendum commissions, political parties and their organizations, any necessary information, statistical data, accounting and financial statements and other materials, as well as oral and written explanations regarding the issues falling within the Commission competence;
- 9) engage scientists, professionals and experts, as well as employees of institutions and organizations, and state audit and control service in the preparation of certain issues;
- 10) use information systems and data banks of state authorities, authorities of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and bodies of local self-governance in accordance with the established procedure:
  - 11) use state, including governmental, communication systems;
- 12) be present at the meetings of the election commissions and referendum commissions:
- 13) draw up a protocol in relation to any administrative violation in cases established by the Administrative Offences Code of Ukraine;
- 14) be present at the meetings of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine, its committees, interim special or interim investigative commissions, as well as at the meetings held by the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine, in the ministries and other state authorities, authorities of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, and bodies of local self-governance, with respect to consideration of the issues related to the conduct of elections and referendums, as well as issues related to the Commission activities;

- 15) freely, in the events prescribed by the laws of Ukraine, enter premises of the state authorities, authorities of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, bodies of local self-governance, public associations, enterprises, agencies, institutions, or organizations (unless the law sets forth a special excess mode for certain sites).
- 4. A member of the Commission, in exercising his/her authorities, must comply with the requirements of the Constitution and laws of Ukraine, and the oath taken.
- 5. A member of the Commission shall not be allowed to take part in any election campaign or any referendum campaign.

#### Article 65. Reasons and Procedure for Removal of a Member of the Commission

- 1. Any member of the Commission shall be removed by the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine based on proposal of the President of Ukraine.
- 2. Any member of the Commission can be earlier removed for the reasons and according to the procedure established by this Code.
  - 3. The reasons for earlier removal of a member of the Commission shall be as follows:
- 1) personal application of a member of the Commission of resignation submitted in the name of the President of Ukraine;
  - 2) reaching the age of 65 by the member of the Commission;
  - 3) termination of the Ukrainian citizenship;
  - 4) going abroad for permanent residence;
- 5) non-compliance with the requirements regarding incompatibility with other activities set forth by part four and six of Article 58 of this Code;
  - 6) if a guilty verdict has been issued against him/her;
- 7) in the event of holding a member of the Commission as legally incapable, partially incapable, missing or dead;
  - 8) violation of oath by the member of the Commission;
- 9) inability of a member of the Commission to exercise his/her authorities for reasons of his/her health.
- 4. In the event of death of a member of the Commission his/her authorities shall be considered terminated from the day such event occurred.
- 5. A nomination document for removing any member of the Commission in connection with expiration of his/her term of office or for earlier removal of a member of the Commission for the reasons stipulated by clauses 2-9 of part three of this Article, shall be submitted by the Head of the Commission to the President of Ukraine.
- 6. The nomination document specified in part five of this Article, related to the Head of the Commission shall be submitted by the Deputy Head of the Commission to the President of Ukraine.
- 7. In case of any circumstances specified in part three of this Article, the President of Ukraine (not later than the thirtieth day from the day of their occurrence) shall submit to the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine a nomination document for earlier removal of a member of the Commission.
- 8. The Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine following the results of the consideration of the nomination document of the President of Ukraine regarding earlier removal of a member of the Commission shall make the relevant decision in form of a resolution.
- 9. The President of Ukraine shall in advance, but not later than in 30 days upon the removal (termination of powers) of a member of the Commission, nominate to the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine an individual proposed for the office of a member of the Commission to replace the removed one.
- 10. Upon the expiry of the term of office of a member of the Commission set forth by part seven of Article 57 of this Code, reaching the age of 65 by the member of the Commission, or submission of a personal application specified in clause 1 of part three the authorities of a member of the Commission shall terminate from the day of appointment of a new member of the Commission.

11. Any member of the Commission, whose term of office expired, who reached the age of 65, or submitted a personal application of resignation, shall not tale part in the Commission meetings until the relevant decision is made by the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine.

# Article 66. Earlier Termination of Authorities of the Head, Deputy Heads, and the Secretary of the Commission

- 1. Powers and authorities of the Head of the Commission, the Deputy Head of the Commission, the and Secretary of the Commission shall be terminated simultaneously with the removal of the relevant person from the office of a member of the Commission.
- 2. Powers and authorities of the Head of the Commission, the Deputy Head of the Commission, the and Secretary of the Commission can be earlier terminated upon his/her request by the decision of the Commission without removing the relevant person from the office of a member of the Commission.
- 3. Powers and authorities of the Head of the Commission, the Deputy Head of the Commission, and the Secretary of the Commission can be earlier terminated without removal of the relevant person from the office of a member of the Commission upon the Commission decision taken by 2/3 of the votes of the Commission members by secret voting.
- 4. Any Commission meeting devoted to the issues specified in part three of this Article shall be convened upon written request of the majority of the members of the Commission. The procedure for holding such meeting shall be determined by the Rules of Procedures of the Commission.
- 5. The Commission decision specified in part three of this Article shall take effect after approval by the Commission of a protocol of the counting commission of the secret voting results.
- 6. If the decision specified in part three of this Article is supported by less than 2/3 of the Commission members the issue regarding earlier termination of the authorities of the relevant official cannot be included in the agenda of the Commission meeting earlier than in six months.
- 7. The Commission cannot consider earlier termination of authorities of the Head of the Commission, the Deputy Head of the Commission, and the Secretary of the Commission during election process on the nationwide elections or all-Ukrainian referendum.

# Article 67. Administration of Funds of the State Budget of Ukraine

- 1. The Central Election Commission as represented by the Head of the Commission shall be administrator of funds of the State Budget of Ukraine allocated for maintenance of the Commission, the Secretariat of the Commission, Commission services, and patronage service of the Commission.
- 2. The Commission shall be the main administrator of funds of the State Budget of Ukraine allocated for preparation and conduct of elections and referendums in Ukraine.

#### Article 68. Material and Social Provision of the Commission

1. The terms and conditions of and procedure for remuneration, social, medical, sanatorium-and-spa, transport and other servicing of the Head of the Commission, Deputy Heads of the Commission, the Secretary of the Commission, and other members of the Commission, shall be established by the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine in accordance with the laws of Ukraine.

- 2. A member of the Commission may be granted monthly personal rises, the size of which shall be determined to the extent of the salary fund of the members of the Commission.
- 3. If required, a member of the Commission at the time of exercising his/her powers shall be provided with service apartment.
- 4. A member of the Commission shall be granted an annual paid leave of 45 calendar days with material aid for health improvement.
- 5. A member of the Commission shall retain qualification categories, grades, class ranks for the period of his/her work in the Commission.
- 6. In the event of death of a member of the Commission the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine shall grant the necessary support in burial costs.

#### Article 69. General Authorities of the Commission

- 1. The Commission shall:
- 1) ensure implementation and protection of electoral rights of the citizens of Ukraine and the right of participation in referendums;
- 2) ensure compliance with the principles and fundamentals of election process and referendum process stipulated by the Constitution and the laws of Ukraine;
- 3) control the compliance with the requirements of Ukrainian laws on elections and referendums:
- 4) ensure uniform application of the laws of Ukraine on elections and referendums throughout Ukraine;
- 5) provide consulting and methodological support of the activities of election commissions and referendum commissions, accept explanations and recommendations on the issues related to application of the laws of Ukraine on elections and referendums mandatory for application in the activities of election commissions and referendum commissions;
- 6) prepare proposals for improvement of the legislation regarding the conduct of elections and referendums;
- 7) if necessary, apply to the Constitutional Court of Ukraine with respect to official interpretation of the Constitution of Ukraine, the laws of Ukraine or their separate provisions on the issues related to the organization of preparation and conduct of elections and referendums in Ukraine:
- 8) be an administrator of the State Voter Register, ensure keeping and handling of the State Voter Register in accordance with this Code and other laws of Ukraine;
- 9) head the system of the election commissions on the nationwide elections and the system of commissions of the all-Ukrainian referendum;
  - 10) form territorial election districts on the nationwide elections and election precincts;
- 11) form District Election Commissions on the nationwide elections and alter their composition;
- 12) appoint members of oblast, Kyiv and Sevastopol city, raion, city (regional centers, republican centers in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea) election commissions;
- 13) exercise powers of the District Election Commission for the Out-of-country Election District:
- 14) control the compliance of political parties and other subjects of the election process and referendum process with the requirements of the laws on elections and referendums;
- 15) ensure accreditation of official observers from foreign countries and international organizations on elections and referendums in accordance with the law, issue certificates;
- 16) set forms of election documents, approve samples of ballot boxes, and seals of election commissions and referendum commissions;
- 17) determine the procedure for storing and transfer of election documents and referendum documents to the relevant archival agencies:
- 18) monitor activities of the state authorities, authorities of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and bodies of local self-governance with respect to the provision of election

commissions and referendum commissions with premises, transport, communication, and other means of material and technical provision of elections;

- 19) hear statements of election commissions, referendum commissions, managers of the ministries, other executive bodies, authorities of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, and bodies of local self-governance regarding the issues connected with the preparation and conduct of the nationwide elections and all-Ukrainian referendum;
  - 20) register candidates on the nationwide elections;
- 21) set the form and approve the text of a ballot paper for voting on the nationwide elections, ensure the production of ballot papers;
  - 22) determine and officially publish the results of the nationwide elections;
- 23) consider applications and claims concerning the decisions, acts or omissions related to the organization of the preparation and conduct of the nationwide elections, and make the decision thereon:
- 24) take measures for developing legal culture of the participants of election process and referendums;
- 25) license activities connected with the services related to training potential candidates to election commissions, as well as control the compliance with licensing terms and conditions:
- 26) publish information of the preparation and conduct of elections and referendums in Ukraine, materials on its activities, as well as other materials related to election process or referendum process;
- 27) appoint and remove the manager of the Secretariat of the Commission, managers of the Commission services based on the proposal of the Head of the Commission.
- 2. The Commission shall exercise any other authorities with respect to the organization and preparation of the nationwide and local elections provided by this Code.
- 3. The Commission shall exercise any other authorities stipulated by the laws of Ukraine.

# Article 70. Powers and Authorities of the Commission Regarding Financial Provision of the Preparation and Conduct of Elections and Referendums in Ukraine

- 1. The Commission shall submit proposals with respect to the formation of the State Budget of Ukraine for financing elections and referendums in Ukraine.
- 2. The Commission shall ensure financial, material and technical provision of elections and referendums in accordance with this Code and other laws of Ukraine.
- 3. The Commission shall create a cost estimate, distribute funds allocated from the State Budget of Ukraine for financial provision of the preparation and conduct of elections and all-Ukrainian referendum, activities of the relevant election commissions, and all-Ukrainian referendum commissions, control correct and intended use of the above funds together with the relevant bodies of the State Audit and Control Service of Ukraine.
- 4. The procedure for accounting proceeds and expenses of budget funds allocated for the preparation and conduct of elections and all-Ukrainian referendums, and electoral funds of the subjects of the relevant election process shall be determined by the Commission together with the Ministry of Finance of Ukraine in accordance with the laws of Ukraine.
- 5. The Commission shall establish the forms of financial statement of election commissions and all-Ukrainian referendum commissions concerning proceeds and expenses of the funds allocated for the preparation and conduct of the relevant elections or all-Ukrainian referendum, and financial statement of administrators of electoral funds of the subjects of the relevant election process.
- 6. The Commission shall submit to the Accounting Chamber financial statements of expenditures of the funds of the State Budget of Ukraine allocated for the preparation and conduct of the nationwide elections, or all-Ukrainian referendum, not later than in three months from the day of an official publication of the general results of elections or all-Ukrainian referendum.

# **Article 71. Organization of the Commission Activities**

- 1. The Commission shall make decisions on the issues falling within its competence upon their consideration at its meetings.
- 2. The procedure for organizing the Commission activities shall be determined by this Code, the Rules of Procedures of the Central Election Commission, as well as other acts made by the Commission for the purpose of implementation of this Code and other laws of Ukraine.

# **Article 72. The Commission Meetings**

- 1. Meetings are the main organizational form of operations of the Commission. Any issue falling within the competence of the Commission in accordance with this Code and other laws of Ukraine can be considered at the Commission meeting.
- 2. The Commission meetings shall be convened by its Head, and in his/her absence by the Deputy Head of the Commission who exercises the authorities of the Head of the Commission for the period of his/her absence, provided always that all the members of the Commission are notified of the time and place of the meeting. The Commission meetings can be convened upon written request of at least five members of the Commission.
- 3. A Commission meeting shall be held by its Head or, on the instruction of the Head, or in his/her absence, upon agreement between the Deputy Heads, by one of his/her Deputies. In the event that the Head and Deputy Heads are absent or unable to perform their duties for any reasons the Commission shall elect a person presiding at the meeting from among its members by the majority of the votes of the Commission members.
- 4. A Commission meeting shall be plenipotentiary if at least ten members of the Commission are present.
- 5. A draft agenda of the Commission meeting shall be proposed by the Head and in the event of his/her absence by the person presiding at the meeting. Agenda of the meeting shall be approved by the protocol decision of the Commission.
- 6. Persons specified in parts two-five of Article 55 of this Code can take part in the Commission meeting. The Commission can make a reasoned resolution on depriving such persons of their right to take part in the Commission meeting if they hinder their conduct. Regarding the persons specified in part two and three of Article 55 of this Code such decision shall be made by 2/3 of the Commission members.
- 7. The Commission shall keep minutes that shall be signed by the Head of the Commission and in the events specified in part three of this Article by the person presiding at the Commission meeting, as well as by the Secretary of the Commission.

# Article 73. The Rules of Procedures of the Commission

- 1. The proceedings of the Commission meetings, the procedures for preparation and making of the decisions, and other procedural issues of the Commission activities not regulated by this Code shall be determined by the Rules of Procedures of the Central Election Commission.
- 2. The Rules of Procedures of the Central Election Commission, changes and amendments thereto shall be approved by the resolution of the Commission in compliance with the requirements of this Code and other laws of Ukraine.
- 3. The Rules of Procedures of the Central Election Commission can establish no additional powers and authorities of the Commission or its members, except for those set forth by this Code and other laws of Ukraine.

#### **Article 74. Decisions of the Commission**

- 1.Based on the results of the consideration of an item of the agenda at the Commission meeting, the Commission shall approve a decision in the form of a resolution.
  - 2. A resolution of the Commission should include:
  - 1) the name of the Commission;
  - 2) title of the Commission decision;
  - 3) the date and place of the Commission's decision-making, number of the resolution;
- 4) facts found and the reasons for approving a decision of the Commission, as well as Ukrainian legal acts or previous decisions of the Commission, if available, decisions of judicial bodies, by which the Commission have been regulated when making a decision;
  - 5) the Commission's opinion.
- 3. Regarding any the current internal activities the Commission may pass a protocol decision. Content of the protocol decision shall be fixed in the minutes of the Commission meeting. With the purpose of informing the members of the commission, the Secretariat and Commission services, their structural units of the protocol decision, such decision shall be registered as a separate document as a an excerpt from the minutes signed by the Secretary of the Commission.
- 4. The Commission's decision shall be made at the Commission meeting through an open voting by the majority of votes of the Commission members, excluding the cases stipulated by this Code.
- 5. Any member of the Commission present at its meeting who disagrees with the Commission's decision shall have the right, not later than the third day from the meeting at which such decision was made, to express his/her individual opinion in writing which shall be attached to the relevant minutes of the Commission meeting and constitute its integral part.
- 6. Any resolution of the Commission shall be signed by the Head of the Commission, and in the events stipulated by part three of Article 72 of this Code by the person presiding at the Commission meeting.
- 7. Decisions made by the Commission can be amended by the Commission on its own initiative or based on the court decision.
- 8. Any decision of the Commission can be appealed in the court in accordance with the procedure established by Code of Administrative Proceedings of Ukraine.

# **Article 75. Binding Nature of the Commission's Decisions**

- 1. Any decision of the Commission made within its competence shall be binding upon all the subjects of the relevant election process or referendum process, including the relevant election commissions and referendum commissions, other subjects of the relevant election process or referendum process, as well as executive bodies, bodies of local self-governance, their officials, public associations, enterprises, agencies, institutions, and organizations of all form of ownership, and Ukrainian citizens.
- 2. If the Commission's decision provides for certain measures to be taken certain persons with the purpose of its implementation, the Commission should be informed of the measures taken to implement the decision within the established term.
- 3. Managers, other officials of executive bodies, bodies of local self-governance, political parties or their local organizations, other public associations, enterprises, agencies, institutions, or organizations, election commissions and referendum commissions in accordance with the procedure stipulated by the law, shall be obligated at the invitation of the Commission to arrive at its meeting, provide the required information and materials, and answer questions.

- 4. If during the consideration of any issue at the Commission meeting any essential elements of crime or any other offence are revealed the Commission shall make a decision on appealing to law enforcement agencies and provide them with the relevant materials. The law enforcement agency which received the above materials shall inform the Commission of the results of the consideration of an appeal or measures taken within the established term.
- 5. State authorities, authorities of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, bodies of local self-governance, their officials, as well as enterprises, agencies, institutions, and organizations of the state form of ownership should assist the Commission and its members in their exercising of their powers and authorities.
- 6. Any failure to implement or undue or late implementation of the Commission's decisions shall entail liability established by the law.

# **Article 76. Appeal to the Commission**

- 1. The right to appeal to the Commission on any issue falling within the competence of the Commission shall be determined by the Constitution of Ukraine, this Code, the Law of Ukraine "On Citizens' Appeals", and other laws of Ukraine.
- 2. Appeals filed to the Commission shall be subject to registration in accordance with the procedure established by the Rules of Procedures of the Commission.
  - 3. An appeal shall be understood according to this Code as:
- 1) an application containing a request (motion) to promote implementation of electoral rights, the right to take part in referendum, provide accessible information available to the Commission, consulting and methodological support or recommendations regarding preparation and conduct of elections i referendums, explanations on the application of the laws of Ukraine on elections i referendums, or opinions, recommendations, advices with respect to the improvement of the laws of Ukraine on elections and referendums and legal regulation of elections and referendums in Ukraine, regarding improvement of operations of election commissions, referendum commissions, etc.:
- 2) a complaint containing information concerning violations of the laws of Ukraine on elections and referendums and a request to ensure implementation and protection of electoral rights, rights to take part in referendum, legitimate interests of the subjects of the election process and referendum process, restore violated electoral rights and the right to take part in the referendum.

#### **Article 77. The Procedure for Submitting Applications**

- 1. An application can be submitted to the Commission in verbal or written form. Verbal applications shall be submitted during personal reception by the members of the Commission and recorded in accordance with the procedure established by the Rules of Procedures of the Commission.
  - 2. A written application submitted to the Commission should contain:
- 1) name of the Commission or surname of the member of the Commission to whom the person applies;
- 2) full name, place of residence and residential address of an individual or full name and location of a legal entity-applicant;
- 3) content of the issue in question, statement of circumstances and facts that are important for the resolution of the application;
  - 4) content of a request (motion) or recommendation;
- 5) signature of an applicant or his/her authorized representative if the applicant is a legal entity;
  - 6) date of application.

- 3. Applications drawn up without compliance with the requirements set forth by part two of this Article shall be returned to the applicant with the relevant explanations within the term established by the Law of Ukraine "On Citizens' Appeals", unless some other term is established by this Code or the relevant law of Ukraine on referendums.
- 4. If resolution of the issue brought up in the application does not fall within the competence of the Commission, the application shall be sent to the relevant state authority, body of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, body of local self-governance, enterprises, agency, institution, organization, political party, any other public association, an official within the term set forth by the Law of Ukraine "On Citizens' Appeals".
- 5. If an application contains no information required for making a reasonable decision on the issue raised in the application or sending the application as required, such application shall be returned to the applicant with the relevant explanations within the term established by the Law of Ukraine "On Citizens' Appeals" unless other term has been established by this Code or the relevant law of Ukraine on referendums.

### Article 78. The Procedure and Terms for Consideration of Applications

- 1. Applications submitted to the Commission shall be considered in accordance with the procedure established by this Code and other laws, as well as the Rules of Procedures of the Central Election Commission.
- 2. Applications submitted to the Commission during the election process or referendum process and related to the relevant process shall be considered by the Commission in accordance with the procedure and within the period for considering complaints related to the relevant process set forth by this Code.
- 3. Applications and other appeals not related to election process or referendum process or submitted beyond the period of such process shall be considered by the Commission according to the general procedure and within the terms determined by the law.
- 4. Any application submitted to the Commission on the instruction of the Head of the Commission or one of the Deputy Heads shall be previously considered by a member of the Commission.
- 5. Based on results of the previous consideration of the application the member of the commission may recommend to the Commission to consider it at the meeting of the Commission and make the decision on such application.
- 6. If an application requires no decision of the Commission, the member of the commission upon instruction of the Head of the Commission or one of the Deputy Heads can reply to the applicant ob his/her behalf.

#### **Article 79. Lodging Complaints to the Commission and Their Consideration**

- 1. Requirements for a complaint lodged to the Commission shall be determined by Article 269 of this Code.
- 2. Any compliant lodged to the Commission during election process or referendum process shall be considered in accordance with the procedure and within the period established by this Code.
- 3. Any complaint lodged beyond the term of the election process or referendum process shall be considered by the Commission on a common basis and within the period established by the Law of Ukraine "On Citizens' Appeals".
- 4. Any complaint registered without compliance with the requirements set forth by this Code that makes its consideration impossible shall be returned by the member of the Commission to the subject of appeal with the relevant explanations not later than on the day following the day of the complaint receipt.

5. If the consideration of the issues brought up in the complaint does not fall within the competence of the Commission, upon the Commission's decision, such complaint shall be left without consideration on the merit.

#### Article 80. Consideration of Issues By the Commission On Its Own Initiative

- 1. If the Commission becomes aware of any violation of the laws of Ukraine on elections and referendums, electoral rights of Ukrainian citizens and rights to take part in the referendum when considering other issues, from the results of its audits or mass media or other sources provided they are consistent with the laws of Ukraine, the Commission shall have the right to consider on its own initiative the issues falling within its competence and make a decision in accordance with the procedure established by this Code.
- 2. Based on results of the Generalization of the practice of application of the laws of Ukraine on elections and referendums and the practice of conducting elections and referendums in Ukraine, as well as if necessary the Commission may on its own initiative consider and make a decision in accordance with the procedure established by this Code with respect to the following:
- 1) provision of election commissions and referendum commissions with explanations and recommendations related to application of the laws of Ukraine on elections and referendums:
  - 2) organization of preparation and conduct of elections and referendums;
  - 3) organization of the activities of election commissions and referendum commissions;
- 4) preparation of proposals regarding improvement of the laws of Ukraine on elections and referendums;
  - 5) any other issues falling within the competence of the Commission.

#### Article 81. Use of the Automated Information System by the Commission

- 1. Conducting the nationwide elections and all-Ukrainian referendum, the Commission shall use the automated information system.
- 2. Members of the commission shall have the right to examine any information which is contained in the automated information system of the Commission or received from such system.
- 3. In the course of voting and vote counting the automated information system shall be used exclusively for monitoring the process and results of voting. Information of the results of voting received through the automated information system shall be preliminary information that produces no legal effects.

#### **Article 82. Support of the Commission Activities**

- 1. The Commission activities in the process of exercising its powers shall be supported by the Secretariat of the Commission. The Secretariat of the Commission shall perform organizational, legal, expert, analytical, information and reference, material and technical work intended to ensure exercising by the Commission and its members of the powers and authorities stipulated by this Code related to the preparation and conduct of elections and referendums, current activities of the Commission. The Regulation on the Secretariat of the Commission, the regulation on the patronage service, their structure and staff shall be approved by the Commission based on the proposal of the Head of the Commission.
- 2. In order to ensure the Commission activities as of the administrator of the State Voter Register, the Service of the State Voter Register Administrator shall be created. The Regulation on the Service, its structure and staff schedule of the Service shall be approved by the Commission based on the proposal of the Head of the Commission.

- 3. In order to ensure the Commission activities regarding the licensing of activities connected with the provision of services of training candidates to election commissions, the Service of Licensing and Methodological Support of Training for Members of the Election Commissions shall be created. The Regulation on the Service, its structure and staff schedule of the Service shall be approved by the Commission based on the proposal of the Head of the Commission.
- 4. The head of the Secretariat of the Commission, managers of the Commission services shall directly manage structural units of the Secretariat of the Commission and Commission services respectively, and their officials.
- 5. The work of the Head of the Commission, the Deputy Heads of the Commission, the Secretary of the Commission, and other members of the Commission shall be organized by the patronage service of the Commission. The patronage service of the Commission shall include advisors, assistants and secretaries of the Head of the Commission, assistants and secretaries of the Deputy Heads of the Commission, the Secretary of the Commission, as well as assistants of other members of the Commission. The number of employees and staff schedule of the patronage service of the Commission shall be approved by the Commission resolution taking into consideration of the amount of financing of the Commission.
- 6. The head and other employees of the Secretariat of the Commission (excluding employees engaged in maintenance of the Commission premises), the Service of the State Voter Register Administrator, the Service of Licensing and Methodological Support of Training for Members of the Election Commissions, the patronage service of the Commission shall be civil servants.

#### **Article 83. Regional Representative Offices of the Commission**

- 1. To promptly resolve any issues arising in the exercising of the powers and authorities by the Commission in the regions of Ukraine specified in part two of Article 133 of the Constitution of Ukraine the Commission shall create its regional representative offices within the amount of funds of the State Budget of Ukraine provided to support activities of the Commission.
- 2. Regional representative offices of the Commission shall constitute structural units of the Secretariat of the Commission.
- 3. Organization of the operations of the regional representative offices shall be determined by the Regulation on the Regional Representative Offices of the Commission approved by the Commission.

#### Article 84. Financing of the Commission

- 1. Expenses connected with activities of the Commission and its Secretariat, the Service of the State Voter Register Administrator, the Service of Licensing and Methodological Support of Training for Members of the Election Commissions, and the patronage service shall be financed at the expense of funds of the State Budget of Ukraine.
- 2. The Commission shall submit an annual report on the use of funds of the State Budget of Ukraine to the Accounting Chamber.

#### **Article 85. International Cooperation of the Commission**

- 1. The Commission and its members can share experience with the relevant state authorities of other countries and international organizations.
- 2. The Commission can join international organizations (associations) of elections' organizers.

3. The members of the Commission can take part in the monitoring of preparation and conduct of elections and referendums in other countries as international observers on the initiative of the Commission, the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine, as well as the international organizations in which Ukraine or the Commission is a member.

# Section VII. COMPOSITION, AUTHORITIES AND ACTIVITIES OF OTHER ELECTION COMMISSIONS

#### **Article 86. Requirements for the Members of Election Commissions**

- 1. The District Election Commission or the Precinct Election Commission of a regular or special election precinct on the nationwide elections may include voters residing in the territory of Ukraine. Election commission on local elections in the relevant administrative-territorial unit or territorial community may include voters who according to parts six and seven of Article 9 of this Code have the right to vote on such local elections.
  - 2. One voter may be a member of only one election commission at the same time.
- 3. Election commission may not include candidates registered to take part in any elections conducted in the relevant territory, their proxies, representatives of the candidates or parties in the Central Election Commission, authorized persons of any parties (party organizations), officials of other state authorities, authorities of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea or bodies of local self-governance, military servants, judges and law enforcement officials, as well as citizens kept in penitentiary institutions.
- 4. No citizen found legally incapacitated in part or with a conviction for any intentional crime, is such conviction has not been expunged or liquidated according to the procedure established by the law may be appointed as a member of an election commission.
- 5. At least eight members of an election commission should have a master's or a specialist's degree, specializing in "law" or "international law", or an academic degree in the field of legal sciences or public administration.
- 6. The District Election Commission on the nationwide elections, the Territorial Election Commission on local elections (except for Village Election Commission) may include persons who underwent preliminary training and received a state certificate of training allowing to work in election commissions in accordance with part two of Article 120 of this Code.
- 7. The secretary of a District Election Commission, Territorial Election Commission, and Precinct Election Commission should have command of the official state language to the extent allowing to manage records.
- 8. Any Precinct Election Commission of a special election precinct, created in an inpatient care establishment or penitentiary institution may not include employees of the relevant establishment or facility.

#### **Article 87. Nomination to District Election Commissions**

1. Political parties represented by groups of MPs in the current convocation of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine, as well as other subjects of the nomination process that are subjects of the relevant election process determined by this Code shall have the right to nominate candidates to District Election Commissions. This right shall be exercised in accordance with the procedure established by this Code for the relevant type of the nationwide elections.

- 2. The form of the nomination of candidates to election commissions shall be approved by the Central Election Commission not later than on the tenth day of the election process of the relevant elections. The nomination form shall include:
  - 1) full name of a person;
- 2) year of birth (date of birth for the persons who in the year of elections reach the age of 18);
  - 3) nationality of a person;
  - 4) voter address of a person, as well as contact phone numbers;
  - 5) command of the state language;
  - 6) education;
  - 7) place of work and title of person;
  - 8) experience in participating in the work of election commissions;
- 9) appropriate education or training; number and date of issue of the state certificate provided by Article 125 of this Code;
  - 10) office in the Commission for which the person is nominated.
- 3. Candidates to District Election Commissions shall be nominated not later than fifty four days before the date of voting.
- 4. The nomination document shall be accompanied with its soft copy, as well as hand-written statements of the persons nominated to the District Election Commission, regarding the consent to participate in the operations of the commission from the relevant subject of the nomination process, as well as original state certificates provided by Article 125 of this Code. The Central Election Commission shall produce and certify copies of the certificates and return the original certificates to the person who submitted the documents to the Central Election Commission not later than on the fifth day after the receipt of the submission.

#### Article 88. The Procedure for Formation of District Election Commissions

- 1. The District Election Commission on the nationwide elections shall be created upon the decision of the Central Election Commission not later than within fifty days before the day of voting and include the Head, the Deputy Head, the Secretary, and other members of the commission. The number of members of the District Election Commission should be at least twelve and not more than eighteen persons.
- 2. The District Election Commission must include (if the relevant submission is available) one representative from each of the political parties represented by the groups of MPs in the current convocation of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine.
- 3. The District Election Commission shall include not more than one representative from each of other subjects of the nomination process specified in part one of Article 87 of this Code. If the number of candidates nominated by such subjects of the nomination process exceeds the number of vacancies in the relevant District Election Commission, the candidates included in the commission shall be determined through the method of drawing lots in accordance with the procedure established by the Central Election Commission. Such drawing lots procedure shall be performed by the Central Election Commission not later than on the second day after the expiry of the terms for nomination.
- 4. The Central Election Commission shall check the accuracy of information of the candidates nominated, including the use of personal data of the State Voter Register.
- 5. Candidates nominated to the District Election Commission may be rejected only on the grounds of their incompliance with the requirements for the members of election commissions specified in Article 86 of this Code, violation of the nomination requirements determined by parts two–five of this Article or application of the mechanism of drawing lots provided by part seven of this Article.

- 6. Technical slips or inaccuracies contained in the nomination document shall not constitute a reason for the rejection of candidates. In the event of revealing such slips or inaccuracies the Central Election Commission shall immediately notify the person who signed the nomination document. The above slips and inaccuracies may be corrected by submitting a corrected nomination document regarding the relevant candidates not later than within the period specified in part three of Article 87 of this Code, and if the above notification is received on the last day of such period, then on the day following the day of receipt of the above notification. If no corrected nomination document is received within the set period the respective candidates shall be rejected.
- 7. If a nomination document regarding candidates to the District Election Commission fail to come within the period set forth by part three of Article 87 of this Code, or if the number of candidates nominated to the District Election Commission is less than twelve, the District Election Commission shall be formed by the Central Election Commission upon the proposal of its Head in the number of twelve persons taking into consideration the candidates nominated in accordance with the requirements of this Article by the subjects of the nomination process specified in part one of Article 87 of this Code. The persons nominated by the Head should comply with the requirements specified in Article 86 of this Code.
- 8. The decision on the formation of District Election Commissions and their composition made in accordance with the requirements of this Code shall be published in the national mass media by the Central Election Commission within three days from the date of the decision and published on the official website of the Central Election Commission. An excerpt from such decision on the formation of District Election Commissions in the relevant region and on their composition shall be published by the Central Election Commission in the regional print media within seven days from the date of such decision.
- 9. The Central Election Commission shall promptly provide the decision on the formation of District Election Commissions and their composition to the State Voter Register maintenance bodies at the location of the District Election Commission. An excerpt from such decision on the composition of each District Election Commission shall be sent to the Register maintenance bodies to the addresses of the persons included in the relevant District Election Commission.

#### **Article 89. Distribution of Managerial Positions in District Election Commissions**

- 1. The Head, Deputy Head and the Secretary of the District Election Commission shall be appointed by the decision on the formation of the District Election Commission specified in part one of Article 88 of this Code.
- 2. The Head, Deputy Head or the Secretary of the District Election Commission should be representatives of different subjects of the nomination process.
- 3. Each subject of the nomination process who has nominated candidates to District Election Commissions (except for the Head of the Central Election Commission) shall have the right to proportional share of each type of managerial positions in District Election Commissions. A share of managerial positions of each type for every subject within the nationwide election district shall be determined in accordance with the number of candidates included on behalf of the respective subject in District Election Commissions, in proportion to the general number of persons included in District Election Commissions representing the subjects specified in part two of Article 87 of this Code.
- 4. A person nominated to the District Election Commission can take part in the distribution of managerial positions in the commission provided that it has appropriate characteristics specified in clauses 5, 8, and 9 of part two of Article 87 of this Code.
- 5. The person included in the District Election Commission nominated by the Head of the Central Election Commission cannot be appointed to a managerial position in the District Election Commission, except when the relevant election commission didn't receive or received in insufficient amount the nomination documents from the subjects specified in part

two of Article 87 of this Code that does not allow to comply with the requirement of part two of this Article. The number of persons included those nominated by the Head of the Central Election Commission shall not be taken into account when determining the shares of managerial positions in accordance with part three of this Article.

6. The procedure for distribution of managerial positions between the subjects of the nomination process within the limits of shares determined in accordance with part three of this Article shall be established by the Central Election Commission. It is necessary to comply with an approximate evenness of the territorial distribution of the positions received by representatives of each subject.

## Article 90. Formation of the Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea

- 1. The Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea shall consist of 15 members
- 2. Members of the Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea shall be appointed by the Parliament of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea based on the proposal of the Head of the Parliament of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea.
- 3. Candidates to the Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea shall be submitted for consideration to the Head of the Parliament of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea by the governing bodies of the republican organizations of the parties specified in part four of Article 13 of this Code.
- 4. The Head, Deputy Head and the Secretary of the Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea shall be elected from among the members of the commission who comply with the requirements specified in part five of Article 86 of this Code.
- 5. The Head, Deputy Head and the Secretary of the Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea should be representatives of different subjects of the nomination process.

### Article 91. Composition of Territorial Election Commissions on Local Elections

- 1. Village, settlement, city, raion, oblast, city raion (hereinafter the "territorial") election commission shall consist of the Head, Deputy Head, the Secretary and other members of the commission.
  - 2. Quantitative composition of Territorial Election Commissions shall be as follows:
  - 1) oblast. Kviv City Election Commission 15 members:
- 2) city (regional centers, republican centers in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea with raion structure). Sevastopol City Election Commission 13 members:
- 3) raion, city (regional centers, republican centers in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea without raion structure), Kyiv City Raion Election Commission 11 members;
- 4) city (except for regional centers, republican centers in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea), Sevastopol City Raion Election Commission 9 members;
  - 5) village, settlement election commission 7 members.
  - 3. Members of the election commission shall be appointed:
- 1) for oblast, Kyiv and Sevastopol city, raion, city (regional centers, republican centers in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea) election commission by the Central Election Commission:
- 2) village, settlement (excluding villages and settlements in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, Sevastopol city), city (excluding regional centers) election commission by the relevant Oblast Election Commission;
- 3) village, settlement, city (excluding republican centers) election commission in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea by the Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea;

- 4) village, settlement, city (including villages, settlements, cities being part of the Sevastopol city) by the Sevastopol City Election Commission;
  - 5) city raion election commission by the relevant City Election Commission.

## Article 92. Nomination of Candidates to Territorial Election Commissions on Local Elections

- 1. In the event of the termination of authorities of any member(s) of the Territorial Election Commission the election commission authorized to appoint members of the Territorial Election Commission shall determine the term for the subjects of the nomination process specified in parts two and three of this Article to submit all the requires documents. Such term may not exceed the following:
- 1) during the election process on the relevant elections five days from the day of official public declaration of the decision on setting the terms for nomination;
- 2) beyond the election process fifteen days from the day of official publication of the decision on setting the terms for nomination.
- 2. Candidates to the Territorial Election Commission specified in clause 1 of part three of Article 90 of this Code shall be nominated до to the Central Election Commission by the governing bodies of the relevant oblast, raion, city (including Kyiv city, Sevastopol city, regional centers, republican centers in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea) chapters of political parties specified in part four of Article 13 of this Code.
- 3. Candidates to the Territorial Election Commission specified in clauses 2-5 of part three of Article 90 of this Code shall be nominated to the Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, the relevant Territorial Election Commission by the governing bodies of the respective raion, city (including regional centers, republican centers in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea) chapters of political parties specified in part four of Article 13 of this Code.
- 4. Nomination of (a) candidate(s) to the Territorial Election Commission, not more than one person from one chapter of the party specified in parts two and three of this Article, shall be made in accordance with the form specified in part two of Article 87 of this Code. The nomination documents shall be signed by the leader of the relevant chapter of the party, with a seal of the party chapter affixed thereto.
- 5. The nomination document shall be accompanied with its soft copy, as well as hand-written statements of the persons nominated to the Territorial Election Commission, regarding the consent to participate in the operations of the commission from the relevant subject of the nomination process, as well as original state certificates provided by Article 125 of this Code. The election commission that appoints members of the Territorial Election Commission shall produce and certify copies of the certificates and return the original certificates to the person who submitted the documents to that election commission not later than on the fifth day after the receipt of the submission.

# Article 93. The Procedure for Appointing Members of Territorial Election Commissions on Local Elections

- 1. The election commission that appoints members of the Territorial Election Commission shall verify the authenticity of the information of the nominated candidates, including with the use of personal data from the State Voter Register.
- 2. The pre-emptive right of inclusion of the nominated candidate in the Territorial Election Commission during the election process shall belong to the chapters of the parties that are subjects of the relevant election process, and beyond the election process to the relevant chapters of the parties that have no representatives in the commission after emergence of vacancies in its composition.

- 3. The candidates nominated to the Territorial Election Commission may be rejected only on the grounds of their incompliance with the requirements for the members of the election commissions specified in Article 86 of this Code, violation of the nomination requirements specified in Article 92, or application of the mechanism of drawing lots provided by part five of this Article.
- 4. Technical slips or inaccuracies contained in the nomination documents shall not constitute a reason for the rejection of candidates. In the event of revealing such slips or inaccuracies the relevant election commission appointing members of the Territorial Election Commission shall immediately notify the person who signed the nomination documents. The above slips and inaccuracies may be corrected by submitting the corrected nomination documents regarding the relevant candidates not later than within the period specified in part one of Article 92 of this Code, and if the above notification is received on the last day of such period, then on the day following the day of receipt of the above notification. If no corrected nomination documents are received within the set period the respective candidates shall be rejected.
- 5. If the number of candidates nominated, in particular those having a pre-emptive right to be included in the commission according to part two of this Article, exceeds the number of vacancies in the relevant Territorial Election Commission, the candidates to be included in the commission shall be determined through the mechanism of drawing lots. Such drawing lots procedure shall be performed by the election commission authorized to form the Territorial Election Commission not later than on the second day after the expiry of the terms for nomination specified in part one of Article 92 of this Code.
- 5. The Head, Deputy Head and the Secretary of the Territorial Election Commission should be representatives of different subjects of the nomination process.

### **Article 94. Composition of Precinct Election Commissions**

- 1. Any Precinct Election Commission shall consist of the Head, Deputy Head, the Secretary and other members of the commission.
  - 2. Any Precinct Election Commission shall consist of:
  - 1) for small election precincts 10–18 members;
  - 2) for medium election precincts 14–20 members;
  - 3) for large election precincts 18–24members.
- 3. At especially small election precincts where the number of voters does not exceed fifty persons a Precinct Election Commission may consist of the Head, the Secretary and two-six members of the commission.
- 4. A Precinct Election Commission of a regular or special election precinct on the nationwide elections shall be formed upon the decision of the relevant District Election Commission.
- 5. A Precinct Election Commission of an out-of-country election precinct shall be formed upon the decision of the Central Election Commission.
- 6. A Precinct Election Commission on the ordinary and first local elections shall be created upon the decision of the relevant raion, city (including regional centers, republican centers in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea), Kyiv and Sevastopol city raion election commission.
- 7. A Precinct Election Commission on the extraordinary and interim local elections shall be formed upon the decision of the main election commission on the relevant local elections.

## Article 95. Nomination to a Precinct Election Commission of a Regular or Special Election Precinct

1. The subjects specified in part one of Article 87 of this Code shall have the right to nominate candidates to the Precinct Election Commissions on the nationwide elections. This

right shall be exercised in accordance with the procedure established by this Code for the relevant type of the nationwide elections.

- 2. Subjects of the nomination process with respect to Precinct Election Commissions on the relevant local elections shall be determined by this Code.
- 3. Nomination of candidates to Precinct Election Commissions shall be made in accordance with the form specified in part two of Article 87 of this Code, not later than thirty days before the date of voting.
- 4. The nomination document shall be accompanied with its soft copy, as well as hand-written statements of the persons nominated to the Precinct Election Commission, regarding the consent to participate in the operations of the commission from the relevant subject of the nomination process, indicating full name, place of residence and residential address, as well as confirmation of Ukrainian nationality. The nomination document shall be accompanied with the copies of the certificates, if available, of preliminary training provided by Article 125 of this Code.

# Article 96. The Procedure for Formation of the Precinct Election Commission of a Regular or Special Election Precinct

- 1. A Precinct Election Commission of a regular or special election precinct shall be formed not later than twenty days before the date of voting.
- 2. A Precinct Election Commission of a regular or special election precinct on the nationwide elections, excluding cases provided by part ten of this Article, should include (if the relevant nomination document is available) two representatives from every political party represented by the groups of MPs in the current convocation of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine.
- 3. Other subjects of the nomination process specified in part one of Article 95 of this Code shall be represented in the Precinct Election Commission of a regular or special election precinct on the nationwide elections, excluding the cases provided by part ten of this Article, by not more than one person from each of the subjects.
- 4. The composition of the Precinct Election Commission of a regular or special election precinct on local elections shall include not more than one representative from each of the subjects of the nomination process with respect to the Precinct Election Commissions on the relevant local elections specified by this Code.
- 5. If the number of candidates nominated by the relevant subjects of the nomination process in the cases specified in parts three or four of this Article exceeds the number of vacancies in the relevant Precinct Election Commission, the candidates to be included in the commission shall be determined through the mechanism of drawing lots in accordance with the procedure established by the Central Election Commission. Such drawing lots procedure shall be performed by the election commission authorized to form the Precinct Election Commissions, not later than on the fifth day after the expiry of the terms for nomination.
- 6. The election commission authorized to create Precinct Election Commissions shall verify the authenticity of the information of the nominated candidates, including with the use of personal data from the State Voter Register. For this purpose the above election commission shall promptly upon the nomination apply to the relevant State Voter Register maintenance body with a request to verify the authenticity of information. The Register maintenance body shall respond to the request not later than on the fourth day after the receipt of the request.
- 7. The candidates nominated to the Precinct Election Commission may be rejected only on the grounds of their incompliance with the requirements for the members of the election commissions specified in Article 86 of this Code, violation of the nomination requirements specified in Article 95 of this Code, or application of the mechanism of drawing lots provided by part five of this Article.
- 8. Technical slips or inaccuracies contained in the nomination documents shall not constitute a reason for the rejection of candidates. In the event of revealing such slips or inaccuracies the election commission creating the precinct election commission shall immediately notify the person who signed the nomination documents. The above slips and

inaccuracies may be corrected by submitting the corrected nomination documents regarding the relevant candidates not later than within the period specified in part three of Article 95 of this Code, and if the above notification is received on the last day of such period, then on the day following the day of receipt of the above notification. If no corrected nomination documents are received within the set period the respective candidates shall be rejected.

- 9. If no candidates are nominated to the Precinct Election Commission within the term established by part three of Article 95 or if the number of candidates nominated to the Precinct Election Commission is less than the minimum number set forth by parts two and three of Article 94 of this Code, then the relevant election commission authorized to create Precinct Election Commissions must create a Precinct Election Commission nominated by the Head of such election commission with the minimum number of members established by part two and three of Article 94 of this Code, taking into consideration the candidates nominated in accordance with the requirements of Article 95 of this Code by the subjects of the nomination process specified in parts two and three of this Article. The candidates nominated by the Head of the Commission should comply with the requirements set forth in Article 86 of this Code.
- 10. A Precinct Election Commission of a special election precinct created on a ship in a voyage under the State Flag of Ukraine on the date of voting on the nationwide elections or on a polar station of Ukraine shall be created by the District Election Commission according to the place of registration of the ship or polar station of Ukraine based on the proposal of the captain or head of the polar station, respectively, that can be sent by using technical communication means within the term stipulated by part one of this Article.
- 11. The decision on the creation of Precinct Election Commissions and their composition shall be published in the relevant regional and local print media not later than on the fifth day after the date of its making or, if not available, shall be published in any other way within the same term.
- 12. The decision on the creation of Precinct Election Commissions and their composition shall be promptly provided to the State Voter Register maintenance bodies at the location of the Precinct Election Commission. An excerpt from the above decision regarding the composition of each Precinct Election Commission shall be sent to the Register maintenance bodies to the voter addresses of persons included in the composition of the relevant Precinct Election Commission.

# Article 97. Distribution of Managerial Positions in Precinct Election Commissions of Regular and Special Election Precincts

- 1. The Head, Deputy Head and the Secretary of the Precinct Election Commission of a regular or special election precinct shall be appointed by the decision on the formation of the Precinct Election Commission specified in parts four and six of Article 94 of this Code.
- 2. The Head, Deputy Head or the Secretary of the Precinct Election Commission should be representatives of different subjects of the nomination process.
- 3. Each subject of the nomination process who has nominated candidates to Precinct Election Commissions (except for the Head of the relevant election commission) shall have the right to proportional share of each type of managerial positions in Precinct Election Commissions, of separately small, medium and large election precincts within the territorial district (on the nationwide elections) or an administrative-territorial unit (on local elections). A share of managerial positions of each type for every subject of the nomination process in each category of election precincts within the territorial district or administrative-territorial unit shall be determined in accordance with the number of candidates nominated by such subject to election commissions of each category of election precincts, in proportion to the general number of persons included in the Precinct Election Commissions of the relevant category of the election precincts on behalf of the subjects specified in part one of Article 87 of this Code.

- 4. A person nominated to the Precinct Election Commission can take part in the distribution of managerial positions in the commission provided that it has appropriate characteristics specified in clauses 5, 8, and 9 of part two of Article 87 of this Code.
- 5. The person included in the Precinct Election Commission nominated by the Head of the election commission that creates Precinct Election Commissions cannot be appointed to a managerial position in the Precinct Election Commission, except when the relevant Precinct Election Commission didn't receive or received in insufficient amount the nomination documents from the subjects specified in part one of Article 87 of this Code that does not allow to comply with the requirement of part two of this Article. The number of persons nominated by the Head of the relevant election commission shall not be taken into account when determining the shares of managerial positions in accordance with part three of this Article.
- 6. The procedure for distribution of managerial positions between the subjects of the nomination process within the limits of shares determined in accordance with part three of this Article shall be established by the Central Election Commission.

# Article 98. Nomination of Candidates to a Precinct Election Commission of an Out-of-country Election Precinct

- 1. The subjects specified in part one of Article 87 of this Code, as well as the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine shall have the right to nominate candidates to the Precinct Election Commissions of out-of-country election precincts. This right shall be exercised in accordance with the procedure established by this Code for each type of the nationwide elections.
- 2. The composition of a Precinct Election Commission of an out-of-country election precinct may include voters registered in the State Voter Register under voter address in the territory of the relevant foreign country.
- 4. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine shall include in the nomination documents submitted within the term established by part five of this Article employees of diplomatic and other official missions of Ukraine (in compliance with the requirements of part three of Article 86 of this Code) abroad, military servants of military units (commands) stationed outside Ukraine, or other Ukrainian citizens registered in the State Voter Register under voter address in the territory of the relevant foreign country, in the number not less than the minimum and not more than the average quantitative composition of Precinct Election Commissions established by part two or three of Article 94 of this Code.
- 5. Nomination of candidates to Precinct Election Commissions shall be made in accordance with the form specified in part two of Article 87 of this Code, not later than thirty days before the date of voting.
- 6. The nomination document shall be accompanied with its soft copy, as well as hand-written statements of the persons nominated to the Precinct Election Commission, regarding the consent to participate in the operations of the commission from the relevant subject of the nomination process, indicating full name, place of residence and residential address, as well as confirmation of Ukrainian nationality. The nomination document shall be accompanied with the copies of the certificates, if available, of preliminary training provided by Article 125 of this Code.

# Article 99. The Procedure for Formation of a Precinct Election Commission of an Out-of-country Election Precinct

- 1. A Precinct Election Commission of an out-of-country election precinct shall be formed not later than twenty days before the date of voting.
- 2. A Precinct Election Commission of an out-of-country election precinct should include (if the relevant nomination document is available) representatives of the subjects specified in

part one of Article 87 of this Code, in compliance with the requirements of parts two and three of Article 96 of this Code and with the use (if necessary) of the mechanism of drawing lots stipulated by part five of Article 96 of this Code.

- 3. The Central Election Commission shall verify the authenticity of the information of the nominated candidates, including with the use of personal data from the State Voter Register.
- 4. The candidates nominated to the Precinct Election Commission may be rejected only on the grounds of their incompliance with the requirements for the members of the election commissions specified in Article 86 of this Code, violation of the nomination requirements specified in Article 98 of this Code or application of the mechanism of drawing lots provided by part five of Article 96 of this Code.
- 5. Technical slips or inaccuracies contained in the nomination documents shall not constitute a reason for the rejection of candidates. In the event of revealing such slips or inaccuracies in the nomination documents the Central Election Commission shall promptly notify the person who signed the nomination documents. The above slips and inaccuracies may be corrected by submitting the corrected nomination documents regarding the relevant candidates not later than within the period specified in part one of this Article, and if the above notification is received on the last day of such period, then on the day following the day of receipt of the above notification. If no corrected nomination documents are received within the set period the respective candidates shall be rejected.
- 6. The decision on the creation of Precinct Election Commissions of the out-of-country election precincts and their composition shall be published by the Central Election Commission within three days from the date of making the relevant decision in the national print media and shall be published on the official web-site of the Central Election Commission. Publication of the information of the location, mailing address and working hours of the Precinct Election Commissions created at the foreign diplomatic missions of Ukraine abroad, including outside the premises of the foreign diplomatic missions of Ukraine, in military units (commands) stationed outside Ukraine shall be made by the relevant foreign diplomatic establishments of Ukraine taking into consideration local conditions of the country of residence.

# Article 100. Distribution of Managerial Positions in Precinct Election Commissions of the Out-of-country Election Precincts

- 1. The Head, Deputy Head and the Secretary of a Precinct Election Commission of an out-of-country election precinct shall be appointed by the decision on the formation of the Precinct Election Commission specified in parts four-six of Article 94 of this Code.
- 2. The Head, Deputy Head or the Secretary of the Precinct Election Commission should be representatives of different subjects of the nomination process.
- 3. Each subject of the nomination process who has nominated candidates to the Precinct Election Commissions of the out-of-country election precincts (except for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine) shall have the right to proportional share of each type of managerial positions in Precinct Election Commissions, of separately small, medium and large election precincts within the Out-of-country Election District. A share of managerial positions for every subject of the nomination process in each category of election precincts within the out-of-country election district shall be determined in accordance with the number of candidates nominated by such subject to the Precinct Election Commissions of each category of out-of-country election precincts, in proportion to the general number of persons included in the election commissions of the relevant category of out-of-country election precincts on behalf of the subjects specified in part one of Article 87 of this Code.
- 4. A person nominated to the Precinct Election Commission by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine can be appointed to a managerial position in the election commission only in the event that there are no candidates to such position from the subjects specified in part one of Article 87 of this Code. The number of persons nominated by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine shall not be taken into account when determining the shares of managerial positions in accordance with part three of this Article.

#### Article 101. Oath of a Member of the Commission

- 1. A person appointed as a member of the election commission, at the first meeting of the election commission in which he/she takes part, must examine part five-ten of Article 102 of this Code and take an oath which shall read as follows:
- «I (full name) undertaking the authorities of a member of the election commission and understanding my high responsibility to the Ukrainian people swear that I will comply with the Constitution and the laws of Ukraine, perform my obligations honestly and in good faith, based on the principles of the rule of law, legality, objectivity and impartiality, ensure implementation and protection of electoral rights of Ukrainian citizens."
- 2. A person who took the oath of a member of the election commission shall immediately affix his/her signature to the oath. This document shall be an integral part of the documentation of the relevant commission. A member of the commission upon taking an oath shall be given an accreditation signed by the head of the commission of a higher level.
- 3. A refusal to take the oath in accordance with the procedure and within the terms established by parts one and two of this Article or avoidance of taking the oath at the two meeting of the commission following the inclusion into the commission shall mean the refusal of the person to be a member of the election commission and shall constitute the reason for the nomination of some other candidate by the relevant subject of the nomination process.

#### Article 102. Status of a Member of the Election Commission

- 1. The Head, Deputy Head, Secretary and members of the election commission shall be officials of the election commission. Te Head of the election commission shall, without any powers of attorney, represent the election commission in its relations with voters, state authorities, authorities of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, and bodies of local self-governance, public associations, and other election commissions, subjects of the relevant election process, enterprises, agencies, institutions, and organizations.
- 2. During their term of office (for Territorial Election Commissions on local elections during the election process) or any part of such term the Head, Deputy Head, Secretary or, if they refuse, other members of the election commission (not more than three persons in the total number), except for the Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, by decision of the election commission may exercise their authorities in the election commission with remuneration in accordance with Article 103 of this Code or exercise their authorities in the election commission on a paid basis under a civil law agreement with election commission. For a district or precinct election commission such decision shall be approved by the election commission of the higher level.
- 3. During the term of office as members of the commission with remuneration, the persons specified in part two of this Article shall be released from the performance of their official duties at the principal place of employment with the preservation of their general and special length of service.
- 4. The Head, Deputy Head, and the Secretary of the Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea shall exercise permanently their authorities and have the status of civil servants.
  - 5. A member of the election commission shall have the right to:
- 1) take part in the preparation of the issues submitted for consideration to the election commission;
- 2) speak at the meetings of the election commission, ask questions to other participants of the meeting regarding the agenda, submit proposals regarding issues falling within the competence of the commission;
- 3) upon instruction of the relevant election commission check the activities of any election commissions of the lower level;
- 4) freely examine documents of the election commission, in which he/she is a member and any election commissions of the lower level in the relevant territory;

- 5) represent the election commission according to its decision in the state authorities, authorities of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and bodies of local self-governance, enterprises, agencies, institutions and organizations;
- 6) be indemnified for any damage to his/her health, life or property in connection with the performance of duties of a member of the election commission, including trip costs related to the performance of the duties of a member of the commission, in accordance with the procedure and in the amount set forth by the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine.
- 6. A member of the election commission may be neither brought to disciplinary liability at the place of employment, nor removed, nor transferred to the lower position, for the reasons connected with the performance of his/her duties in the election commission.
  - 7. Any member of the election commission must:
- 1) comply with the Constitution of Ukraine, this law and other laws of Ukraine on the preparation and conduct of elections;
  - 2) take part in the meetings of the election commission;
- 3) implement decisions of the election commission and duties vested thereon in accordance with their distribution in the commission.
- 8. Any member of the election commission during his/her term of office shall not be allowed to campaign for or against the candidates registered for the relevant elections and subjects of the nomination process, as well as openly assess their election campaign program or activities.
- 9. During the period of performing the duties of a member of the election commission (participating in the meetings of the commission, other events in order to comply with this law or implement the commission decisions) each member of the election commission shall have guarantees and compensations envisaged by the labor laws of Ukraine for employees for the period of performance of state or public duties during working hours. Members of the election commission shall be released from performing official duties at his/her principal place of employment for the time required to perform his/her duties of a member of the commission, based on a written notification from the Head, Deputy Head or the Secretary of the relevant election commission concerning the convocation of the commission meeting or the decision of the election commission to engage a member of the commission in any other events provided by this Code. Such notifications or decisions should specify the date, time and scheduled duration of a meeting of the election commission of any other event.
- 10. No member of the election commission can be deprived if his/her rights specified in part five of this Article and dismissed from the work in the relevant election commission, and deprived of the right to take part in a meeting of the respective commission.
- 11. Any member of the election commission shall also have other rights and obligations stipulated by this Code and other laws of Ukraine.

### Article 103. Remuneration of Members of the Election Commission and Persons Engaged for Ensuring Operation of the Commission

- 1. Work of a member of the election commission who performs his/her duties in the election commission on a paid basis in accordance with part two of Article 102 of this Code shall be paid in the amount and according to the procedure established by the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine at the expense of funds of the relevant budget allocated for the preparation and conduct of elections.
- 2. The amount and terms and conditions of remuneration of the Head, Deputy Head and the Secretary of the Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea shall be set forth by the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine. Their remuneration shall be carried out at the expense of the budget of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea.
- 3. The amount of salary of a member of the election commission released from performing official duties at his/her principal place of employment shall be set forth at the level of his/her average salary amount at the principal place of employment, however not less than the double minimum wage amount set forth on the day of the beginning of the election process. The amount of salary of a member of the election commission who is a

pensioner or temporarily unemployed shall not be les than the double amount of the minimum wage set forth on the day of the beginning of the election process.

- 4. Work of members of the election commissions (including pensioners and temporarily unemployed) on the day of elections and on the days of determining voting results shall be paid in the amount and in accordance with the procedure established by the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine according to the proposal of the Central Election Commission.
- 5. Members of the election commissions within the scope of the general saving policy of the remuneration fund provided by the cost estimate of expenditures of the relevant election commission on the preparation and conduct of elections may receive a one-time monetary remuneration in accordance with the procedure established by the Central Election Commission.
- 6. Work of specialists, experts and technical personnel specified in part four of Article 111 of this Code shall be paid in the amount and in accordance with the procedure established by the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine at the expense of funds of the State Budget of Ukraine allocated for the preparation and conduct of elections. The salary amount of such persons may not be less than seventy percents of the average salary amount in the industry set forth on the date of commencement of the election process.
- 7. Performance of work related to the arrangement of the preparation and conduct of elections by the persons registered as unemployed within the election commission or as specialists, experts and technical personnel specified in part four of Article 111 of this Code shall not constitute the reason for taking such persons off the books in the State Employment Service as those seeking job, or for termination of the payment of social benefits provided by the Law of Ukraine "On Mandatory State Social Insurance in Case of Unemployment" and other types of social benefits.
- 8. Remuneration of members of the election commission or persons specified in part four of Article 111 of this Code who are pensioners may not constitute the reason for restricting the amount of their pension.
- 9. In order to receive payment provided by parts one, three-five of this Article a member of the election commission and the person engaged as a specialist, expert or technical officer in accordance with part four of Article 111 of this Code shall submit to the relevant District or Territorial Election Commission a copy of the identification code certificate or a statement regarding absence of the identification code.

#### Article 104. Term of Office of Election Commissions

- 1. The Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, the Territorial Election Commission shall exercise their authorities on a permanent basis. The above commission shall be plenipotentiary if at least 2/3 of its members determined in accordance with this Code are appointed to the office and take an oath.
  - 2. District and Precinct Election Commissions shall be temporary bodies.
- 3. Powers and authorities of the Precinct Election Commission come into effect from the moment of taking an oath by at least 2/3 of the minimal composition of the commission determined by part one of Article 88 or parts two or three of Article 94 of this Code, at its first meeting held not later than on the third day after the day of the decision on formation thereof.
- 3. Powers and authorities of the District Election Commission shall be terminated in twenty days after the day of official public declaration by the Central Election Commission of the results of the nationwide elections in accordance with the procedure established by this Code. A District Election Commission shall cease to exist together with the termination of the legal entity in accordance with the procedure and within the terms established by Article 116 of this Code.
- 4. Powers and authorities of the Precinct Election Commission shall be terminated in fifteen days after the day of official public declaration by the relevant election commission of the results of elections. A Precinct Election Commission shall terminate its term of office together with the termination of its powers and authorities.

- 5. Powers and authorities of all members of election commission may be earlier terminated by the commission that created it, at its own discretion or based on the court order in the event of regular violation by the commission of the Constitution of Ukraine, this Code and other laws of Ukraine.
- 6. Powers and authorities of all members of a District or Precinct Election Commission shall be earlier terminated in the event of the appointment of repeat voting in accordance with the procedure and within the terms established by this Code for the relevant type of elections.
- 7. The election commission may not make a decision on earlier termination of its powers and authorities.
- 8. Earlier termination of the powers and authorities of all members of the election commission shall not constitute liquidation of this commission.
- 9. In the event of earlier termination of powers and authorities of all members of the election commission, the election commission authorized to appoint its members shall, not later than on the seventh day after the termination of powers and authorities of the commission, but not later than the last day before the date of voting, approve the new composition of the election commission in accordance with the procedure established by this Code.
- 10. The decision on approval of a new composition of the election commission shall be published in accordance with the procedure and within the terms established by part eight of Article 88, part eleven of Article 96 or part six of Article 99 of this Code, respectively, however not later than the last day before the day of voting.
- 11. The decision on earlier termination of the powers and authorities of all members of the election commission and on approval of a new composition of the election commission shall be promptly provided to the State Voter Register maintenance bodies at the place of location of the relevant election commission and at voter addresses of the relevant persons included in or removed from the Precinct Election Commissions.

#### **Article 105. Term of Office of Members of Election Commissions**

- 1. Powers and authorities of a member of the election commission shall come into effect from the moment he takes an oath in accordance with the procedure established by Article 101 of this Code.
- 2. Powers and authorities of a member of the District Election Commission or Precinct Election Commission shall be terminated at the same time as the powers and authorities of the relevant commission are terminated or earlier termination of the powers and authorities of all members of the commission, except for the cases of earlier termination of powers and authorities by an individual member of the election commission in accordance with Article 106 of this Code.
- 3. Upon the termination of powers and authorities of the District Election Commission within the term specified in part three of Article 104 of this Code the authorities of the Head or a Deputy Head of the relevant commission shall be extended until the commission ceases to exist, to the extent necessary to ensure state registration of the termination of a legal entity of the District Election Commission in accordance with Article 116 of this Code.
- 4. Term of office of a member of the Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, the Territorial Election Commission shall be five years.
- 5. Powers and authorities of a member of the Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, the Territorial Election Commission in connection with the termination of the powers and authorities shall be terminated from the moment of taking an oath by other member of the relevant commission appointed instead of the member whose term of office terminated.

### Article 106. Earlier Termination of the Powers and Authorities of a Member of the Election Commission

- 1. Powers and authorities of an individual member of the election commission shall be earlier terminated by the commission which created the relevant election commission in connection with the following:
- 1) a personal statement of laying down the authorities by the member of the commission:
  - 2) refusal to take an oath of a member of the commission;
  - 3) termination of the Ukrainian nationality;
- 4) his/her registration as a candidate on elections, that are prepared and conducted by the relevant election commission, or on any other elections where the election process takes place at the same time as the election process of the above elections;
- 5) his/her registration as a representative of the subject of the election process with the Central Election Commission, an authorized person of any party, party chapter or any candidate, a proxy of any candidate on the elections prepared and conducted by the relevant election commission, or on any other elections where the election process takes place at the same time as the election process of the above elections;
- 6) his/her joining any other election commission preparing and conducting the same elections or any other elections where the election process takes place at the same time as the election process of the above elections;
- 7) recall of the member of the election commission by the subject of the nomination process;
- 8) violation of the oath of a member of the commission revealed as a regular failure to comply with the his/her duties certified by at least two decision thereon made by the election commission in which he/she is a member;
- 9) absence of the member of the Precinct Election Commission on the day of voting during an hour upon the commencement of the voting as established by this Code, or at the meeting of the Precinct Election Commission at which vote counting on the relevant election precinct takes place; absence of the member of the District Election Commission on the nationwide elections at its meeting at which protocols of the Precinct Election Commissions are accepted and tabulation of protocols within the territorial election district is carried out:
- 10) repeated or one-time gross violation of the laws of Ukraine on elections established by a court decision or a decision of a higher-level election commission;
  - 11) if a guilty verdict has been issued against him/her for an intended crime;
  - 12) in the event of holding him/her as legally incapable, partially incapable, or missing;
  - 13) his/her death.
- 2. Powers and authorities of a member of the District Election Commission, Precinct Election Commission on the nationwide elections shall also be earlier terminated for the reason of his/her departure for the period up to the day of elections inclusively outside Ukraine or the country in which the out-of-country election precinct has been created that leads to his/her inability to perform his/her duties of a member of the commission.
- 3. Powers and authorities of a member of the Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, Territorial Election Commission, Precinct Election Commission on local elections shall also be earlier terminated in the event that the person has lost his/her right to vote on the relevant local elections.
- 4. If any circumstances occur that are provided in clauses 1-6, 10-12 of part two, part four of this Article, the powers and authorities of a member of the election commission shall be terminated from the moment of their occurrence or revealing, and in the event of the circumstances provided in clauses 7-9 of part one, part two of this Article from the moment of making the decision on the termination of his/her powers.
- 5. The commission that earlier terminated powers of any individual member of the election commission or detected the circumstances that lead to earlier termination of his/her powers shall, not lather than the following day, inform the subject of the nomination process which nominated the person whose powers have been earlier terminated or with respect to which any circumstances have been revealed that lead to the termination of his/her powers and authorities.

- 6. In the event of an earlier termination of a member of the election commission the relevant election commission, not later than on the seventh day after the day of termination of his/her powers but not later than the last day before the day of voting, shall nominate other person instead of the member of the commission whose powers have been terminated in accordance with the procedure established by this Code.
- 7. The subject of the nomination process who nominated the member of the commission whose powers have been earlier terminated shall have a priority right to nominate a candidate to the election commission to substitute the withdrawn member. Such nomination made in accordance with the requirements of this Code may not be rejected excluding the event specified in part ten of this Article.
- 8. In the event of an earlier termination of the powers and authorities of a member of the election commission within the last two days before the day of voting and on the day of voting such decision shall be made at the same time as the decision on the inclusion into the relevant election commission of other representative of the same subject of the nomination process.
- 9. A person who in the course of the relevant election process head been a member of the election commission but refused to take an oath or if his/her powers and authorities were earlier terminated based on clauses 9 or 10 of part two of this Article cannot be included in the election commission.
- 10. In the event of earlier termination of powers and authorities of a member of the Precinct Election Commission of an out-of-country election precinct, if there is no nomination made by the subject of the nomination process specified in part nine of this Article, some other person nominated by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine shall be included in the Commission only in the event that the number of members of the Precinct Election Commission is less than the minimum amount established by part two or three of Article 94 of this Code.
- 11. The decision on earlier termination of the powers and authorities of a member of the election commission and on the inclusion of another person to the election commission shall be promptly provided to the State Voter Register maintenance bodies at the place of location of the relevant election commission and at the voter addresses of the respective persons included in or dismissed from the Precinct Election Commissions.

## Article 107. Replacement of the Head, Deputy Head and the Secretary of the Election Commission

- 1. The Head, Deputy Head and the Secretary of the election commission shall have the right to apply to the election commission which has appointed him/her to the managerial position with a statement of refusal to perform duties of the Head, Deputy Head or the Secretary of the Commission, respectively, and the desire to work as a member of the Commission.
- 2. If the Head, Deputy Head and the Secretary of the election commission regularly fails to perform his/her duties the election commission in which he/she is a member may apply to the election commission which created it with a motivated proposal regarding his/her replacement, if that was supported by at least 2/3 of the members of the commission.
- 3. The statement specified in part one of this Article and nomination documents specified in part two of this Article shall be subject to mandatory consideration not later than within three days after their receipt by the respective election commission authorized to make the respective decisions, however at the latest on the last day before the day of voting.
- 4. The decision to remove a member of the commission from the office of the Head, Deputy Head, or the Secretary of the election commission shall be made together with the appointment of another member of the same commission to the respective managerial position. Such decision shall be made taking into consideration the requirements of parts two-four of Article 89, parts two-four of Article 97 or parts two-four of Article 100 of this Code.
- 5. The decision to remove the Head, Deputy Head, or the Secretary of the election commission shall not entail the termination of their term of office as of the members of the respective election commission. The decision to appoint a person who previously was

appointed member of that commission to the office of the Head, Deputy Head or the Secretary of the election commission shall not be deemed a new appointment to the commission.

## Article 108. General Powers and Authorities of District Election Commissions on the Nationwide Elections

- 1. District Election Commission on the nationwide elections shall ensure preparation and conduct of the respective nationwide elections within the territorial election district.
  - 2. The District Election Commission shall:
- 1) control, within the respective territorial election district, the compliance with and uniform application of election legislation by voters, Precinct Election Commissions and their members, executive bodies, authorities of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and bodies of local self-governance, officials of these bodies, enterprises, agencies, institutions and organizations and their officials, mass media, their owners, officials and production personnel, candidates and their proxies, political parties, their representatives and authorized persons, official observers, and other public associations;
- 2) create Precinct Election Commissions within the territorial election district; amend the composition of such commissions in accordance with this Code;
- 3) provide legal, organizational, methodological, and technical support to Precinct Election Commissions of the respective territorial election district, arrange training of their members in the issues of election process organization;
- 4) convene if necessary on its own initiative a meeting of the Precinct Election Commission of the election precinct which is a part of the territorial election district;
- 5) resolve issues connected with the use of funds of the State Budget of Ukraine allocated for the preparation and conduct of the respective elections in accordance with the procedure established by the Central Election Commission;
- 6) monitor the activities of executive bodies and bodies of local self-governance with respect to the provision of the Precinct Election Commissions with premises, transport, communication means, equipment; within its competence consider and resolve other issues of material and technical provision of elections in the territory of the respective territorial election district:
- 7) receive Voter Lists from the State Voter Register maintenance bodies and transfer them to the Precinct Election Commissions at the precincts of the respective territorial district in accordance with the procedure established by this Code; monitor the provision of the Voter Lists for public access;
- 8) transfer ballot papers and forms of other documentation to the Precinct Election Commissions in accordance with this Code, ensure control over ballots accounting within the territorial election district:
- 9) ensure the production of seals and stamps and transfer them to the Precinct Election Commissions of the respective district;
- 10) hear statements of the Precinct Election Commissions, local executive bodies and bodies of local self-governance regarding the issues connected with the preparation and conduct of elections;
- 11) register official observers from the subjects provided by this Code in the territorial district;
- 12) consider applications and claims concerning the preparation and conduct of elections within the territorial election district and make the decision thereon within its competence;
- 13) accept from the Precinct Election Commissions protocols of vote counting at the election precincts and other election documents, conduct the repeat vote counting at the election precinct in the events provided by this Code;
- 14) determine voting results within the territorial district, draw up the protocol on the tabulation of protocols within the district, submit the protocol and other election documents provided by this Code to the Central Election Commission;
- 15) recognize voting at an individual election precinct invalid in the events provided by this Code;

- 16) ensure delivery of election and other documents for storage to the respective state archive in accordance with the procedure established by this Code;
  - 17) exercise any other authorities stipulated by this Code and other laws of Ukraine.

# Article 109. General Powers and Authorities of the Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, the Territorial Election Commission

- 1. The Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, the Territorial Election Commission shall ensure preparation and conduct of the respective local elections within the respective administrative-territorial unit.
- 2. Raion, village, settlement, city, and city raion election commissions in the events and in accordance with the procedure established by this Code may exercise certain powers with respect to local elections conducted in the higher-level administrative-territorial unit.
- 3. The Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, the Territorial Election Commission shall:
- 1) control, within the respective administrative-territorial unit, the compliance with and uniform application of election legislation regarding local elections by voters, Precinct Election Commissions and their members, candidates and their proxies, political parties and their chapters, their representatives and authorized persons, official observers and other public associations, executive bodies, authorities of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and bodies of local self-governance, officials of those bodies, enterprises, agencies, institutions, and organizations and their officials, mass media, their owners, officials and production personnel;
- 2) provide legal, organizational, methodological, and technical support to Precinct Election Commissions within the respective administrative-territorial unit regarding the respective local elections, arrange training of their members in the issues of election process organization;
- 3) create Precinct Election Commissions in the events and in accordance with the procedure established by this Code;
- 4) convene if necessary on its own initiative a meeting of the Precinct Election Commission concerning the conduct of the respective local elections;
- 5) receive and transfer Voter Lists to the Precinct Election Commissions at the election precincts of the respective territorial district in the events and in accordance with the procedure established by this Code; monitor the provision of the Voter Lists for public access;
- 6) monitor the activities of local executive bodies and bodies of local self-governance with respect to the provision of the Precinct Election Commissions with premises, transport, communication means, equipment; consider and resolve other issues of material and technical provision of the respective local elections;
- 7) make decision on the use of funds of the State Budget of Ukraine or the respective local budget allocated for the preparation and conduct of the respective local elections, and monitor the intended use thereof;
  - 8) register candidates nominated at the respective local elections;
- 9) consider issues regarding cancellation of the registration of candidates in the events provided by this Code;
  - 10) inform voters of the registered candidates on the respective local elections;
- 11) approve the text of a ballot paper for the respective local elections; ensure production of such ballot papers;
- 12) transfer ballot papers for the respective local elections to the Precinct Election Commissions, ensure control over ballot accounting on the respective local elections;
- 13) ensure the production of election document forms for the respective local elections and, if necessary, seals and stamps and transfer them to the Precinct Election Commissions;
- 14) hear statements of the Precinct Election Commissions, local executive bodies and bodies of local self-governance regarding the issues connected with the preparation and conduct of the respective local elections;
- 15) monitor the use of funds from the election funds of the subjects of the election process of the respective local elections;

- 16) monitor the compliance with the procedure for conducting election campaign on the respective local elections established by this Code;
- 17) register official observers at the respective local elections in the events and in accordance with the procedure established by this Code;
- 18) consider applications and claims concerning the preparation and conduct of the respective local elections, and make decisions thereon;
- 19) determine the results of the respective local elections; ensure official public declaration of the results of the respective local elections;
- 20) recognize the respective local elections invalid in accordance with the requirements of this Code;
- 21) recognize voting at an individual election precinct invalid in the events provided by this Code:
- 22) organize the conduct of repeat voting and repeat local elections in the events provided by this Code;
- 23) ensure delivery of election and other documents for storage to the respective state archive in accordance with the procedure established by the Central Election Commission:
- 24) inform the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine and the Central Election Commission of the results of the respective local elections;
  - 25) exercise any other authorities in accordance with this Code and other laws of Ukraine.

#### Article 110. General Powers and Authorities of the Precinct Election Commission

- 1. A Precinct Election Commission shall ensure preparation and conduct of voting at the election precinct, count votes and determine the results of voting within the election precinct on the respective elections.
  - 2. The Precinct Election Commission shall:
- 1) monitor strict compliance with the election legislations during the voting and vote counting at the election precinct;
- 2) receive a Voter List from the higher-level election commission of the respective elections or in the events stipulated by this Code, draw up a Voter List; present the Voter List for public access, as well as alter it in the events provided by this Code;
- 3) ensure an opportunity for the voters to become familiar with information of candidates registered to take part in the respective elections, subjects of the nomination process, respective election programs, as well as decisions made by the Central Election Commission, other election commissions of the higher level, own decisions and notifications;
- 4) ensure the voters' familiarization with the voting procedure and the procedure for filling a ballot paper on the respective elections;
  - 5) ensure accounting of the ballot papers received by the commission;
  - 6) ensure preparation of premises for voting and ballot boxes;
- 7) in the events provided by this Code, alter the ballot paper on the respective elections:
  - 8) organize voting at the election precinct;
- 9) conduct counting of votes cast on the respective elections at the election precinct and draw up a protocol of vote counting at the election precinct of the respective elections;
- 10) transfer the protocol of vote counting at the election precinct on the respective elections and other election documents to the respective election commission of the higher level;
- 11) recognize voting on the respective elections at the election precinct in the event of the circumstances stipulated by Article 249 of this Code;
- 12) consider applications and claims concerning the preparation and organization of voting and vote counting at the election precinct and within its competence make the decisions thereon;
  - 13) exercise any other authorities provided by this Code and other laws of Ukraine.

#### **Article 111. Organization of Election Commission Activities**

- 1. An election commission shall be a collegial body. Meeting shall be the main form of operations of the election commission.
- 2. Conduct of voting shall be a separate form of operation of the Precinct Election Commission.
- 3. No one shall have the right to interfere with the activities of election commissions, excluding the cases stipulated by the law.
- 4. For the purpose of organizational, legal, technical provision of the exercising of powers and authorities stipulated by this Code the election commission may engage the respective specialists, experts, and technical personnel.
- 5. Specific features of the organization of activities of the Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea shall be determined by this Code.

#### **Article 112. Election Commission Meeting**

- 1. A commission meeting shall be convened by the Head of the commission, and in his/her absence by the Deputy Head, and in the absence of the Head and Deputy Head by the Secretary of the commission. The first meeting of a newly created election commission shall be convened at the latest on the third day after its creation, and the next meetings when necessary. On the day of voting the election commission meeting shall be held without convocation in accordance with the requirements of this Code.
- 2. A meeting of election commission may be convened by the decision of the election commission of the higher level.
- 3. Upon written request of at least 2/3 of the election commission members, the Head of the election commission or Deputy Head should convene a commission meeting at the latest on the next day after the receipt of such request.
- 4. A meeting of the election commission shall be plenipotentiary if at least 2/3 of the commission members are present.
- 5. The meeting of the Precinct Election Commission at which vote counting is conducted and voting results at the election precinct are determined, as well as a meeting of the District Election Commission on the nationwide elections when the tabulation of protocols is conducted within the territorial election district shall be plenipotentiary if more than a half of the commission members are present.
- 6. On the day of voting, in particular, in the course of vote counting, determination of the results of voting at the election precinct, and tabulation of protocols within the territorial election district the meeting of the Precinct Election Commission or the District Election Commission on the nationwide elections shall be plenipotentiary if more than a half of the commission members are present.
- 7. A meeting of the election commission shall be convened subject to mandatory notification of all members of the commission of the time, place and agenda of the meeting. Members of the election commission shall be provided with draft decisions of the commission and the necessary documents, as a rule, on the last day before the commission meeting at the latest, however not later than the commencement of the meeting.
- 8. A meeting of the election commission shall be held by the Head of the Commission or Deputy Head, and in the event that they fail to perform such duty the commission shall appoint the person presiding at the meeting from among its members.

#### Article 113. Issues Consideration and Resolution by the Election Commission

- 1. On request of three members of the commission, as well as by decision of the election commission of the higher level or a court, the election commission must consider at its meeting issues falling within its competence, at the latest of the day following the day of submitting a request or obtaining the above decision, but not later than on the day proceeding the day of voting.
- 2. The District Election Commission, the Territorial Election Commission on the day of voting and during the final meeting at which the protocols of the Precinct Election Commissions are accepted must promptly consider the complaint regarding violations of the election laws during voting, vote counting and transportation of election documents received, as well as other issues specified in part one of this Article.
- 3. On the day of voting the Precinct Election Commission should consider, at its meeting immediately after the end of the voting, complaints with respect to violations of the election laws received in the course of voting, as well as issues specified in part one of this Article.
- 4. Any decision of the election commission shall be made by open vote by a majority of votes of the Commission members, excluding the cases stipulated by this Code. In the event specified in part five of Article 112 of this Code the decision shall be made by 2/3 of the present members of the commission.
- 5. At the meeting of a precinct, district or territorial election commission on the day of voting, in particular, during vote counting, determination of results at the election precinct, tabulation of protocols within the territorial district or administrative-territorial unit, in the event stipulated by part five of Article 112 of this Code, the Commission decision shall be made by at least 2/3 of the members of the commission present at the commission meeting.
- 6. Any member of the election commission present at the meeting who disagrees with the Commission's decision shall have the right (within two days after the meeting at which the decision was made) to express his/her opinion in writing and attach it to the respective minutes of the election commission meeting constituting its integral part. An individual opinion prepared by a member of the Precinct Election Commission with respect to vote counting at the election precinct, shall also be attached to the protocol of vote counting at the election precinct. An individual opinion prepared by a member of the District Election Commission or Territorial Election Commission with respect to acceptance of election documents from the Precinct Election Commissions and tabulation of protocols within the territorial election district or administrative-territorial unit shall also be attached to the protocol of results within the territorial election district or the respective protocol of the results of local elections.
- 7. Any decision of the commission shall come into effect from the moment of its adoption excluding the cases provided by this Code.
- 8. The decision of the election commission made within its competence shall be binding upon all subjects of the election process, executive bodies, authorities of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and bodies of local self-governance, their officials, as well as mass media or other subjects whom it concerns.
- 9. Any decision of the election commission that is contrary to the laws of Ukraine or is made beyond the scope of its powers may be cancelled by the election commission of the higher level or held illegal and cancelled by the court. In such case as well as in the event of detecting a fact of omission of the election commission or inability to hold its meeting, the election commission of the higher level shall have the right to make a decision on merits of the issue falling within the competence of the lower-level commission.

# Article 114. The Right to be Present at the Commission Meeting and In the Course of Voting at the Election Precinct

- 1. The right to be present at the meeting of the Central Election Commission shall be determined by Article 55 of this Code.
- 2. The following persons shall have the right to be present at the meetings of district, territorial, or precinct election commission, including at the time of vote counting and determination of the results of voting, without any permit or invitation of the respective commission:
  - 1) members of the higher-level election commissions;
- 2) employees of the Secretariat of the Central Election Commission under a written authorization of the Head of the Central Election Commission;
- 3) candidates registered on the respective elections, as well as their proxies, authorized persons of the subjects of the nomination process, official observers from the candidates or subjects of their nomination (together maximum two persons candidates, proxies or authorized persons, official observers from each candidate or a subject of the nomination process);
- 4) official observers from non-governmental organizations (together maximum three persons from different non-governmental organizations);
  - 5) official observers from foreign states and international organizations;
- 6) representatives of mass media (maximum one person from each print media, information agency or radio broadcasting company and maximum two persons from a TV broadcasting company).
- 3. Other persons, except for those specified in part two of this Article, may be present during the consideration of certain issues at the meeting of the election commission only by permit or invitation of this commission which shall be confirmed by the decision made at the meeting of the election commission.
- 4. The election commission may not refuse to allow the person who submitted an application or a complaint to the commission to be present during the consideration of such application or complaint by the Commission.
- 5. No presence of the persons not stipulated by part two of this Article at the meeting of the election commission during vote counting and determination of the results of voting, as well as tabulation of protocols within the territorial election district or administrative-territorial unit shall be allowed. The election commission may not invite such persons or allow them to be present at the meeting.
- 6. The election commission may take a reasoned decision to deprive the persons specified in parts two and three of this Article of the right to be present at the meeting if they illegally hinder its holding. With respect to the persons specified in part two of this Article such decision shall be made by at least 2/3 of the commission members.
- 7. The persons specified in part two of this Article shall have the right to be present at the meeting without any permit of the Precinct Election Commission at the election precinct on the day of elections in the premises where the voting takes place. The persons not specified in part two of this Article may not be present in the premises for voting at the election precinct during the voting, except for the case specified in part eight of this Article. The election commission may not invite such persons in the premises for voting or allow them be present during the voting.
- 8. Law enforcement officers may ensure the protection of law and order on the day of voting and during the vote counting only outside the premises for voting. If any violations of law and order occur the Deputy Head or the Secretary of the Commission may call them in the premises for voting only for the purpose of taking measures connected with the enforcement of law and order and for the time required for such measures.

#### Article 115. Documentation of the Activities of Election Commissions

- 1. The activities of any election commission shall be documented in accordance with the procedure established by this article and the procedure for keeping records of election commissions approved by the Central Election Commission.
- 2. Applications, complaints and other documents received by any election commission shall be accepted and registered in accordance with the procedure established by the Central Election Commission.
- 3. At every meeting of the election commission the Secretary of the commission shall keep minutes (except for the final meeting of the Precinct Election Commission on vote counting at the election precinct in accordance with part three of Article 240 of this Code). In case of absence of the Secretary of the commission or hi/her failure to perform his/her duties at the meeting the Commission shall appoint the secretary of the meeting from among its members who will act as the Secretary of the commission at the respective meeting and during the execution of documents of the meeting. Minutes of the commission meeting shall be signed by the person presiding at the meeting and by the Secretary of the commission (or by the secretary of the meeting). Minutes of the commission meeting shall be provided for examination to the members of the commission not later than before the next commission meeting and each member of the commission shall have the right to sign it.
- 4. Any decision of the election commission on any issue considered shall be executed in the form of a resolution which should include:
  - 1) name of the commission;
  - 2) title of the resolution;
  - 3) date, place and number of the resolution;
- 4) preamble with references to the circumstances that caused consideration of the issue at the commission meeting, references to the respective provisions of legal ad regulatory acts or any resolution of the higher-level election commission or a court by which the commission has been regulated in passing the resolution;
  - 5) operative part.
- 5. The resolution shall be signed by the person presiding at the meeting of the election commission. Content and number of the resolution should be indicated in the respective minutes of the election commission meeting.
- 6. Any resolution passed by the election commission shall be placed on the official information stand of the commission to be publicly available at the latest before the morning of the day following the day of its passing, and any resolution passed on the eve of the day of voting, on the day of voting and in the course of vote counting and determination of the results of voting at the election precinct or tabulation of protocols within the territorial election district or administrative-territorial unit shall be publicly available at the latest in an hour after the end of the meeting of the election commission. Such resolution shall be available within the same terms for the subjects of the respective election process whom it concerns. A copy of the resolution certified by the Head of the election commission (or Deputy Head) and by the Secretary of the election commission (or by the secretary of the meeting) with a seal of the election commission affixed shall be delivered to the subject of the election process whom it concerns, at the latest in two hours after its passing, and on the eve of voting and on the day of voting immediately upon his/her request.
- 7. Official information stand of the commission shall be mounted in the commission premises in the place freely accessible by visitors.
- 8. With respect to its current activities the commission can make protocol decisions the content of which shall be fixed in the minutes of the commission meeting. If necessary, a protocol decision may be certified by an excerpt from the minutes.
- 9. The election commission shall draw up acts and protocols. An act of the commissions shall certify a certain fact or event detected (revealed) and recognized by the Commission. A protocol of the commission shall certify performance of any actions by the Commission and determine their results.

10. Acts and protocols of the election commission shall be drawn up in the events stipulated by this Code, according to the forms approved by the Central Election Commission, and in the number of copies established by this Code. Any act or protocol of the commission shall be signed by all members of the election commission present at the meeting. Their signatures shall have the seal of the election commission affixed thereto. The persons specified in clauses 1, 3-5 of part two of Article 114 of this Code who are present at the meeting shall have the right to sign the first copy of an act or protocol.

## Article 116. Acquisition and Termination of the Status of Legal Entity by an Election Commission

- 1. Acquisition and termination of the status of legal entity by the election commission shall be made in accordance with the procedure stipulated by the laws of Ukraine, with specific features established by this Code.
- 2. The District Election Commission shall acquire the status of a legal entity from the moment of making an entry of information of the commission in the Single State Register of Legal Entities and Private Entrepreneurs.
- 3. For the purpose of making an entry with information of the District Election Commission in the Single State Register of Legal Entities and Private Entrepreneurs, the Head of the Commission, and in his absence the Deputy Head, at the latest in six days after the creation of the commission, should personally submit to the state registrar at the location of the District Election Commission a copy of the respective resolution of the Central Election Commission on the creation of the commission and completed standard registration card.
- 4. No registration fee for the state registration of the District Election Commission as a legal entity shall be paid.
- 5. Acquisition of a status of legal entity by the Territorial Election Commission created for the conduct of the first local elections in a newly created administrative-territorial unit shall be carried out in accordance with the procedure determined by parts one-four of this Article.
- 6. Status of the District Election Commission as of a legal entity shall be terminated by making an entry regarding exclusion of the commission from the Single State Register of Legal Entities and Private Entrepreneurs.
- 7. At the latest in five day after the day of official public declaration of the results of elections the Head of the District Election Commission, and in his/her absence the Deputy Head, shall personally apply to the registration authority with a written notice of the date of termination of the commission.
- 8. Based on the notice specified in part seven of this Article, information of the date of termination of the District Election Commission shall be published in the State Registration Bulletin that shall constitute the basis for filing claims to the commission regarding debentures.
- 9. No fee for publication of an announcement in the State Registration Bulletin of the termination of the District Election Commission shall be paid.
- 10. In order to carry out state registration of the termination of the District Election Commission as a legal entity through its liquidation the Head of the Commission, and in his/her absence the Deputy Head, after the end of the procedure for termination of the commission, but earlier than thirty days before official public declaration of the elections, should personally submit to the state registrar at the location of the commission a completed standard registration card, a certificate of state registration of the legal entity, document acceptance certificate of an archive establishment regarding the documents that according to the law shall are subject to long-term storage, as well as joint inspection protocol of control and audit authorities. No additional documents for carrying out state registration of the termination of the District Election Commission as a legal entity in result of its liquidation shall be required.

11. The Head of the District Election Commission, and in his/her absence – the Deputy Head, shall transfer the certificate of state registration of the legal entity with a note of the registration authority regarding the termination of the state registration to the Central Election Commission.

## Section VIII. PRELIMINARY TRAINING OF THE MEMBERS OF ELECTION COMMISSIONS

## Article 117. General Principles of Training of the Members of Election Commissions

- 1. Persons recommended for work or intending to work in the district or territorial election commissions during the nationwide or local elections (hereinafter the "potential candidates to election commissions") should undergo preliminary training in accordance with the requirements of this Code and receive the document certifying successful completion of such training (hereinafter the "state certificate").
- 2. The purpose of training potential candidates to the election commissions is to gain knowledge and skills allowing performing duties of a member of the respective election commission at the proper professional level, including those of the Head, Deputy Head or the Secretary of the Commission.
- 3. Training of persons who qualify for participation in the operations of the district or territorial election commissions shall be conducted by agencies, institutions, and organizations of any form of ownership registered in accordance with the procedure established by the law who have obtained license for such training in accordance with the procedure established by Articles 119-122 of this Code.
- 4. During the election process the Central Election Commission may arrange for the training (professional development, instruction) of the members of election commissions without issue of the respective certificate. Agencies, institutions and organizations that have license for training potential candidates to election commissions may be engaged in such training.

## Article 118. Requirements to Training Potential Candidates to Election Commissions

- 1. Persons complying with the general requirements for members of the election commissions determined by Article 86 of this Code may undergo training for potential candidates to election commissions.
- 2. The requirements for the required qualification of the members of district or territorial election commissions, as well as the respective requirements related to the content of training potential candidates to the election commissions shall be established by the Central Election Commission in accordance with parts three-five of this Article. Such requirements shall determine the content and scope of knowledge and skills to be gained by potential candidates to the election commissions, minimal quantity of academic hours for lectures and practical classes, recommended programs for training potential candidates to the election commissions, and recommended forms of final attestation.
  - 3. The scope of knowledge specified in part two of this Article should include, in particular:
  - 1) electoral rights of citizens and basic principles of election laws of Ukraine;
- 2) powers and authorities of election commissions of all levels, rights and obligations of the members of such commissions;
- 3) operating procedure of election commissions, the procedure for considering issues and making decisions by the Commission;
  - 4) organizational framework for operations of the State Voter Register;
  - 5) procedure for conducting election campaign;
- 6) procedure for appealing the decisions, acts or omissions of the election commissions and their members; other subjects of the election process; executive bodies, authorities of the

Autonomous Republic of Crimea, bodies of local self-governance, their officials; mass media, their owners, officials and production personnel;

- 7) the reasons and procedure for holding legally liable for any violations of the laws on elections.
  - 4. The scope of skills specified in part two of this Article should include, in particular:
- 1) execution (completion) of documents of the election commission or draft documents stipulated by the law and resolutions of the Central Election Commission;
- 2) holding a meeting of the election commission in accordance with the requirements of this Code and resolutions of the Central Election Commission;
  - 3) carrying out any other election procedures provided by the law;
- 4) drawing up protocols in relation to administrative violations in accordance with Administrative Offences Code of Ukraine.
- 5. The Central Election Commission may clarify the content and scope of requirements specified in parts three and four of this Article, set forth additional requirements in relation to the content and scope of knowledge and skills to be mastered by the potential candidates to the election commissions, to the extent required for efficient performance of the duties of a member of the election commission.

# Article 119. Licensing of Activity Related to the Training of Potential Candidates to Election Commissions

- 1. Licensing of activity related to the training of potential candidates to election commissions shall be the procedure for determining ability of an agency, institution, or organization to provide training and final attestation of potential candidates to the district (territorial) election commissions in accordance with the requirements of the law.
- 2. Licensing of activity related to the training of potential candidates to election commissions, as well as monitoring of the compliance with the licensing terms and conditions shall be performed by the Central Election Commission.

### Article 120. Licensing Terms and Conditions for the Provision of Training of Potential Candidates to Election Commissions

- 1. Licensing terms and conditions for performing activity related to the training of potential candidates to election commissions and the procedure for monitoring of the compliance with the above terms and conditions shall be approved by the Central Election Commission.
- 2. Licensing terms and conditions for performing activity related to the training of potential candidates to election commissions shall determine an exhaustive list of organizational, qualification and other special requirements binding upon the persons engaged in the above activity, including the following requirements:
- 1) with respect to experience of an agency, institution, or organization in training adults on political and legal disciplines, in particular, election laws:
- 2) with respect to the level of qualification and experience of professionals who should train the potential candidates to the election commissions;
- 3) with respect to the programs of and terms for (number of academic hours) the training of potential candidates to the election commissions;
- 4) with respect to the way and methods of attestation of persons who received training, in relation to the results and criteria for issuing state certificates.

#### Article 121. Documents to be Submitted for Obtaining a License

- 1. An agency, institution or organization intending to train potential candidates to election commissions shall apply to the Central Election Commission for obtaining a license the sample of which shall be set forth by the Central Election Commission.
- 2. An application specified in part one of this Article shall be accompanied with the following:

- 1) substantiation of the capabilities of an agency, institution, or organization with respect to the performance of the above activities in accordance with the licensing requirements with a description in an arbitrary form of the previous activity related to the training of adults on political and legal disciplines, including training for the participants of elections;
  - 2) samples of training and methodological materials used in the previous activity;
- 3) a copy of the certificate of state registration of the agency, institution, or organization certified by the Central Election Commission;
- 4) a copy of the constituent document (charter) of the agency, institution, or organization certified by the Central Election Commission;
- 5) copies of documents certifying the level of education and qualification from at least four persons: employees of the agency, institution, members of organization to be engaged in the preparation and conduct of training certifying in accordance with the established procedure;
- 6) draft program and curriculum to regulate training of potential candidates to election commissions.
- 3. It shall not be allowed to demand for the licensing documents not specified in this Article from the agency, institution, or organization.

#### **Article 122. Resolution Regarding License Issuance**

- 1. The Central Election Commission shall decide on issuing the license based on the consideration of the submitted documents specified in Article 121 of this Code within thirty days after the receipt of the documents.
- 2. In considering the issue related to the issue of a license the Central Election Commission shall take into account the following:
- 1) experience of the agency, institution, or organization with respect to training adults on political and legal disciplines;
  - 2) the content and quality of teaching and methodological aids;
- 3) existing experience of participation of an agency, institution, or organization in training participants of elections.
- 3. The Central Election Commission shall decide on issue of the license to the agency, institution, or organization or refusal of the license in the form of a resolution. At the same time as the decision on the issue of a license is made, the Central Election Commission shall decide on approval of the program and curriculum that shall regulate the provision of services related to the training of potential candidates to election commissions.
- 4. A decision on refusal of the license may be reached based on violations of licensing terms and conditions for the training of potential candidates to election commissions, as well as non-compliance of the received documents with the requirements of Article 121 of this Code.
- 5. The resolution of the Central Election Commission on the issue of a license or refusal of a license shall be presented (sent by registered mail) to the agency, institution, or organization on the following day at the latest.
- 6. The license shall be drawn up on a standard form approved by the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine. No fee shall be charged for issue of the license.
  - 7. The term of the license shall be five years.
- 8. In the event of a loss (damage) of a license the agency, institution, or organization shall issue a duplicate license. To receive a duplicate the agency, institution, or organization shall apply to the Central Election Commission with a request accompanied by a document certifying payment of a fee for a duplicate license in accordance with the procedure and in the amount established by the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine, and in the event of any damage of a license by its damaged original. The Central Election Commission shall issue a duplicate license within fourteen days after the receipt of the application and make a decision on recognizing the lost (damaged) license void.
- 9. An agency, institution, or organization may apply once again to the Central Election Commission for obtaining a license not earlier than one year before the license expires or not earlier than in three months after the refusal of license.

10. The Central Election Commission shall monitor the compliance of agencies, institutions, and organizations with licensing terms and conditions and other requirements set forth in accordance with this Code. In the event of any incompliance of the activity connected with the provision of services related to the training of potential candidates to election commissions, licensing terms and conditions for performing such activities, other requirements set forth in accordance with this Code, the Central Election Commission may terminate earlier the license granted to the agency, institution, or organization.

### **Article 123. Training of Potential Candidates to Election Commissions**

- 1. An agency, institution, and organization that have obtained licenses in accordance with the procedure established by this Code for activities connected with the training of potential candidates to the election commissions within the scope of the licensing terms and requirements specified in part two of Article 118 of this Code, develop and approve teaching and methodological aids and assignments for the attestation of persons who undergo the training course.
- 2. An agency, institution, or organization shall provide training of potential candidates to the election commissions in accordance with training programs and curricula approved by the Central Election Commission. The agency, institution, or organization shall inform the Central Election Commission of the commencement of the course and the number of participants at the latest on the day following the day of commencement of the training course. The notice form shall be established by the Central Election Commission.
- 3. Any agency, institution, or organization engaged in the training of potential candidates to election commissions, on request of the Central Election Commission and at the latest on the fifth day after the receipt of the request, shall submit their developed training materials in accordance with part one of this Article to check their compliance with the licensing terms and conditions and requirements specified in part two of Article 118 of this Code.

#### **Article 124. Attestation of the Persons Who Completed the Training**

- 1. An agency, institution, or organization that provide training of potential candidates to election commissions shall conduct final attestation of those who completed the training course complying with the licensing terms and conditions and requirements specified in part two of Article 118 of this Code.
- 2. Those who successfully completed the training shall receive a state certificate from the agency, institution, or organization certifying their preparedness for work in the election commission in accordance with Article 125 of this Code.

#### Article 125. The State Certificate of Training for Working in Election Commission

- 1. A form of the state certificate of training for working in the election commission shall be approved by the Central Election Commission. The certificate must include:
  - 1) series and number of the state certificate;
  - 2) full name of person who has completed the training;
  - 3) full name of the agency, institution, or organization that has provided the training;
  - 4) terms for completing the training;
  - 5) number of academic hours.
- 2. The certificate shall be signed by the head of the agency, institution, or organization that has provided training and sealed respectively.
- 3. The term of validity of the state certificate shall be seven years. In the event of any material change in the legal regulation of the election process the Central Election Commission may decide to terminate earlier issued state certificates. The Central Election Commission may provide for the limited terms (curricula) of repeated training for the persons who had state certificates.

- 4. Forms of the state certificate shall be produced on request of the Central Election Commission at the cost of the subjects specified in part one Article 127 of this Code. The Central Election Commission shall issue forms of the certificate to the agency, institution, or organization that have started training of potential candidates to election commissions based on their motion in the required quantity.
- 5. An agency, institution, or organization at the latest on the tenth day after the completion of the training course of each group of potential candidates to election commissions shall submit to the Central Election Commission a report on the results of the training according to the form established by the Central Election Commission. The report should specify:
- 1) the number if persons who underwent training for potential candidates to election commissions:
- 2) the number if persons who successfully completed the course and received state certificates:
- 3) a list of persons who obtained certificates indicating the series and number of the certificate and the subject who nominated such persons to undergo training;
- 4) the number of unused certificate forms that remained at the disposal of an agency, institution, or organization with their series and numbers.

# Article 126. Control over Quality of Training of the Members of Election Commissions

- 1. The Central Election Commission shall control the quality of training of the potential candidates to election commissions with the engagement of professionals in the field of suffrage and organization of the election process. Forms and methods of the control shall be determined by the Central Election Commission.
- 2. Based on the results of elections of members of Parliament of Ukraine, elections of the President of Ukraine, and regular local elections the Central Election Commission shall analyze the level of training of potential candidates to the respective election commissions taking into consideration the occurrence of violations of election laws determined by the decisions of the Central Election Commission or a court, the results of which shall be taken into account in monitoring the compliance with the licensing terms and conditions.

# Article 127. Payment for the Training of Potential Candidates to Election Commissions

- 1. Payment for the training of potential candidates to election commissions shall be made by political parties that request training of potential candidates and individuals who undergo such training. No funds of the State Budget of Ukraine and the respective local budgets shall be allowed to use within the process of training of potential candidates to election commissions.
- 2. The agency, institution, or organization that as obtained the license for training potential candidates to election commissions shall provide services on a contractual basis by entering into an agreement with the respective political party or an individual.
- 3. The funds received by any state or municipal agency or institution as payment for services related to the training of potential candidates to election commissions shall be credited to a special fund of the respective budget.
- 4. The funds received by any private agency, institution, or organization as payment for services related to the training of potential candidates to election commissions may be used by the agency, institution, or organization exceptionally for the purposes connected with the provision of the above services.

#### **CHAPTER III. REGISTRATION OF VOTERS. VOTER LISTS**

### SECTION IX. GENERAL PRINCIPLES OF THE STATE VOTER REGISTER

#### Article 128. State Voter Register

The State Voter Register (hereinafter referred to as the Register) is an automated information and telecommunication system (databank) intended for keeping, processing, and

using data containing the information provided for hereby, and for state registration of Ukrainian voters.

#### Article 129. Main Tasks of the Register

- 1. The main tasks of the Register shall be:
- 1) keeping personalized records of voters;
- 2) making voter lists for the Ukrainian elections indicated in Article 3 hereof, as well as all-Ukrainian and local referenda.
- 2. The Register database, any Part thereof, a database copy or parts thereof, and voter personal data contained in the Register database (hereinafter referred to as personal data) may be used only for the purposes specified in Article 154 hereof.

#### Article 130. Register Maintenance Principles

- 1. The basic principles of maintaining the Register shall be:
- 1) lawfulness and priority of human rights;
- 2) universality of the Register;
- 3) completeness and integrity of data in the Register;
- 4) veracity of data in the Register:
- 5) single entry for every individual voter in the Register;
- 6) permanence of the Register;
- 7) public openness of the Register;
- 8) Register data updating;
- 9) security of the Register.
- 2. The principle of lawfulness and priority of human rights in maintaining the Register guarantees the protection of human and citizen rights, compliance of the Register maintenance procedure with the requirements of the Constitution of Ukraine, Ukrainian laws, and international agreements of Ukraine approved by the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine.
- 3. The principle of universality of the Register ensures that all voters, regardless of their place of residence or stay, are included in the Register in application of the principle of universal suffrage.
- 4. The principle of completeness and integrity of data in the Register ensures that entered into the Register database is the full scope of voter information required hereby, accuracy and veracity of such information, and a single data format maintained in the Register database.
- 5. The principle of veracity of data in the Register requires that the appropriate Register maintenance body have documentary confirmation of the personal data contained in the Register database, the presence of the grounds set hereby for including a voter to the Register or editing personal data in the Register.
- 6. The principle of single entry for every individual voter in the Register requires that every voter be entered into the Register only once, registered at a single voting address, and assigned to a single election precinct.
- 7. The principle of permanence of the Register requires that no expiration date be set for the Register regardless of any election or referendum dates, and that the personal data be kept in the Register permanently (within the timeframe set hereby).
- 8. The principle of public openness of the Register ensures that every voter is guaranteed access to information in the Register to the extent and under the procedure established hereby, as well as other forms or public control over observance of the Register maintenance principles set in Part 1 of this Article.
- 9. The Register updating principle envisages periodic or occasionally initiated updating of the Register database (making or deleting entries, changing or verifying personal data in the Register) within the time and under the procedure established hereby.
- 10. The principle of security of the Register ensures that the Register database is protected from unauthorized or abused access, illegal use of personal data from the Register, breaking the integrity of the Register database, its hardware and software, by using data protection means, appropriate organizational and legal measures, and establishing legal responsibility for compromising security of the Register.

### Article 131. Language of the State Voter Register

- 1. The language of the Register shall be the official language of Ukraine (Ukrainian).
- 2. For transliterating surnames, names, patronymics and other proper names, the transliteration rules established by the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine shall be applied.

#### Article 132. Information in the State Voter Register

- 1. Entered in the Register and stored in the Register database shall be the voter information (personal data) specified in Articles 133-136 hereof of the following types:
  - 1) personal voter identification data;
  - 2) personal data specifying the voting place and conditions for the voter;
  - 3) personal service data.
- 2. If some personal information listed in clause 3 of Part 1, Part 2, clauses 1-4 of Part 4, or clauses 1-3, Part 5 of Article 133; clauses 2-4, Part 1 of Article 134, and clauses 1-12, Part 5 of Article 135 hereof is missing, a note signifying this fact shall be made in the Register.
- 3. Register maintenance bodies shall be forbidden to collect, enter into the Register, and store in the Register database any information (voter personal data) that is not required hereby.

#### Article 133. Voter Personal Identification Data

- 1. The personal identification data that identify the voter in a unique manner shall be:
- 1) surname;
- 2) given name (all given names);
- 3) patronymic;
- 4) date of birth; and
- 5) place of birth.
- 2. If a voter has no patronymic as is customary in the ethnic minority to which this voter belongs, a service note shall be made signifying no patronymic for this voter.
- 3. If a voter has no document confirming his or her day and month of birth, January 1 shall be entered into the Register as the day and month of birth of the appropriate year.
- 4. The place of birth of a voter born within the present borders of Ukraine shall be indicated in accordance with the present administrative-territorial division of Ukraine. If the respective population center is no longer in existence, its name shall be indicated as it is written in the document identifying the voter and his/her citizenship. Along with this, entered into the Register shall be:
  - 1) country of birth (Ukraine);
- 2) proper name of the corresponding region of Ukraine in accordance with Part 2, Article 133 of the Constitution of Ukraine;
- 3) proper name of the raion (of a city of oblast level, or republican level as in the case of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea) to which the population center of birth belongs; and
  - 4) category of the population center of birth and its proper name.
- 5. The place of birth record of a voter born outside the present borders of Ukraine shall include the following information to be entered into the Register:
  - 1) present name of the country of birth:
  - 2) for federative states, the name of the respective federation constituent; and
  - 3) category of the population center of birth and its proper name.

### Article 134. Personal Data Specifying the Voting Place and Conditions for a Voter

- 1. The personal data specifying the voting place and conditions for a voter shall include:
  - 1) the voter's voting address determined in accordance with Article 135 hereof;
- 2) number of the territorial election district of nationwide elections or identification of the out-of-country election district to which this voter is assigned;
  - 3) number of the permanent election precinct, to which this voter is assigned; and

- 4) information about the voter's permanent inability to move independently (for persons of over 80 years of age or those who are incapable of independent movement for other reasons).
- 2. The territorial election district of nationwide elections and election precinct, to which this voter is assigned, shall be determined by the Register maintenance body on the basis of the voting address of the voter.

### Article 135. Voting Address of the Voter

- 1. The voting address of a voter shall be the address of his or her place of residence or stay or another address to be used as a replacement of the residence address of the voter and serving as a basis for assigning this voter to the given permanent election precinct.
- 2. The voting address of a voter shall be, as a rule, the registered address of the place of stay or residence of this voter in accordance with the Law of Ukraine "On Freedom of Movement and Freedom of Choosing a Place of Residence in Ukraine," unless the voter applies to the appropriate Register maintenance body, asking for another voting address.
- 3. Given a grounded application of the voter, the Register maintenance body may assign another voting address to this voter, replacing the one determined in accordance with Part 2 of this Article.
- 4. Voters who do not have a registered place of residence shall establish their voting addresses in consultation with the appropriate Register maintenance body and the specialized authority accounting for homeless citizens in accordance with applicable law.
- 5. The voting address of a voter shall include the information indicated in clauses 1-10, and 12 (for voters residing or staying in Ukraine) or clauses 1, 2, and 11 (for voters residing or staying abroad) of this Part, i.e.:
  - 1) country of residence (stay);
- 2) region of Ukraine indicated in Part 2, Article 133 of the Constitution of Ukraine, or subnational administrative-territorial unit (state, province, land etc) of the foreign country of residence or stay;
- 3) raion or city of oblast (republican in the case of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea) level to which the given population center belongs;
  - 4) population center (city, settlement, village);
  - 5) city raion;
  - 6) street (avenue, boulevard, square, lane, quarter, area etc);
  - 7) building number;
  - 8) number of building section (building wing, block, addition etc);
  - 9) apartment (room) number;
  - 10) zip code;
- 11) mailing address of the voter in the format standard for the country of residence (stay); and
- 12) other voting address-related information, if necessary for identifying the voting address:
- 6. The procedure and time for temporarily changing of the voting place (election precinct) by the voter without changing his or her voting address are determined in this Code.

#### Article 136. Service Information in the Register

- 1. The personal service data in the Register shall include:
- 1) date of the voter's acquisition of Ukrainian citizenship:
- 2) date of the voter's termination of Ukrainian citizenship (for persons included in the Register and having their Ukrainian citizenship terminated);
- 3) date of declaring the person legally incapable (for persons included in the Register and declared legally incapable by the court);
- 4) date of legal capacity cancellation (for persons included in the Register, who have been reinstated in legal capacity);
- 5) date of death of the voter or date of declaring him or her dead (for deceased persons included in the Register);

- 6) date of cancellation of the court decision declaring the person included in the Register deceased:
  - 7) the service note indicated in Part 2, Article 132 hereof;
- 8) the service note denoting the voter's abandonment of his/her registered place of residence (without changing his/her voting address);
- 9) references to the documents (with the identification attributes thereof indicated), which the Register maintenance body has in hand and which served as grounds for making an entry in or including personal data in the Register database, changing (verifying) those personal data, or deleting the entry; and
  - 10) information provided for by Part 2 of this Article.
- 2. Any information provided for by Part 1, Article 133 and Part 1, Article 134 hereof that has been changed under the procedure established hereby shall be kept in its previous version as personal service data in the Register, with the date of change indicated.
- 3. The date of the voter's acquisition of Ukrainian citizenship shall be established in accordance with Article 3 of the Law of Ukraine "On Citizenship of Ukraine."

#### Article 137. Interaction of Voters with the State Voter Register

- 1. Voters shall have the right:
- 1) to submit their personal data to the Register maintenance body;
- 2) to be aware of their inclusion (or non-inclusion) or inclusion (or non-inclusion) of other persons in the Register;
- 3) to know all facts of using their personal data for any purposes other than those declared in Part 1-4, Article 156 hereof, specifically, to know who and on what grounds has been provided with information about them;
- 4) to receive anytime and free-of-charge from the appropriate Register maintenance body full information in a simple form about their personal data in the Register under the procedure established hereby;
- 5) under the procedure established hereby, to address the Register maintenance body with a reasoned appeal complaining about any illegal inclusion (non-inclusion) of them or other persons in the Register, illegal records relating to them or other persons in the Register, and for correcting their or other persons' data in the Register;
- 6) to appeal under the procedure established by applicable law against any decision, action, or inactivity of Register bodies;
- 7) in a manner not forbidden by applicable law, to defend their rights and legitimate interests, if violated in the process of maintaining the Register.
- 2. A voter shall provide the Register maintenance body with correct information in the form of personal data to be entered into the Register in the cases envisaged hereby.
- 3. If there is a likelihood of two or more entries to occur in the Register for one voter (multiple inclusion of a voter in the Register), this voter shall help Register bodies to eliminate the multiple inclusion.

#### Article 138. Voter Personal Data Protection and Security Guarantees

- 1. When creating and maintaining the Register, the Register Administrator and Register maintenance bodies in cooperation with the State Communications and Data Protection Service of Ukraine shall ensure protection of the Register, i.e. protection of the integrity of the Register database, Register hardware and software, veracity of data in the Register, protection of the Register against unauthorized access to, illegal use, copying, distortion, destruction of data in the Register, as well as security of voter personal data in accordance herewith and the Law of Ukraine "On Data Protection in Information and Telecommunication Systems" and the data protection international agreements ratified by the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine.
- 2. Subject to the approval of the State Communications and Data Protection Service of Ukraine, the Register Administrator shall carry out a set of measures to ensure technical protection of personal and other data in the Register in the process of storage, processing, and transmission thereof by telecommunication channels in accordance with applicable legislation of Ukraine. To ensure proper protection of Register data, the Register Administrator shall establish a procedure of access to the Register database, mandatory for

Register maintenance bodies, introducing, specifically, personal responsibility for observing the requirements hereof for persons authorized hereby to maintain the Register.

3. Administrative, criminal, and another legal responsibility shall be legislatively introduced for compromising security of the Register, unauthorized or abused access thereto, breaking the integrity of the Register, distortion or illegal destruction of personal data in the Register, illegal duplication of the Register database or part thereof.

## Article 139. Public Openness of the Register

- 1. The principle of public openness of the Register is intended in support of the human rights guaranteed by the Constitution of Ukraine and international agreements ratified by the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine, and shall be ensured through public control over observance of the requirements of the Ukrainian Constitution and laws of Ukraine when maintaining the Register.
- 2. Public openness of the Register may admit public access to voter personal data only to the extent and in the manner provided for hereby and required for the purpose indicated in Part 1 of this Article.
- 3. As part of public control, every voter may access the personal data of another voter in the Register database to the extent and in the manner provided for hereby.
- 4. Political parties may exercise public control over the Register maintenance process in the cases and to the extent provided for hereby.

## Article 140. Form of the Voter Register

- 1. The Register shall be maintained in an electronic form as a databank with a single database containing personal data of all voters of Ukraine.
- 2. In operating the Register, the data encryption systems approved by the State Communications and Data Protection Service of Ukraine shall be employed. The classification systems required for proper functioning of the Register shall be prepared by the Register Administrator and approved by the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine.
- 3. Voter personal data shall be entered into the Register database as entries containing all voter personal data required by Articles 132-136 hereof. Every individual voter shall have one and only entry in the Register.
- 4. Incorrect information shall be the following information identified in the course of the personal data control routine carried out under the procedure established by Articles 146, 147, 149, and 150 hereof, or by means of visual or automated control:
- 1) any record or personal data that as of the moment of their current entering into the Register database have already been previously entered into the Register;
  - 2) any duplicate entry in the Register database; and
  - 3) mutually contradicting (erroneous) voter personal data.
- 5. If duplicate entries for a voter (multiple entries of this voter) are found in the Register, the Register Administrator shall make the relevant decision to make only one such entry remaining in the Register database. All the redundant entries of the given voter shall be deleted under the procedure established hereby. Correction of other incorrect information shall be carried out under the procedure established by Articles 146, 147, 149, and 150 hereof.

### SECTION X. MAINTENANCE OF THE STATE VOTER REGISTER

### **Article 141. State Voter Register Bodies**

- 1. The State Voter Register bodies (hereinafter referred to as Register bodies) shall be:
- 1) State Voter Register Administrator (hereinafter referred to as the Register Administrator):
- 2) State Voter Register maintenance bodies (hereinafter referred to as Register maintenance bodies); and
- 3) regional State Voter Register administration bodies (hereinafter referred to as regional Register administration bodies).
- 2. The Register Administrator shall be the Central Election Commission. The Register Administrator shall:

- 1) ensure and control observance of the requirements hereof in creating and maintaining the Register:
  - 2) ensure organizational and technological functioning of the Register;
  - 3) have read-only access to the entire the Register database;
- 4) control the integrity of the Register database, completeness and correctness of the personal data in the Register and initiate the verification by Register maintenance bodies of any identified incorrect information in the Register;
- 5) grant Register maintenance bodies access to the Register database and establish access rules in accordance herewith;
  - 6) maintain the system classifiers required for the Register to function; and
  - 7) exercise other powers granted by applicable law.
- 3. Any decision of the Register Administrator made within its powers shall be binding on state executive bodies, authorities of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, bodies of local self-governance, their officials, political parties, other public associations, enterprises, establishments, institutions, and organizations of all ownership forms.
- 4. The Register Administrator shall not be authorized to make entries and edit personal data in the Register, as well as delete entries in the Register.
  - 5. The Register maintenance body shall be:
- 1) in a raion, raion of the Cities of Kyiv and Sevastopol the respective structural unit of the raion and city raion state administration;
- 2) in a city of oblast (republican in the case of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea) level not divided into raions the respective executive body of the city council;
- 3) in a city of oblast level divided into raions the respective executive body of the city raion council or the respective structural unit of the executive body of the city council in the raion.
- 6. The powers of a Register maintenance body shall extend throughout the territory of the respective raion, city, city raion, as well as villages, settlements, and towns that are part of such a city or city raion.
- 7. Register maintenance bodies shall have access to the Register database to the extent and under the procedure established hereby and approved in accordance herewith by decisions of the Register Administrator. Register maintenance bodies shall ensure the maintenance of the Register under the procedure established hereby.
  - 8. The regional Register administration body shall be:
- 1) in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea the respective structural unit of the Council of Ministers of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea;
- 2) in an oblast, the Cities of Kyiv and Sevastopol the respective structural unit of the oblast or city state administration.
- 9. The powers of regional Register administration body shall extend throughout the territory of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, oblast, and the Cities of Kyiv and Sevastopol, as well as villages, settlements, and towns that are part thereof.
- 10. Regional Register administration bodies shall provide organizational support and ensure mutual cooperation among local executive bodies, bodies of local self-governance, enterprises, establishments, institutions and organizations in creating and maintaining the Register, as well as the fulfillment of decisions of the Register Administrator. A regional Register administration body shall have access to statistical data of the Register.
- 11. Register maintenance bodies, as well as regional Register administration bodies, shall have their own seals and letterheads whose specimens are subject to the approval of the Register Administrator. The said bodies shall be subjects of law of administrative procedure.
- 12. The functions of Register maintenance body and regional Register administration body with regard to voters residing or staying abroad shall be performed by the respective structural unit of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine.

### Article 142. Access of Register Maintenance Bodies to the Register Database

1. A Register maintenance body shall have read-only access to every entry in the Register under the procedure established by the Register Administrator.

- 2. A Register maintenance body shall have write access to the personal data of the voters whose voting addresses are within the area to which the powers of this body extend. The Register maintenance body of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine shall have write access to the personal data of the voters whose voting addresses are outside Ukraine.
- 3. The Register maintenance body shall be able to make new entries in the Register database, edit personal data in the Register, and delete entries in the Register database in real time on the grounds and under the procedure established hereby and adopted in accordance herewith by decisions of the Register Administrator. The Register maintenance body may make changes regarding the voting address of a voter based on the previous voting address of this voter under the procedure established by the Register Administrator in accordance herewith.
- 4. The access to the Register database, specified in Parts 1-3 of this Article, shall be technologically made by at least two authorized staff members of the Register maintenance body. The Register Administrator shall provide the staff of the Register maintenance body with the necessary software and other means of access.
- 5. The Register maintenance body shall register under the procedure and in the form established by the Register Administrator every operation making changes in the Register database.

### **Article 143. Register Maintenance Actions**

- 1. The Register maintenance shall include organizational and legal arrangements and the following actions performed in write mode:
  - 1) creating voter entries in the Register database;
  - 2) editing personal data in the Register;
  - 3) deleting entries in the Register; as well as
- 4) actions of visual and automated control of the completeness and correctness of personal data in the Register.
- 2. The organizational and legal arrangements and the actions indicated in Part 1 of this Article shall be carried out by the respective Register maintenance body on the grounds and in the way provided for hereby and by decisions of the Register Administrator made in accordance herewith.

### **Article 144. Grounds for Register Maintenance Actions**

- 1. The actions specified in clauses 1-3, Part 1, Article 143 hereof shall be carried out by authorized staff members of the respective Register maintenance body in fulfillment of written orders of the head of Register maintenance body, issued in accordance with decisions of the Register Administrator.
- 2. The visual and automated control of the completeness and correctness of personal data in the Register shall be exercised by the Register maintenance body continuously under the procedure established by the Register Administrator.
- 3. The grounds for issuing an order to make an entry in the Register database shall be documents submitted under the established procedure to the respective Register maintenance body and confirming the acquisition of the right to vote by a person who has:
  - 1) attained the age of 18 years;
  - 2) acquired citizenship of Ukraine;
  - 3) been reinstated in legal capacity but are yet not in the Register; and
  - 4) the right to vote but is not in the Register yet.
- 4. The grounds for issuing an order to change the personal data of a voter included in the Register shall be documents submitted under the established procedure to the respective Register maintenance body and confirming the changes to be made.
- 5. If visual or automated control identifies incompleteness or incorrectness of the personal data of a voter included in the Register, the grounds for issuing a respective personal data changing order shall be documents confirming that the changes to be made will remedy the said data incompleteness or incorrectness.
  - 6. The grounds for issuing an order to delete an entry in the Register may be:

- 1) expiration of the storage term set by this Article for of the personal data of a voter who has been deceased or whose Ukrainian citizenship has been terminated;
- 2) decisions of the Register Administrator ordering clearance of voter entry duplicates in the Register;
- 3) identification of entries in the Register database referring to a person who is not a voter (except for the cases indicated in Part 8 of this Article).
- 7. The grounds for issuing an order initiating Register maintenance actions may also be a relevant electronic notice sent to the Register maintenance body by means of the automated information and telecommunication system of the Register by another Register maintenance body that have received the respective documents under the procedure set forth in Article 145 hereof.
- 8. The entry in the Register database referring to a person who has been deceased or whose Ukrainian citizenship has been terminated shall be kept in the Register with a respective service note for fifteen years after the occurrence of the said event.

# Article 145. Procedure of Submitting Documents to the Register Maintenance Body

The documents indicated in Parts 2 and 3 of Article 144 hereof may be submitted to the respective Register maintenance body as:

- 1) an application or appeal of a voter made on his or her own initiative;
- 2) periodic update of the personal data in the Register;
- 3) specification of the personal data in the Register;
- 4) public control over the Register maintenance; and
- 5) verification of information in accordance with Part 5, Article 144 hereof.

# Article 146. Procedure for Persons to Apply to the Register Maintenance Body on Their Own Initiative for Inclusion in the Register

- 1. A person who has acquired the right to vote or a person who has the right to vote but has learned that he or she is not in the Register may apply on his or her own initiative to the Register maintenance body in the location of his or her residence in Ukraine, asking to be included in the Register.
- 2. The person indicated in Part 1 of this Article shall submit to the Register maintenance body a written application made in the form established by the Register Administrator, providing his or her personal data listed in Article 133 and clause 1 and 4 (if there are grounds therefor), Part 1 of Article 134 hereof, along with a document identifying this person as well as citizenship of this voter, which may be a passport of citizen of Ukraine or (if this person has acquired Ukrainian citizenship recently) temporary certificate of citizen of Ukraine. Persons who are servicemen in compulsory military service shall be granted a leave for submitting such an application for as long as sufficient for applying to the Register maintenance body.
- 3. A person, who has acquired the right to vote and resides or stays abroad at the time of acquiring the right to vote, may apply for his or her inclusion in the Register to the diplomatic institution of Ukraine abroad in the place of his or her place of residence or stay, submitting an application prepared in the form indicated in Part 2 of this Article. The application shall be submitted along with a document identifying this person and citizenship of this voter, which may be a passport of citizen of Ukraine for foreign travel, a diplomatic passport, a service passport, or (if this person has acquired Ukrainian citizenship recently) a temporary certificate of citizen of Ukraine. The head of a diplomatic institution of Ukraine abroad shall immediately forward such an application to the Register maintenance body in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine.
- 4. The voting address of a person who has applied for his or her inclusion in the Register shall be established in accordance with Part 2-4, Article 135 of this Code. The voting address of a serviceman in compulsory military service shall be the mailing address of his military unit. The voting address of a person who resides or stays abroad shall be the mailing address of his or her place of residence or stay, written in accordance with the rules of the country of residence (stay).

- 5. The Register maintenance body shall check whether or not the person, who is applying for inclusion in the Register, is not already in the Register, and, if necessary, also verify the information indicated in the application and required for making the appropriate entry in the Register by applying to the respective bodies or institutions indicated in Article 150 hereof.
- 6. If there are the grounds set forth in Part 2, Article 144 hereof, the head of Register maintenance body shall issue an order to make the appropriate entry in the Register, determining the number of the territorial election district and the number of the election precinct to which the voter is assigned, based on the voting address.
- 7. If the voter is included in the Register, the Register maintenance body shall send a Register inclusion notice to the voting address of the voter in the form established by the Register Administrator. The notice shall contain the voter personal data envisaged in Part 1, Article 133, and Part 1, Article 134 hereof, as well as the date of inclusion in the Register. The notice shall be signed by the head of Register maintenance body and bear the seal of this body.
- 8. If established that the said person is already in the Register, this person shall be sent a notice indicated in Part 7 of this Article to the address indicated in the application as the person's voting address, indicating the voting address at which this person is registered in the Register.
- 9. The head of Register maintenance body may issue an order declining the application of the person indicated in Part 1 or Part 3 of this Article for the following reasons:
  - 1) it is established that this person has no right to vote;
- 2) the check envisaged in Part 5 of this Article identifies discrepancies between the information provided in the application and the information provided by the respective body, establishment, institution, or organization.
- 10. A persons refused to be included in the Register shall be sent a written notice that his/her application has been declined with an exhaustive list of refusal reasons. Such a notice shall be sent to the address indicated in the application as the person's voting address.

# Article 147. Procedure for Voters to Apply to the Register Maintenance Body on Their Own Initiative for Changes to Be Made in the Personal Data

- 1. If the voter's personal data listed in Part 1, Article 133 and clauses 1 and 4, Part 1, Article 134 hereof change, this voter may formally apply to the Register maintenance body appropriate for his or her voting address, asking for the respective changes to be made to his/her personal data in the Register. The application shall be accompanied with documents (or properly certified copies of such documents) confirming these changes. A voter who is unable to move independently all the time may authorize another person to submit such an application for himself/herself. The Register maintenance body shall have the right to certify copies of documents evidencing the said changes exclusively for the purposes of changing the voter personal data in the Register.
- 2. A voter who resides or stays abroad shall file the application specified in Part 1 of this Article with the respective diplomatic institution of Ukraine abroad, which shall immediately forward this application and the documents attached thereto to the Register maintenance body in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine.
- 3. If the voter needs to apply in connection with the change of his/her voting address, the voter shall apply to the Register maintenance body appropriate for the new voting address, attaching (if any) documents (properly certified copies thereof) evidencing the fact of voting address change.
- 4. The Register maintenance body may initiate a check of the changes made in the voter personal data and indicated in the applications by applying to the respective bodies, establishments, institutions, and organizations indicated in Article 150 hereof. If there are the grounds set forth in Part 4, Article 144 hereof, the head of Register maintenance body shall issue an order permitting the requested changes in the voter personal data in the Register (except for the case envisaged in Part 5 of this Article).

- 5. If the voter applies for the voting address change in connection or without any connection with the change of his or her registered place of residence in accordance with the Law "On Freedom of Movement and Freedom of Choosing a Place of Residence in Ukraine," the Register maintenance body shall examine the application for sufficiency. Upon the results of this examination, the head of Register maintenance body may make one of the following decisions:
- 1) to issue an order authorizing the change of the voter's voting address in the Register (if the voter's voting address changes and the new voting address is within the territory to which the powers of this Register maintenance body extend);
- 2) using the automated information and telecommunication system, to notify the Register maintenance body associated with the previous voting address of the voter of the need to change the voting address of the given voter (if the previous voting address of the voter is not within the territory to which the powers of this Register maintenance body extend), based on the application submitted by the voter and documents confirming this change; or
  - 3) to turn down the voter's application for the voting address change.
- 6. If any changes are to be made to the personal data in the Register or if it is established that the said changes have already been made to the voter personal data in the Register, the Register maintenance body that has made the changes shall send to the voter's voting address a notice provided for by Part 7, Article 146 hereof, listing the changed voter personal data and the change date.
- 7. The head of the Register maintenance body may decline the voter's application indicated in Part 1 Part 3 of this Article for the following reasons:
- 1) if established that the applicant is not in the Register or is in the Register but has no right to vote;
- 2) if the check envisaged by Part 4 of this Article identifies discrepancies between the information provided in the application and the information provided by the respective body, establishment, institution or organization;
  - 3) if the application for voting address change is recognized as insufficient; or
- 4) if established that the requested changes in the voter personal data have already been made in the Register.
- 8. The person whose application for changes in his/her personal data has been turned down shall be sent a written notice of application declination, with an exhaustive list of refusal reasons attached. Such a notice shall be sent to the voting address of the voter. If the requested change of voting address is declined, the said notice shall be sent to the voting address in accordance with the Register data and to the address which the voter requested to recognize as his/her voting address.
- 9. If the voter applying with the application indicated in Part 1 or Part 2 of this Article proves not to be in the Register, the Register maintenance body shall check the information in his/her application by querying the respective bodies, establishments, institutions, or organizations indicated in Article 150 hereof. The voter to whom this check applies shall be notified thereof. The decision to include this voter in the Register shall be made under the procedure established by Part 6 and 7 of Article 146 hereof. Before making the said decision, the Register maintenance body may turn to the voter to check or verify his/her information.

### Article 148. Requests of Voters to the Register Maintenance Body

- 1. A voter may personally apply to the Register maintenance body appropriate for his/her voting address, requesting the content of his/her personal data in the Register, presenting in this case his/her passport of citizen of Ukraine or (if this person has acquired Ukrainian citizenship recently) a temporary certificate of citizen of Ukraine. A voter, whose personal data in the Register indicate that he or she is permanently unable to move independently, may authorize another person in writing for such application.
- 2. A voter who resides or stays abroad may personally submit the request indicated in Part 1 of this Article to the diplomatic institution of Ukraine abroad appropriate for his or her place of residence or stay, presenting his/her passport of citizen of Ukraine for foreign travel, a diplomatic passport, a service passport, or (if this person has acquired Ukrainian

citizenship recently) a temporary certificate of citizen of Ukraine. The diplomatic institution of Ukraine abroad shall immediately forward the said request to the Register maintenance body in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine.

- 3. The Register maintenance body that receives the request indicated in Parts 1 or 2 of this Article shall have up to three working days after the receipt thereof to send to the voting address of the voter an exhaustive printout of his/her personal data indicated in Part 1, Article 133, Part 1, Article 134, and Part 5, Article 135 hereof contained in the respective entry in the Register. The said printout shall be certified with the signature of the head of Register maintenance body and the seal of this body.
- 4. As part of public control over the Register, every voter may apply to any Register maintenance body, specifying his or her voting address, with a written request for the following information:
- 1) based on the surname of any voter and his/her likely voting address the other information about this voter provided for in clauses 1-3, Part 1, Article 133 and Part 1, Article 134 hereof, and about all the voters registered at this voting address, with their right to vote or absence thereof indicated, or a notice of no entries referring to the voter with the indicated surname and voting address in the Register;
- 2) based on the voting address indicated in the request the number of voters (without their personal data attached) in the Register, who have this voting address, or a notice of no entries in the Register featuring the given voting address;
- 3) based on his/her own voting address the personal data envisaged in Part 1, Article 133 hereof of all the persons in the Register with the given voting address;
- 4) based on the name of village, settlement, city, city raion, foreign country the number of voters in the said village, settlement, city, city raion, and foreign country.
- 5. If the personal identification data and voting address of the applying voter as specified in the said request differ from the same data of this voter in the Register, the Register maintenance body shall send a request rejection notice to the voting address specified in the request, citing the rejection reason.
- 6. If the request indicated in Part 4 of this Article and sent to the Register maintenance body whose powers do not extend to the territory that includes the voting address, village, settlement, city, city raion, or foreign country to which this request applies, the Register maintenance body shall sent a request refusal notice to the applicant's voting address, citing the refusal reason.
- 7. If the voter personal data and voting address in the request are the same as in the Register, the Register maintenance body shall have up to six working days after the request receipt to send a response to the request with exhaustive information concerning the substance of the request. The response shall be signed by the head of Register maintenance body and certified with the seal of this body.

## Article 149. Procedure of Periodic Update of Personal Data in the Register

- 1. Register maintenance bodies shall update the Register database quarterly. The Register database shall be updated on the basis of information submitted to the Register maintenance body by the bodies, establishments, institutions, and organizations specified in Article 150 hereof.
- 2. The information indicated in Article 150 hereof shall be presented to the appropriate Register maintenance body for the three previous calendar months (except for the information indicated in Part 3 of this Article):
- 1) by March 5 of every year for December of the previous year, January and February of the current year;
  - 2) by 5 June of every year for March, April, and May of the current year;
  - 3) by 5 September of every year for June, July, and August of the current year; and
- 4) by 5 December of every year for September, October, and November of the current year.
- 3. The information envisaged in clause 1, Part 2 and clause 1, Part 10, Article 150 hereof shall be submitted to the Register maintenance body within the times indicated in Part 2 of this Article for the following three calendar months.

- 4. The submission provided for in Article 150 hereof shall include the information envisaged in Part 1, Article 133 and Part 5, Article 135 hereof on each respective person. The submissions envisaged by Parts 2–8, Article 150 hereof shall include, among other things, the residence address of the voter at which this voter is registered (for incomers) or was registered (for the departed) in accordance with the Law of Ukraine "On Freedom of Movement and Freedom of Choosing a Place of Residence in Ukraine." The submissions envisaged by Part 10 and 11, Article 150 hereof shall also include the voter's country of residence (stay) and his/her mailing address written according to the standards of the country of residence (stay).
- 5. The submissions envisaged in Article 150 hereof shall be on paper in the form of a list with a continuous numbering of records and pages. The veracity of submitted information shall be certified on each page by the signature of the head of the respective body, establishment, or military unit (command) commander and the relevant seal. The list form shall be determined by the Register Administrator. The said document shall be accompanied with its electronic copy.
- 6. The city, village, or settlement mayor, or another official who performs the duties of the former in accordance with applicable law shall submit to Register maintenance body within the times indicated in Part 2 of this Article the information reflecting the names of new and renamed streets (avenues, boulevards, squares, lanes, quarters, areas etc), numbers of new buildings, and changed building numbers in the appropriate population center. This information shall be certified with the signature of this official and seal of the respective local council.
- 7. Based on the information indicated in Article 150 hereof, if it concerns a specific voter, the head of Register maintenance body shall make the following decisions:
- 1) to make an entry with regard to this voter in the Register database, if there are any grounds specified in Part 2, Article 144 hereof;
- 2) to make relevant changes in the voter personal data, if there are any grounds specified in Part 3, Article 144 hereof;
- 3) to notify the Register maintenance body corresponding to the previous voting address of the voter by means of the automated information and telecommunication system of the Register of the said changes in the personal data of any voters who have moved into the appropriate territory;
- 4) to make the appropriate service notes with regard to the personal data of any voters who have moved out of the appropriate territory.
- 8. Based on the information indicated in Part 6 of this Article, the head of the Register maintenance body shall make a decision to make changes to the voting address of each voter (person) to whom this new information applies.
- 9. If a decision has been made or come into force and effect making changes in the administrative-territorial system of Ukraine, renaming an administrative-territorial unit, a population center, giving a name to a newly created population center, the head of Register maintenance body, based on the appropriate legal deed, shall make a decision making the respective changes in the indicated place of residence or voting address of each voter (person) affected by the said changes.
- 10. If the information envisaged in Article 150 hereof indicates any persons who have acquired the right to vote or shall have the right to vote but are not in the Register, the head of Register maintenance body shall make a decision to include such voters in the Register. The said decision and entries shall be made under the procedure established by Part 5-8 of Article 146 hereof. Before making this decision, the Register maintenance body may address the voter to check and verify the information about this voter.
- 11. If the information indicated in Article 150 hereof implies that the personal data of a voter, whose voting address belongs to the territory to which the powers of the Register maintenance body extend, have undergone changes, specifically, if the voting address of this voter has changed within the same territory, the head of the Register maintenance body shall decide to make respective changes in the personal data of this voter. Such decisions and changes to the personal data shall be made under the procedure established by Part 4,

Article 147 hereof. Before making this decision, the Register maintenance body may address the voter to check and verify the information about this voter.

12. As regards a voter whose voting address is, according to the information envisaged in Article 150 hereof, outside the territory or who has moved into the territory to which the powers of the Register maintenance body extend, this body shall notify by means of the automated information and telecommunication system of the Register the Register maintenance body appropriate to the voting address (previous voting address) of this voter of the need to make changes to the personal data of this voter based on the data confirming these changes and content thereof. Before making this decision, the Register maintenance body may address the voter to check and verify the information about this voter.

### Article 150. Information Submitted to Register Maintenance Bodies

- 1. The information for periodic updating of personal data in the Register shall be provided within the timeframes indicated in Part 2, Article 149 hereof by the heads of bodies, establishments, and institutions in accordance with this Article.
- 2. The head of the appropriate raion (city, city raion) body of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Ukraine shall submit information about:
- 1) citizens of Ukraine with their place of residence registered in the respective administrative-territorial unit, who are attaining the age of 18 years in the coming three calendar months;
- 2) persons, who acquired Ukrainian citizenship and obtained a temporary certificate of citizen of Ukraine or passport of citizen of Ukraine during the past three months;
- 3) voters, who changed their registered place of residence within the respective administrative-territorial unit during the past three months;
- 4) voters, who registered their place of residence in the respective administrative-territorial unit during the past three months;
- 5) voters, whose registration of place of residence in the respective administrative-territorial unit was cancelled during the past three months;
- 6) persons whose Ukrainian citizenship was terminated during the past three calendar months.
- 3. The head of the respective raion (city, city district) civil registrar's office of the territorial body of the Ministry of Justice of Ukraine shall submit information about:
- 1) deceased voters, whose death certificates or other documents provided for by applicable law were issued during the past three calendar months;
- 2) voters, who changed their surname, name, patronymic, date or place of birth during the past three months.
- 4. The head of the respective local military recruitment office shall submit information about:
- 1) voters who resided in the given area and were called up for compulsory military service during the past three calendar months;
- 2) voters, who were discharged upon the expiration of their military service term during the past three months and returned to their place of residence in the respective administrative-territorial unit.
- 5. The commander of a military unit (command) in the respective administrative-territorial unit shall submit information about:
- 1) voters—servicemen in compulsory service, who came to serve in the respective military unit (command) during the past three months;
- 2) other voters, who came to reside in the territory occupied by the respective military unit (command) during the past three months;
- 3) voters (including servicemen in compulsory service), who left the territory occupied by this military unit (command) during the past three months.
- 6. The head of the respective raion (city, city raion) guardianship and wardship authority shall submit information about:
- 1) voters, who were declared incapable and taken under guardianship during the past three months:

- 2) persons, whose incapable status was cancelled by court and they were released from guardianship as a result during the past three calendar months.
- 7. The head of the local body of the State Department of Corrections of Ukraine shall submit information about:
- 1) voters, who came to serve their time to correctional institutions located within the respective administrative-territorial unit during the past three months;
- 2) voters, who served their time at correctional institutions located within the respective administrative-territorial unit and left those institutions during the past three calendar months.
- 8. The head of the respective raion, city raion, or city (in cities not divided into raions) healthcare body, social security institution; village, settlement, or city mayor (for cities that have no healthcare bodies and social security institutions) or another official performing the duties of village, settlement, or city mayor in accordance with applicable law shall submit information about voters, who reside in the respective area and are over 80 years of age or unable to move independently for other reasons.
- 9. The head of a specialized establishment located within the respective administrativeterritorial unit and accounting for homeless citizens in accordance with applicable law shall submit information about:
- 1) voters, who have been registered at the official address of this establishment in the past three months;
- 2) voters, whose registration at the official address of this establishment was cancelled in the past three months.
- 10. The head of a diplomatic institution of Ukraine abroad shall submit to the Register maintenance body in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine information about:
- 1) citizens of Ukraine who are in the consular register and who are reaching 18 years of age in the coming three calendar months;
- 2) persons, who acquired Ukrainian citizenship and obtained a temporary certificate of citizen of Ukraine or passport of citizen of Ukraine during the past three months:
- 3) persons, whose Ukrainian citizenship was cancelled during the past three calendar months;
- 4) citizens of Ukraine-voters, who were entered into the consular register in the territory of the respective consular district during the past three months;
- 5) citizens of Ukraine–voters, whose consular registration in the territory of the respective consular district was cancelled during the past three months;
- 6) citizens of Ukraine, who are in the consular register and changed their surname, name, patronymic, date or place of birth during the past three calendar months;
- 7) diseased citizens of Ukraine–voters, whose death certificate or another document was issued in the respective territory by the appropriate authority of the respective country during the past three calendar months.
- 11. The Ministry of Defense of Ukraine and the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Ukraine shall submit to the Register maintenance body at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine information about:
- 1) voters, who came to serve in the given military unit (command) of Ukraine abroad during the past three months;
- 2) voters, who left the given military unit (command) of Ukraine abroad during the past three months.

### Article 151. Verification of Personal Data in the State Voter Register

- 1. Personal data in the Voter Register shall be verified by Register bodies from September 1 through November 30 every year by addressing voters included in the Register and asking them to confirm or specify their personal data. Personal data in the Register shall be verified simultaneously with the next scheduled update of personal data in the Register in accordance with Article 149 hereof.
- 2. From September 1 through September 30 of the current year, the Register Administrator shall send to each voter included in the Register and whose voting address is within the territory, to which the powers of this Register maintenance body extend, a personal notice in the from established by the Register Administrator. The notice shall be sent to the voting address indicated in the Register.

- 3. The personal notice indicated in Part 2 of this Article shall provide the voter with information about his/her rights with regard to the Register in accordance with Part 1, Article 137 hereof, propose to him/her to check his/her personal data, to eliminate any discrepancies, and to correct personal records, if necessary, and explain him/her the procedure of applying to the Register maintenance body to eliminate discrepancies and inaccuracies. Such a personal notice shall come with an attached printout of the voter personal data indicated in Part 1, Article 133, Part 1, Article 134, Part 5, Article 135 hereof.
- 4. If the voter does not receive the personal notice indicated in Part 2 of this Article by October 10 of the current year or by another time set in accordance with Part 9 of this Article or if the information in the personal data printout indicated in Part 3 of this Article contains discrepancies and inaccuracies, or if the voter knows for sure about any discrepancies or inaccuracies in the personal data of other persons, this voter may apply in connection therewith to the Register maintenance body appropriate for his/her voting address under the procedure described in Article 147 hereof.
- 5. The Register maintenance body shall study the applications received in the process of personal data verification in the Register, and upon the results of this study and the grounds set forth hereby, shall carry out the appropriate Register maintenance actions under the procedure set forth in Articles 146, 147, and 149 hereof.
- 6. The notice of personal data verification in the Register that contains explanations of the data verification procedure and procedure of applying to the Register maintenance body shall be published in the press and made public on national television and radio channels at least once a week during the period indicated in Part 1 of this Article or, if the personal data verification time has been changed in accordance with Part 9 of this Article, during the data verification period set by the Register Administrator.
- 7. Local executive bodies and bodies of local self-governance shall help inform citizens of Ukraine of the set time of personal data verification in the Register and their rights to check their personal data.
- 8. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine and diplomatic institutions of Ukraine abroad shall take the appropriate measures to inform the citizens of Ukraine who are abroad by publishing the notice indicated in Part 6 of this Article in the printed media accessible for citizens of Ukraine in the country of their stay, with the addresses and telephone numbers of the respective diplomatic institutions of Ukraine indicated for submitting information by citizens of Ukraine who reside or stay in the respective state.
- 9. If the times indicated in Parts 1 and 2 of this Article coincide with the time of nationwide elections, nationwide local elections or all-Ukrainian referenda, the scheduled personal data verification in the Register shall be carried out before the beginning of the election and referendum process in the time set by the Register Administrator but begin no later than 180 days ahead of the voting day of the relevant elections or referendum and last for at least 90 days.

# Article 152. Public Control by Political Parties over the Register Maintenance Process

- 1. A political party represented by its faction in the current convocation of Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine shall have the right to exercise public control over the maintenance of the Register to the extent described in this Article.
- 2. On a written application of the party indicated in Part 1 of this Article, the Register Administrator shall present this party's a representative authorized by the respective steering body of this party with an electronic copy of the Register database certified with a digital signature, under the procedure established by the Register Administrator. This electronic copy shall include the information provided for in Part 1, Article 133 and Part 1, Article 134 hereof and divided into sections corresponding to regional Register administration bodies. On a written application of the party, the Register Administrator may give it one additional electronic copy of the Register database certified with a digital signature.
- 3. The Register database copy indicated in Part 2 of this Article may be presented to the authorized party representative within a month after completing the annual Register verification envisaged in Article 151 hereof and no later than 60 days ahead of the voting day of nationwide elections, nationwide local elections, or all-Ukrainian referenda.

- 4. The political party may use the Register database copy presented to it only for checking the completeness and veracity of personal data in the Register by way of public control, observing the requirements of applicable legislation of Ukraine.
- 5. The Register Administrator shall ensure protection of electronic Register database copies from unauthorized copying and registration of any security violation attempts by technical means. Making secondary electronic Register database copies, as well as distributing Register database copies on paper, shall be forbidden.
- 6. No later than a month after receiving an updated Register database copy, the political party shall return to the Register Administrator the Register database copies received earlier.
- 7. The political party that no longer meets the requirements of Part 1 of this Article according to the results of Ukrainian parliamentary elections shall be further deprived of the right to receive Register database copies. Such a party shall have up to three months after the official public declaration of the election results to return to the Register Administrator any Register database copies received earlier.
- 8. If the political party fails to return to the Register Administrator Register database copies in the cases and within the time indicated in Part 6 and 7 of this Article, any illegally made or distributed secondary copies of the Register database or any part thereof based on a copy provided to this party earlier shall serve as a reason for declining this party's request for a Register database copy the next time and for considering the issue of bringing the persons guilty of illegal copying and distributing personal data from the Register to responsibility under the procedure established by applicable law.
- 9. Upon the results of its check of completeness and veracity of personal data in the Register, the party may address the Register maintenance body with an appeal indicating violations in the Register maintenance procedure (such as failure to include a voter in the Register, illegal entry or multiple entries of a person in the Register, incorrect personal data of individual voters) with regard to persons whose voting address (residence address) is within the territory to which the powers of this Register maintenance body extend. The Register maintenance body may check this appeal for sufficiency and take the appropriate measures under the procedure set forth in Articles 146 and Article 147 hereof.

#### Article 153. Financing the State Voter Register

The activities to create and maintain the Register shall be financed from the state budget of Ukraine, as well as (as regards financing the activities of bodies of local self-governance in the cases provided for hereby) from respective local budgets as financing of delegated powers.

### Article 154. Purposes of Personal Data in the Register

- 1. When preparing elections of the President of Ukraine, Members of Parliament of Ukraine, Members of Parliament of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, deputies of local councils, or village, settlement, and city mayors, all-Ukrainian or local referenda, personal data in the Register may be used only for:
  - 1) compiling preliminary voter lists in election precincts;
  - 2) verifying preliminary voter lists and final compiling voter lists in election precincts;
- 3) providing statistical data reflecting the quantitative parameters of the electorate in the territory to the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine, other executive bodies, executive bodies of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, bodies of local self-governance, the Central Election Commission, election commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, and territorial election commissions;
- 4) verifying the information about voters (citizens of Ukraine), envisaged by Parts 2 and 3 of this Article.
- 2. Personal data from the Register may be used in accordance with Article 155 hereof by respective election commissions to verify the information about the voters, who put their signatures in signature sheets in support of an all-Ukrainian or local referendum, nomination of a candidate (candidates) for elections, as well as information provided to the respective election commissions about candidates, their representatives and proxies, referendum initiative group members, and candidates for members of election commissions.

- 3. On the request of the Ministry of Justice of Ukraine addressed to the Register Administrator, personal data in the Register may be used for verifying information about the citizens of Ukraine, who have supported the creation of a certain political party by their signatures made under the procedure established by the Law of Ukraine "On Political Parties in Ukraine."
- 4. The personal data in the Register may be used for public control over the maintenance of the Register under the procedure and within the scope established hereby.
- 5. The personal data of the Register may be used one time under applicable law as initial content of the national database of individuals after the creation thereof.
- 6. The use of the personal data contained in the Register for any purposes other than those indicated in Parts 1-5 of this Article may be possible exclusively on a court decision. Within seven days after the day of provision of voter personal data in fulfillment of a court decision the Register Administrator or Register maintenance body shall inform the voter thereof, sending a notification to his or her voting address.

#### **Article 155. Verification of Voter Information**

- 1. Information about voters shall be checked using the personal data in the Register:
- 1) for this voter's entry in the Register, along with the required identification data therein; and
- 2) to make sure that the voting address of this voter indicated in the Register personal data matches his or her address that is being checked.
  - 2. The result of checking the voter information shall be the conclusion that:
  - 1) there is an entry in the Register database, representing this voter; and that
  - 2) the voter's voting address is true.
- 3. If there is at least one discrepancy between the personal data indicated in clauses 1-4, Part 1, Article 133 hereof in the Register and the corresponding voter information that is being checked, such a voter shall be deemed having no entry in the Register database.
- 4. If the compared identification data of the voter prove identical but his or her voting address indicated in the Register personal data is not the same as he or she indicated, the information about this voter shall be deemed unreliable.

### **Article 156. Provision of Statistical Data**

- 1. The Central Election Commission as Register Administrator shall collect and use Register statistics reflecting the quantitative parameters of the electorate of Ukraine when creating permanent election precincts in accordance with Articles 40–44 hereof and also when addressing other issues of arranging and conducting nationwide elections and all-Ukrainian referenda.
- 2. The President of Ukraine, Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine, Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine, or another central executive body may apply to the Register Administrator for statistical data reflecting the quantitative parameters of the electorate of Ukraine based on Register information. The Register Administrator shall provide the requested statistical data within the timeframe specified in the application or agreed upon with the body that is requesting the said information.
- 3. The election commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and territorial election commission may apply to the respective Register maintenance body or regional Register administration body for statistics required to resolve within the scope of powers of this election commission any issues of organizing and preparing local elections, local referenda, and reflecting the quantitative parameters of the electorate of a specific election precinct or administrative-territorial unit. The Register maintenance or Register administration body shall provide the election commission with the requested statistical data within the timeframe specified in the application or agreed upon with the body that is requesting the said information.
- 4. The Parliament of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, Council of Ministers of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, local state administration, other local executive body, local council, and its executive body may apply to the respective Register maintenance or regional Register administration body, requesting statistics reflecting the quantitative parameters of the electorate of a given administrative-territorial unit on the basis of Register information. The Register maintenance or Register administration body shall provide the requested statistical

information within the timeframe specified in the application or agreed upon with the body that is requesting the said information.

- 5. After every annual personal data verification in the Register carried out in accordance with Article 151 hereof, the Register Administrator shall publish Register statistics in nationwide media, along with their trend curves in the nationwide election district in general (except for the information indicated in clauses 4 and 5 of this part), in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, oblasts, the Cities of Kyiv and Sevastopol, as well as abroad, and publish in local media the same type of information relating to a raion, city of oblast (republican in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea) level, and city raion, specifically:
- 1) number of voters included in the Register and having addresses within the respective area;
- 2) number of voters, who have acquired the right to vote in the past year in the respective area;
- 3) number of persons who have lost the right to vote (because died, have been declared incapable, or whose Ukrainian citizenship has been terminated) in the past year in the respective area;
  - 4) number of voters who have moved from the voting address in the respective area;
  - 5) number of voters who have come to voting addresses in the respective area.
- 6. The information indicated in Part 5 of this Article shall be published on the official website of the Register Administrator. The said information published on the official website shall be updated quarterly after the periodic update of personal data in the Register in accordance with Article 149 hereof.

### Article 157. Liability for Violating the Established Register Maintenance Procedure

- 1. Ukrainian laws provide for criminal, administrative, and other legal liability for abusing or making unauthorized access to the Register, breaching the rules envisaged hereby and by other laws protecting personal data and Register software, providing against illegal use and spread of personal data from the Register, and other breaches hereof relating the Register maintenance procedure.
  - 2. Citizens shall be held liable for:
- 1) deliberately submitting known false information to the Register maintenance body or submitting such information with the purpose of creating duplicate voter entries in the Register;
  - 2) unauthorized access to the Register; and
- 3) unauthorized copying, dissemination, and use for any purpose other than that provided for hereby of a copy of the Register database or part thereof received by a political party.
  - 3. Officials of Register bodies shall be held liable for:
- 1) violating the rules of access to the Register, procedure of using information from the Register, and procedure of copying the Register database or part thereof;
  - 2) for illegitimate or untimely entry of voter personal data into the Register database;
- 3) for deliberately entering known false information about a voter into the Register database:
- 4) for processing Register data on any grounds or in any manner not provided for hereby and other laws, and decisions of the Register Administrator made in accordance herewith;
- 5) for deleting Register entries or personal data in the Register on any grounds or in any manner not provided for hereby;
- 6) for failure to fulfill or improper fulfillment of the official duties connected with ensuring the completeness, integrity, protection, and security of personal data in the Register;
- 7) for deliberately compromising security of the Register, deliberately providing the information required for granting access to the Register to third parties on any grounds or in any manner not provided for hereby and by decisions of the Register Administrator made in accordance herewith.
- 4. Officials or other executive bodies, bodies of local self-governance, establishments, institutions, and organizations shall be held liable for failure to submit or untimely submission of the information envisaged hereby to Register maintenance bodies, or submission of incomplete or false information.

### **Section XI. VOTER LISTS**

### Article 158. Making Preliminary Voter Lists by Register Maintenance Bodies

- 1. After the beginning of the nationwide election process, every Register maintenance body operating in Ukraine shall compile and make preliminary voter lists on the basis of Register information and no later than twenty-five days ahead of the voting day in regular election precincts and in permanent special election precincts within the places of stay of the voters indicated in clause 3, Part 2, Article 36 hereof within the area to which the powers of this body extend. Based on Register information, the Register maintenance body of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine shall compile preliminary voter lists for every permanent Election precinct abroad within the same timeframes.
- 2. If nationwide local elections are officially declared, the Register maintenance body operating in Ukraine shall compile and make preliminary voter lists for regular election precincts within the timeframes set in Part 1 of this Article. No preliminary voter lists shall be made for election precincts abroad, as well as special election precincts at polar stations and correctional institutions.
- 3. If isolated local elections are declared, preliminary voter lists shall be compiled and made within the timeframes set in Part 1 of this Article by respective Register maintenance bodies for regular election precincts located within the administrative-territorial unit where the said local elections are to be held.
- 4. The preliminary voter list of an election precinct shall include all the voters whose voting address belongs to this precinct in accordance with the Register information, except for those voters whose entries in the Register contain service information stating that the given voter is not available at the given voting address.
- 5. Members of district election commission on nationwide elections shall be included in voter lists in one of the election precincts of the respective territorial election district, determined by the decision of this commission based on the decision of the Central Election Commission, provided by the respective Register maintenance body in accordance with Part 9, Article 87 hereof.
- 6. A voter may be included in the preliminary voter list only once and only in a single election precinct.
- 7. The preliminary voter list for the respective election precinct shall be made in the form established by the Central Election Commission. The preliminary voter list shall not have the column "Voter's signature."
- 8. The preliminary voter list shall have continuous numbering of voters. The information about voters in the list shall go in order of voting addresses to ensure that the information about voters with the same voting address is in one place in the voter list, ordered together piece by piece.
  - 9. Indicated in the preliminary voter list shall be:
  - 1) surname, given name (all given names), and patronymics (if any) of the voter;
  - 2) date of birth of the voter:
  - 3) voting address of the voter (omitting the zip code and country of residence); and
  - 4) note signifying the voter's inability to move independently (if applicable).
- 10. A preliminary voter list shall be made each precinct in three copies on paper and in electronic form. Each copy of the preliminary voter list intended for a given regular or permanent special election precinct shall bear the signature of the head of Register maintenance body on every page thereof and the seal of this body. One copy of the preliminary voter list shall be kept by the Register maintenance body until the respective election process ends.

### Article 159. Notifying Voters of Their Inclusion in Preliminary Voter Lists

1. No later than eighteen days ahead of the voting day, the Register maintenance body shall send to every voter on the preliminary voter list of a regular election precinct a personal invitation informing the voter of his or her inclusion in the preliminary voter list in the appropriate

election precinct, his/her number in the preliminary voter list, address of the precinct election commission, as well as voting time and venue.

2. The voters, whose entries in the voter list contain notes signifying their inability to move independently in accordance with clause 4, Part 9 of Article 158 hereof shall be notified at the same time that they will be given the possibility to vote at the place of their stay, unless they waive this right in writing.

### Article 160. Public Control over the Process of Compiling Preliminary Voter Lists

- 1. To ensure public control over the process of compiling and verifying by Register maintenance bodies preliminary voter lists and making final voter lists, the Central Election Commission shall have 20 days from the first day of nationwide elections to set up a central and regional (in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, oblasts, and the Cities of Kyiv and Sevastopol) control groups including no more than two representatives of the political parties that have factions in the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine of the current convocation. The nomination of candidates for control groups shall be signed by the leader of every party, certified with the party's seal, and submitted to the Central Election Commission within 15 days after the first election process day.
- 2. Members of the control groups indicated in Part 1 of this Article shall have the right to monitor the process of compiling preliminary voter lists by Register maintenance bodies and verification thereof in election precincts, as well as making the final voter lists by Register maintenance bodies. Register maintenance bodies and regional Register administration bodies shall help control group members to exercise their rights.

# Article 161. Delivering Preliminary Voter Lists to District or Territorial Election Commissions

- 1. The head of the Register maintenance body (except for the Register maintenance body at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs) shall have up to twenty days ahead of the voting day to present preliminary voter lists of election precincts in two copies on paper and in electronic form to:
- 1) the appropriate district election commission on nationwide elections in the case indicated in Part 1, Article 158 hereof;
- 2) the appropriate raion, city (city of oblast or republican in the case of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea level) election commission in the case indicated in Parts 2 and 3 of Article 158 hereof.
- 2. The district (territorial) election commission shall control the process of compiling preliminary voter lists by Register maintenance bodies in the respective territory. Failure to present preliminary voter lists to the district (territorial) election commission within the timeframe set in Part 1 of this Article shall be immediately appealed against by the election commission in an administrative court.
- 3. The authorized officer of the Register maintenance body shall present preliminary voter lists to the district or territorial election commission at the commission meeting. The said presentation of the said voter lists shall be reflected in a document (statement) to be made in the form and under the procedure established in Part 10 of Article 115 hereof. One copy of the statement shall be given to the Register maintenance body and the other one to the election commission.
- 3. Subjects of the election process represented by their authorized persons (proxies) in the respective election district shall have the right to receive in the respective district or territorial election commission copies of preliminary voter lists for each permanent election precinct indicated in Parts 1–3, Article 150 hereof, appropriate territorial election district or administrative-territorial unit in electronic form protected from unauthorized copying as envisaged in Article 152 hereof.

## **Article 162. Delivering Preliminary Voter Lists to Precinct Election Commissions**

1. The district or territorial election commission shall have up to fifteen days ahead of the voting date to pass at its meeting to each precinct election commission one copy the preliminary voter list for the respective election precinct, earlier received from the Register maintenance body under the procedure described in Article 158 hereof. The second copy of the voter list shall be kept by the district or territorial election commission.

- 2. The preliminary voter list shall be given to at least three members of the precinct election commission, acting on behalf of this commission and representing different candidate nomination subjects indicated in Part 1, Article 87 hereof. One of the said three commission members shall be the commission head, if possible, otherwise the commission deputy head or secretary.
- 3. Such a delivery of the said preliminary voter list to the precinct election commission shall be reflected in a document (statement) to be made in the form and under the procedure established in Part 10 of Article 115 hereof. One copy of this statement shall be given to the district or territorial election commission and the second one along with a copy of the preliminary voter list to the precinct election commission.
- 4. When conducting nationwide elections, the head of the Register maintenance body at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine shall have up to twenty-two days ahead of the voting date to deliver one copy of preliminary voter lists made for permanent election precincts abroad to the Central Election Commission on paper and in electronic form. No later than the next day after delivering the voter lists to the Central Election Commission, the head of the said Register maintenance body shall transfer the preliminary voter lists made for permanent election precincts abroad to out-of-country diplomatic institutions of Ukraine. The content of preliminary voter lists may be transmitted by technical means of communication, provided that such a transmission is followed by hardcopies thereof presented under the established procedure. The said diplomatic institutions shall present one copy of the voter lists to the respective precinct election commissions in permanent election precincts abroad.
- 5. The representative of the appropriate subject of the election process at the Central Election Commission shall have the right to receive a copy of the preliminary voter list for each permanent out-of-country election precinct in electronic form protected from unauthorized copying as required by Article 152 hereof.

# Article 163. Making Preliminary Voter Lists by Precinct Election Commissions of Special Election Precincts

- 1. The voter list of a special election precinct created in a place of stay of the voters indicated in clauses 1, 2, and 4-6 (in the case of local elections clauses 1 and 2), Part 2, Article 36 hereof shall be compiled by the appropriate precinct election commission at least ten days ahead of the voting day in the form indicated in Part 6, Article 150 hereof based on the information submitted by the head of the appropriate establishment, institution, or ship captain.
- 2. The voters, who are to abandon the respective establishment or institution before the voting day, shall not be included in the submission indicated in Part 1 of this Article as well as in the voter list of such a precinct.
- 3. When compiling a preliminary voter list for a special election precinct for local elections, the voters whose voting address does not belong to the administrative-territorial unit where local elections are to be held shall not be included in the voter list.
- 4. The information indicated in Part 1 of this Article shall be submitted in one copy signed by the head of the appropriate establishment, institution, or ship captain and certified with the appropriate seal. No later than eleven days ahead of the voting day, the head of the appropriate establishment, institution, or ship captain shall ensure the submission of the said information to precinct election commission and veracity thereof.
- 5. After the voter list has been compiled at a special election precinct indicated in Part 1 of this Article, one copy of this voter list shall be passed to the respective district (in the case of local elections territorial) election commission. The content of the voter list of a special election precinct created at a ship going under the National Flag of Ukraine may be transmitted to the district election commission by technical communication means.
- 6. No later than the following day after the receipt of a copy of the voter list indicated in Part 5 of this Article, the district (territorial) election commission shall pass copies thereof signed by the commission head and bearing the commission seal to Register maintenance bodies in accordance with the voting addresses of the voters on the list.

# Article 164. Compiling Preliminary Voter Lists by Precinct Election Commissions of Temporary Election Precincts Abroad

- 1. When conducting nationwide elections, the precinct election commission shall compile a preliminary voter list for the temporary precinct abroad no later than nine days ahead of the voting day based on the information submitted by the head of the appropriate out-of-country diplomatic institution of Ukraine or commander of a military unit (command). The said information shall be submitted no later than ten days ahead of the voting day in one copy signed by the institution head and bearing the respective seal. Once the voter list is completed, the content thereof shall be immediately transmitted to the Register maintenance body of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine by technical means of communication.
- 2. No later than the day following the receipt of the voter list content indicated in Part 1 of this Article, the Register maintenance body of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine shall send the voter information to Register maintenance bodies in accordance with the voting addresses of the voters on the list.

#### Article 165. Familiarization of Voters with the Voter List at the Election Precinct

- 1. On the day following the receipt of the preliminary voter list for an election precinct under the procedure and within the time determined in Parts 1 and 4 of Article 162 hereof, the precinct election commission of the election precinct indicated in Parts 1– 3, Article 158 hereof shall make this voter list available for public view at the precinct election commission premises.
- 2. On the day following the preparation of the preliminary voter list in a precinct, the precinct election commission of the election precinct indicated in Part 1, Article 162 and Part 1, Article 164 hereof shall make one copy thereof available for public view at the precinct election commission premises.
- 3. The preliminary voter list shall be available for voters' view at least 12 hours every day (except for the time of precinct election commission meetings). The familiarization of voters with the preliminary voter list of the election precinct shall be terminated three days ahead of the voting day.
- 4. The precinct election commission shall organize duty hours for commission members to ensure the public availability of the preliminary voter list in the hours indicated in Part 3 of this Article. The schedule of hours allocated for voters' familiarization with the voter list shall be put up on the display board for official commission materials, indicated in Part 7, Article 115 hereof.
- 5. Every voter regardless of his or her voting address shall have the right to familiarize himself/herself with the preliminary voter list in any election precinct at the premises of the appropriate precinct election commission and check information in the voter list for correctness.

### Article 166. Procedure of Appealing against Improprieties in Preliminary Voter Lists

- 1. Every voter shall have the right to appeal against improprieties made when compiling the preliminary voter list in an election precinct, including failure to include or incorrect inclusion of himself/herself or other persons in the voter list, discrepancies in their personal data, specifically, between the entered and actual voting addresses, as well as against the presence or absence of notes signifying temporary or permanent inability of the voter to move independently.
- 2. A party (party chapter) and a candidate—subject of the respective election process shall have the right shall to appeal against any improprieties identified when analyzing electronic copies of preliminary voter lists, specifically duplicate or multiple voter entries in preliminary voter lists of various election precincts, as well as other improprieties indicated in Part 1 of this Article.
- 3. A complaint of a voter or another subject of the election process, indicated in Part 2 of this Article filed for the reasons indicated in Part 1 of this Article, regarding the preliminary voter list of the election precinct indicated in Parts 1–3, Article 158 hereof, and addressed to the respective Register maintenance body may be submitted to the appropriate precinct or district (territorial) election commission, or directly to the said Register maintenance body. A complain against multiple inclusion of voters in preliminary voter lists, indicated in Part 2 of this Article, shall be submitted to the Central Election Commission.

- 4. A complaint regarding the preliminary voter list of the election precinct indicated in Part 1, Article 163 hereof shall be addressed and submitted to the appropriate precinct or district (territorial) election commission, and regarding the preliminary voter list of the election precinct indicated in Part 1, Article 164 hereof to the appropriate precinct or the Central Election Commission.
- 5. A statement of claim of a voter or another subject of the election process indicated in Part 2 of this Article regarding the reasons indicated in Part 1 of this Article shall be submitted to the local court under the procedure established by the Code of Administrative Proceedings of Ukraine. A statement of claim regarding voter lists of election precincts abroad shall be submitted to the local court appropriate for the location of the Central Election Commission.
- 6. The complaint indicated in Parts 1 or 2 of this Article may be filed at least three days ahead of the voting day. A complaint filed in accordance with Part 3 of this Article that comes to a precinct or district election commission shall be immediately forwarded to the respective Register maintenance body.
- 7. An election commission (except for precinct election commissions of the special election precincts indicated in Part 1, Article 163 hereof), which has identified improprieties in preliminary voter lists by itself whilst reviewing the complaints indicated in Part 4 of this Article shall make a decision to appeal for these reasons to the appropriate Register maintenance body to verify the information in the preliminary voter lists. Immediately but in any case no later than three days ahead of the voting day, the commission shall pass the said decision along with the complaint and documents attached thereto to the respective Register maintenance body.
- 8. If when considering a complaint regarding the inclusion of a voter in the voter list, the election commission identifies grounds for the possible inclusion of this voter in the voter lists of one or several other precincts, it shall immediately notify the appropriate Register maintenance body of other possible places where this person may be included in the voter lists.
- 9. The court that makes a decision on a claim indicated in Part 5, Article 166 hereof shall have until the day following the day of decision, but in any case no later than three days ahead of the voting day, to pass the said decision to the appropriate Register maintenance body, and as regards the election precincts indicated in Article 163 hereof, also to the appropriate precinct election commission.

### Article 167. Procedure of Voter List Verification by Register Maintenance Bodies

- 1. The Register maintenance body, which receive the complaints indicated in Part 3, Article 166 hereof, notices, and decisions indicated in Parts 7– 9 Article 166 hereof, as well as decisions creating and making membership changes in the election commissions specified in Part 9, Article 88, Part 12, Article 96, Part 11, Article 104, and Part 11, Article 106 hereof and the documents attached thereto shall, if necessary, immediately check this information under the procedure described in Articles 146 and 147 hereof and make the respective changes in the voter personal data in the Register or the service notes indicated in clause 8, Part 1, Article 136 hereof. The Register maintenance body shall notify the appropriate election commissions, as well as the complaining subject of the changes made to the information in the Register or rejection thereof, if the alleged improprieties in voter lists have not found confirmation.
- 2. The Register maintenance body shall make respective changes to the personal data in the Register in fulfillment of the court decisions indicated in Part 9, Article 166 hereof and decisions of the Central Election Commission upon the results of reviewing complaints regarding multiple inclusion of voters in preliminary voter lists.
- 3. At least seven days ahead of the voting day, the heads of the bodies, establishments, and institutions indicated in Parts 2–11 of Article 150 hereof shall submit the respective information specified in Article 150 hereof for the period that elapsed after the latest update of Register personal data to the appropriate Register maintenance body in the form envisaged by Parts 3 and 4, Article 149 hereof.
- 4. The Register maintenance body shall process the submissions indicated in Part 3 of this Article under the procedure established by Article 149 hereof.
- 5. The Register maintenance body shall make specifying adjustments in the content of voter lists of the election precincts indicated in Parts 1–3, Article 158 hereof based on:

- 1) the results of considering the notices indicated in Part 8, Article 166 hereof and the complaints indicated in Part 3. Article 166 hereof:
  - 2) the court and election commission decisions indicated in Part 4, Article 167 hereof;
- 3) the results of reviewing information from the bodies indicated in Part 5 of Article 167 hereof;
- 4) information about the inclusion of voters in the voter lists of special election precincts and election precincts abroad, received in accordance with Part 6, Article 163, Part 2 Article 164, and Part 7, Article 170 hereof;
- 5) decisions of the bodies authorized to form election commissions, indicated in Part 9, Article 88, Part 12, Article 96, Part 11, Article 104, and Part 11, Article 106 hereof; and
  - 6) absentee voting certificates issued to voters in accordance with Article 175 hereof.

## Article 168. Making Final Voter Lists by Register Maintenance Bodies

- 1. At least two days ahead of the voting day and based on the results of verifying preliminary voter lists, the Register maintenance body (except for the Register maintenance body at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine) shall make final voter lists for the election precincts indicated in Parts 1–3, Article 158 hereof.
- 2. The voter may be included in the final voter list only once and only for a single election precinct. The Central Election Commission, Register maintenance bodies, and other election commissions shall take the necessary measures within their powers to prevent multiple inclusion of a voter in final voter lists.
- 3. The voter included in a district or territorial election commission after the preliminary voter lists have been compiled, who has a voting address outside the population center where this district (territorial) election commission is located, shall be included by the Register maintenance body in the final voter list at a regular election precinct in the population center where this district (territorial) election commission is located. Such a person shall not be included in the final voter list at his/her voting address.
- 4. The voter included in the precinct election commission shall be included in the final voter list of the election precinct where he/she is a commission member. Such a person shall not be included in the final voter list at his/her voting address, if the said voting address already has a voter assigned to another election precinct.
- 5. The voter whose powers as member of a district, territorial, or precinct election commission have been terminated early, but no later than three days ahead of the voting day, shall not be included in the final voter list of the election precinct where he or she was on the list due to his/her election commission membership, and shall be included in the final voter list at his/her voting address.
- 6. The Register maintenance body shall not include in the final voter list the voters for which there is information about their inclusion in the voter lists of special or out-of-country election precincts in accordance with Part 6, Article 163, Part 2 Article 164, or Part 7, Article 170 hereof.
- 7. The voter, who has received an absentee voting certificate in accordance with Article 167 hereof shall not be included in the final voter list of the election precinct corresponding to his/her address.
- 8. The final voter list of the respective election precinct shall be made in three copies in the form established by the Central Election Commission. The final voter list shall contain the information envisaged by Part 9, Article 158 hereof. The final voter list shall have a column "Voter's signature." Each page of every copy of the final voter list of the respective election precinct shall have the signature of the head of Register maintenance body and the seal thereof. Voters shall be included in the final voter list, observing the requirements of Part 6, Article 150 hereof.
- 9. The final voter list of an election precinct is an election document. The Register maintenance body shall be responsible for the completeness and accuracy of the final voter lists that it makes and compliance thereof with the requirements of this Code.

# Article 169. Delivering Final Voter Lists to District (Territorial) and Precinct Election Commissions

- 1. Final voter lists of election precincts, made by the Register maintenance body, shall be delivered to the district (territorial) election commission in two copies as they are completed, on a schedule set by this election commission, but no earlier than three days and no later than two days ahead of the voting day. The third copy of the final voter list shall be kept by the respective Register maintenance body.
- 2. The district (territorial) election commission shall deliver final voter lists to the precinct election commissions of the election precincts indicated in Parts 1– 3, Article 158 hereof under the procedure established by Parts 1–3, Article 162 hereof together with ballot papers as required by Part 1, Article 225 hereof.
- 3. The precinct election commission shall not have the right to make changes or specifying adjustments to the final voter list made by the Register maintenance body.

# Article 170. Procedure of Voter List Verification by Precinct Election Commissions

- 1. The precinct election commission that has compiled the preliminary voter list by itself shall review the complaints presented to it and indicated in Part 4, Article 166 hereof, and make decisions on them at least two days ahead of the voting day.
- 2. The district (territorial) election commission shall review the complaints indicated in Part 4, Article 166 hereof regarding the voter lists of the special election precincts indicated in Part 1, Article 163 hereof, and make decisions on them at least two days ahead of the voting day. Such a decision shall be presented to the respective precinct election commission no later than the day following the decision day, but in any case no later than two days ahead of the voting day.
- 3. When considering complaints regarding voter lists of the special election precincts indicated in Part 1, Article 163 hereof, the election commission shall have the right turn to the appropriate Register maintenance body to check and verify the voting address or other voter personal data.
- 4. The Register maintenance body shall respond to an election commission's appeal indicated in Part 3 of this Article no later than the second day after receiving such an appeal but in any case no later than two days ahead of the voting day.
- 5. The court decision made on a claim regarding the preliminary voter list of the election precinct indicated in Part 1, Article 163 hereof shall be passed within the time specified in Part 2 of this Article to the appropriate precinct election commission.
- 6. The head of an establishment or institution where there is a special election precinct shall inform the respective precinct election commission about the voters who have left the said establishment or institution or come to the establishment or institution after the time indicated in Part 1, Article 163 hereof. Such information shall be presented no later than two days ahead of the voting day in three copies signed by the head of the appropriate establishment or institution and certified with the respective seal.
- 7. The precinct election commission shall forward immediately one copy of the information indicated in Part 6 of this Article upon the receipt thereof to the district (territorial) election commission. The district (territorial) election commission shall immediately pass such information to the Register maintenance bodies corresponding to the voting addresses of the respective voters.
- 8. The precinct election commission that has compiled the preliminary voter list by itself shall verify the content of the voter list of the election precinct based on:
  - 1) its own decisions indicated in Part 1 of this Article;
- 2) the decisions of district (territorial) election commission, indicated in Part 2 of this Article;
  - 3) the responses of the Register maintenance body, indicated in Part 4 of this Article;
  - 4) the court decisions indicated in Part 5 of this Article; and
  - 5) the nomination document indicated in Part 6 of this Article.
- 9. When verifying the voter lists for local elections, not included in the voter list shall be the voters whose voting address does not lie within the respective administrative-territorial unit where the local elections are to be held.

- 10. The precinct election commission that has compiled the preliminary voter list by itself shall make the final voter list for the given election precinct at least two days ahead of the voting day in two copies in the form indicated in Part 4, Article 168 hereof upon the results of verifying the content of the voter list. Every page of each copy of the final voter list shall bear the signatures of the head and secretary of the precinct election commission and the commission seal. The second copy of the final voter list of such a precinct shall be passed to the district election commission when receiving ballot papers in accordance with Part 1 Article 225 hereof.
- 11. No changes or specifying adjustments may be made to the final voter list of the election precinct after it has been made.
- 12. The voter, who has been admitted to a medical establishment in the population center where he or she has the voting address, may apply to the election commission of the regular election precinct where he or she is on the voter list, asking for permission to vote at the place of his or her stay under the procedure and within the time indicated in Part 4, Article 230 hereof. In this case, he or she shall not be included in the final voter list of the special election precinct.

### Article 171. Voter List Verification Specifics in Election Precinct Abroad

- 1. The voter, who is to be abroad on the voting day but is not on the voter list of any election precinct abroad and did not obtain an absentee voting certificate before leaving Ukraine in accordance with Article 175 hereof, may personally apply to the precinct election commission of the respective election precinct abroad in writing no later than seven days ahead of the voting day, asking to be included in the voter list of this precinct, indicating his/her place of residence as well as one of the documents envisaged in Part 4 or 5, Article 10 hereof.
- 2. Precinct election commissions of election precincts abroad shall immediately transmit by technical means of communication to the Register maintenance body of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine their own appeals regarding identified inaccuracies in the voter list, complaints regarding the voter list submitted to the election commission, and voters' applications indicated in Part 1 of this Article.
- 3. The Register maintenance body that receives the appeals and complaints indicated in Part 2 of this Article shall, if necessary, immediately check the relevant information under the procedure described in Articles 146 and 147 hereof and make the required changes to the voter personal data in the Register or the service notes indicated in clause 8, Part 1, Article 136 hereof. The Register maintenance body shall notify the appropriate election commissions as well as the subject that filed the complaint through the respective diplomatic institution of Ukraine of the changes, in any, made in the Register or refusal to make them, if the alleged improprieties in the voter lists have not found confirmation.
- 4. The Register maintenance body of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine shall make the relevant changes in personal data in the Register in fulfillment of the court decisions indicated in Part 9, Article 166 hereof and decisions of the Central Election Commission upon the results of considering complaints about repeated entries of voters in preliminary voter lists.
- 5. No later than ten days ahead of the voting day, the following information shall be submitted to the Register maintenance body of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine in the form described in Parts 4 and 5, Article 149 hereof,:
- 1) from the heads of out-of-country diplomatic institutions of Ukraine about the citizens of Ukraine, who have been entered into the consular register and removed from the consular register after the latest update of the personal data in the Register;
- 2) from the Ministry of Defense of Ukraine and the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Ukraine about the citizens of Ukraine–voters, who have come to serve in military units (commands) abroad and who left the said military units (commands) after the latest update of the personal data in the Register.
- 6. The Register maintenance body of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine shall process the submissions indicated in Part 5 of this Article under the procedure established by Article 149 hereof.

- 7. The Register maintenance body of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine shall make specifying adjustments to the voter lists of election precincts abroad based on:
  - 1) the results of reviewing the appeals and complaints indicated in Part 2 of this Article;
- 2) the results of considering information from the bodies indicated in Part 5 of this Article:
- 3) decisions of the Central Election Commission including or excluding the respective persons in/from the membership of the appropriate precinct election commission; and
  - 4) absentee voting certificates issued to voters in accordance with Article 175 hereof.
- 8. The voter included in the precinct election commission of an election precinct abroad shall be included in the voter list in the respective election precinct regardless of his or her consular registration.
- 9. The Register maintenance body of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine shall make final voter lists for election precincts abroad in three copies in the form determined in Part 8, Article 168 hereof no later than five days ahead of the voting day.
- 10. The Register maintenance body of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine shall pass the final voter lists of election precincts abroad to the precinct election commissions through the respective out-of-country diplomatic institution of Ukraine. The voter lists shall be passed along with ballot papers in accordance with Article 225 hereof. If necessary, the content of the voter lists may be transmitted by technical means of communication.
- 11. The Register maintenance body of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine shall ensure timely notification of the respective Register maintenance bodies that the voters with voting addresses in Ukraine have been included in the final voter lists of election precincts abroad.
- 12. The precinct election commission shall not have the right to make any changes and specifying adjustments in the final voter list made by the Register maintenance body.

#### Section XII. ABSENTEE VOTING CERTIFICATES

## Article 172. Absentee Voting Certificates for Exercising the Right to Vote in Nationwide Elections

- 1. The voter who leaves the administrative-territorial unit indicated in Part 2, Article 133 of the Constitution of Ukraine, to which his/her voting address belongs, no earlier than 30 days ahead of the voting day of nationwide elections inclusive may apply in writing to the Register maintenance body appropriate to his/her voting address, asking for an absentee voting certificate to be able to vote in the respective elections (hereinafter referred to as the absentee voting certificate) and his/her removal from the voter list at his/her voting address.
- 2. The voter whose voting address is abroad and who comes to Ukraine from abroad no earlier than 18 days ahead of the voting day of nationwide elections may apply in writing to the appropriate precinct election commission of an election precinct abroad, asking for an absentee voting certificate and his/her removal from the voter list at his/her voting address.
- 3. The application indicated in Parts 1 and 2 of this Article shall state the reason why the voter is unable to vote at his/her place of residence and the number of the territorial election district or out-of-country election district where he or she intends to cast the ballot on the voting day.
- 4. The voter shall submit the application indicated in Parts 1 and 2 of this Article by 18 o'clock on the last Thursday before the voting day.
  - 5. Absentee voting certificates shall not be applicable for local elections.

## Article 173. Absentee Voting Certificate Form

- 1. The form of absentee voting certificate and security standards of the absentee voting certificate shall be established by the Central Election Commission no later than 60 days ahead of the voting day.
- 2. The absentee voting certificate form shall have space designated for the following entries:
- 1) surname, given name, and patronymic of the voter to whom this absentee voting certificate is issued:

- 2) number of the territorial election district and name of the Register maintenance body or reference to the out-of-country election district and number of the election precinct abroad where it has been issued:
- 3) number of the territorial or reference to the out-of-country election district in which the voter is to cast the ballot;
- 4) surnames and signatures of the head of Register maintenance body or two members of the precinct election commission, who issued the absentee voting certificate;
  - 5) date of issue of the absentee voting certificate;
  - 6) seal of the Register maintenance body or precinct election commission;
  - 7) signature of the voter who has received the absentee voting certificate.
- 3. Absentee voting certificate forms shall be numbered within a single numbering scope covering the single and entire nationwide election district.

### Article 174. Making and Accounting for Absentee Voting Certificate Forms

- 1. Absentee voting certificates shall be made in an amount equaling two percent of the voters whose personal data is in the State Voter Register as of the beginning of the election process.
- 2. The Central Election Commission shall ensure that the absentee voting certificate forms are printed no later than 45 days ahead of the voting day in accordance with the specimen form established by it and observing the requirements of Article 173 hereof in a centralized manner at a state printing house on the basis of an agreement concluded with this printing house without any tender competition procedures.
- 3. The procedure of making absentee voting certificate forms, the receipt thereof by the Central Election Commission from the printing house, and passing thereof to Register maintenance bodies and precinct election commissions of election precincts abroad shall be established by the Central Election Commission.
- 4. The printing house shall make only the requested number of absentee voting certificate forms, meeting the production deadlines, and ensure their careful counting and delivery to the customer. Any technical waste, printing spoilage and plates shall be destroyed under the procedure and within the timeframe specified in the agreement for making absentee voting certificate forms.
- 5. An absentee voting certificate form is a registered high-security document. The Central Election Commission, Register maintenance bodies, and precinct election commissions shall ensure safe storage and strict accounting for any received and issued absentee voting certificates as required hereby. The documents of safe storage and account of absentee voting certificate forms shall be sent by the printing house, Register maintenance bodies and precinct election commissions of election precincts abroad to the Central Election Commission. After the official public declaration of the election results, the Central Election Commission shall send the said account documents to the respective archive institutions for storage.
- 6. No later than 35 days ahead of the voting day, the Central Election Commission shall provide Register maintenance bodies (except for the Register maintenance body of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine) with absentee voting certificate forms in a number that does not exceed two percents of the total of voters, who, according to the Register, have their voting addresses within the appropriate administrative-territorial unit, to which the powers of this Register maintenance body extend.
- 7. No later than 25 days ahead of the voting day, the Central Election Commission shall provide the Register maintenance body of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine with absentee voting certificate forms in a number that does not exceed one percent of the total of voters, who, according to the Register, have their voting addresses abroad. No later than 19 days ahead of the voting day, the Register maintenance body of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine shall forward the absentee voting certificate forms to precinct election commissions of election precincts abroad.
- 8. The Central Election Commission shall ensure safe storage of the absentee voting certificate forms that have not been sent to Register maintenance bodies and cancellation thereof within the time and under the procedure established by Article 176 hereof.

## Article 175. Procedure of Issuing Absentee Voting Certificates to Voters

- 1. When applying for an absentee voting certificate to the Register maintenance body, the voter shall personally submit one of the documents indicated in Part 2, Article 10 hereof and (if he or she intends to vote in an out-of country election district, except for the countries to which citizens of Ukraine are permitted to travel using their passports of citizen of Ukraine) one of the documents indicated in Part 4, Article 10 hereof. Based on the submitted application and the said documents, the Register maintenance body shall issue an absentee voting certificate to the voter.
- 2. When applying to the precinct election commission of an election precinct abroad, the voter shall personally submit one of the documents indicated in Parts 4 or 5, Article 10 hereof. Based on the submitted application and the said document, two members of the precinct election commission shall issue an absentee voting certificate to the voter.
- 3. When issuing an absentee voting certificate, the head of the Register maintenance body or, in the case indicated in Part 2 of this Article, two members of the precinct election commission shall enter into the absentee voting certificate form the information and notes specified in clauses 1–6, Part 2, Article 173 hereof. The voter shall put his or her signature in the appropriate place in the absentee voting certificate form.
- 4. In the document submitted in accordance with Part 1 or 2 of this Article, on the "Special Notes" page or in another appropriate place in the document, the following note shall be put: "Issued absentee voting certificate No (the number of the absentee voting certificate shall be entered here)" along with the note date, the number of the territorial election district and name of the Register maintenance body or reference to the out-of-country election district and number of the election precinct abroad where the absentee voting certificate was issued. The note shall be certified with the signature of the head of Register maintenance body or signatures of the two members of precinct election commission, with their surnames written and the seal of the Register maintenance body or precinct election commission affixed.
- 5. The note indicated in Part 4 of this Article shall be made using a stamp whose form shall be approved by the Central Election Commission. The Central Election Commission shall ensure that such stamps are made for every Register maintenance body and every election precinct abroad.
- 6. The Register maintenance body or members of the precinct election commission, who issue the absentee voting certificate, shall establish by themselves the number of the territorial election district, where the voter intends to vote, based on the place of stay on the voting day (city, raion, oblast) specified by the voter, give the voter the address of the appropriate district election commission, and inform him or her of the timeframe for applying to the appropriate district election commission for his or her inclusion in the final voter list on the basis of the absentee voting certificate.
- 7. After an absentee voting certificate is issued, the Register maintenance body shall make a service note in the voter personal data as provided in clause 8, Part 1, Article 136 hereof, indicating the temporary absence of this voter from his or her voting address.
- 8. The precinct election commission that has issued the absentee voting certificate shall immediately send the information about the voter, who received the absentee voting certificate, along with the number of the issued absentee voting certificate issued to the Register maintenance body of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine. The said Register maintenance body shall make the service note indicated in clause 8, Part 1, Article 136 hereof in the voter's personal data.

### Article 176. Reports on Using Absentee Voting Certificate Forms

1. No later than two days ahead of the voting day, the Register maintenance body (except for the Register maintenance body of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine) shall establish the number of voters who have received absentee voting certificates and count up the available unused absentee voting certificate forms. Unused absentee voting certificate forms shall be cancelled by tearing off their right lower corner. Cancelled absentee voting certificate forms shall be packed up into a package. The package shall bear the inscription "Cancelled absentee voting certificate forms," the name of the Register maintenance body and the packing date, as

well as the signatures of the head and at least three workers of the Register maintenance body and the seal of the said body.

- 2. The Register maintenance body shall prepare a report on using absentee voting certificate forms in two copies in the form established by the Central Election Commission. The report shall specify:
  - 1) the quantity and numbers of received absentee voting certificate forms;
  - 2) the number of voters, who have received absentee voting certificates;
  - 3) the numbers of unused and cancelled absentee voting certificate forms;
  - 4) the quantity of unused and cancelled absentee voting certificate forms; and
- 5) the numbers of the territorial election districts where the voters, who have received absentee voting certificates, intend to cast ballots and the number of such voters per each territorial election district (including the out-of-country election district).
- 3. No later than three days ahead of the voting day, the precinct election commission of election precincts abroad shall carry out the actions indicated in Part 1 of this Article. Unused and cancelled absentee voting certificate forms shall be packed up under the procedure established by Part 8, Article 240 hereof. The package shall bear the inscription "Cancelled absentee voting certificate forms." The precinct election commission shall make a statement of using absentee voting certificate forms in two copies in the form and under the procedure indicated in Part 10, Article 115 hereof. The statement shall include the information indicated in clauses 1-5, Part 2 of this Article.
- 4. When making a report envisaged by Part 2 of this Article or the statement provided for in Part 3 of this Article, the Register maintenance body or precinct election commission shall check whether or not the number of received absentee voting certificate forms equals the sum of the number of voters, who have received absentee voting certificates, and the number of cancelled absentee voting certificate forms. Any mismatch between these figures shall be indicated in the said report or statement along with the reason established by the Register maintenance body or decision of the precinct election commission for the mismatch and the numbers of absentee voting certificates that have been neither issued to voters nor cancelled.
- 5. The Register maintenance body shall immediately send the report on using absentee voting certificate forms and the package with cancelled absentee voting certificate forms to the Central Election Commission under the procedure established by the Register Administrator.
- 6. The precinct election commission of an election precinct abroad shall immediately transmit the content of the statement of using absentee voting certificate forms to the Central Election Commission, using technical means of communication. The package with cancelled absentee voting certificate forms and the first copy of the statement of using absentee voting certificate forms shall be kept in the out-of-country election precinct in the hands of the precinct election commission and passed to the Central Election Commission along with the election documents indicated in Part 1, Article 250 hereof.
- 7. By 16 o'clock on the last Friday before the voting day, the Central Election Commission shall inform the respective district election commissions of the number of voters that are expected to vote in the respective district on the basis of absentee voting certificates, and publish this information on its official website.
- 8. If the number of voters, who actually apply to the district election commission to vote on the basis of absentee voting certificates mismatches the number of voters expected to vote on the basis of absentee voting certificates and communicated in accordance with Part 7 of this Article, the district election commission shall carry out before the beginning of the ballot casting process an additional check of the legitimacy of including such voters in the voter list based on absentee voting certificates. The results of this check shall be subject to approval by the decision of the district election commission.
- 9. To carry out the check indicated in Part 8 of this Article, the district election commission may query the respective Register maintenance bodies for confirmation of whether or not the specific absentee voting certificates have been indeed issued. The Register maintenance bodies shall respond to such queries immediately in writing by fax, as well as by mail.

10. If there are any traits of crime identified in the process of issuing or using absentee voting certificates or other violations of the procedure of issuing absentee voting certificates established hereby, the district election commission shall take appropriate measures to eliminate the consequences of such violations within the scope of its powers and notify law enforcement bodies in writing thereof.

### Article 177. Final Voter Lists of Holders of Absentee Voting Certificates

- 1. No later than 30 days ahead of the voting day, the district election commission of a territorial election district created within a large city shall select in the territorial election district one large or medium-sized regular election precinct, and the district election commission of another territorial election district one large or medium-sized regular election precinct for each city of oblast level or raion center of every raion, as well as for any resort areas that belong to the appropriate territorial election district, and designate them for voters with absentee voting certificates .
- 2. A voter, who intends to vote on the basis of an absentee voting certificate, shall have until 12 o'clock of the last Saturday before the voting day to apply to the district election commission of the territorial election district indicated in his/her absentee voting certificate, attaching to his/her application the absentee voting certificate and the document in which there is a note put to signify that an absentee voting certificate has been issued to the bearer. In his/her application, the voter shall specify one of the election precincts determined in accordance with Part 1 of this Article where he or she intends to cast the ballot on the voting day.
- 3. The district election commission shall compile for each election precincts selected in accordance with Part 1 of this Article a final voter list of holders of absentee voting certificates in two copies in the form established by the Central Election Commission. Against the surname of each voter on the said voter list, in the column "Note," the number of the absentee voting certificate shall be indicated and the signatures of two members of the district election commission affixed. Each page of the list copy shall be signed by the head and secretary of the district election commission and bear the commission's seal.
- 4. The absentee voting certificate shall not grant the voter the right to vote in any special election precinct or in a regular election precinct in the administrative -territorial unit indicated in Part 2, Article 133 the Constitution of Ukraine, where it was issued.
- 5. The voter shall not be included in the final voter list of holders of absentee voting certificates, if his/her absentee voting certificate is not properly made or the data therein do not meet the data in the note of receipt of absentee voting certificate as required by Part 4, Article 175 hereof. An absentee voting certificate that has no signature of the voter shall be deemed invalid.
- 6. When a district election commission includes a voter in the final voter list of holders of absentee voting certificates, the note of receipt of absentee voting certificate envisaged in Part 4, Article 175 hereof shall be cancelled by crossing out the seal of the precinct election commission that issued the absentee voting certificate, indicating the cancellation date and affixing the signatures of two members of the district election commission.
- 7. The first copy of the final voter list of holders of absentee voting certificates, compiled by the election commission under the procedure established by Part 3 of this Article shall be handed over to the precinct election commission of the respective election precinct identified in accordance with Part 1 of this Article by 16 o'clock on the last Saturday ahead of the voting day. This shall be done by two members of the district election commission at a meeting of the respective precinct election commission, and this act shall be certified with a statement made in the form and under the procedure established in Part 10, Article 115 hereof. The second copy of the list shall be kept by the district election commission.
- 8. The final voter list of holders of absentee voting certificates shall be integral part of the final voter list of the respective precinct. The numbering of voters and the numbering of pages in the final voter list of holders of absentee voting certificates shall be separate from the numbering of voters and the numbering of pages in the voter list received by the precinct election commission in accordance with Part 2 Article 169 hereof.

9. Based on its decision made upon the results of the check indicated in Part 8, Article 176 hereof, the district election commission shall have until the beginning of voting to make a relevant decision to present the respective precinct election commissions with another final voter list of holders of absentee voting certificates, taking back the list provided earlier in accordance with Part 7, of this Article.

## Article 178. Specifics of the Inclusion of Voters in the Final Voter List of an Out-Of-Country Election Precinct on the Basis of Absentee Voting Certificates

- 1. The voter, who obtains from the Register maintenance body an absentee voting certificate for voting within the out-of-country election district, shall have the right to be included in the final voter list and cast the ballot in any out-of-country election precinct.
- 2. The voter, who appears in an election precinct abroad with an absentee voting certificate before the voting day, shall personally apply in writing to the appropriate precinct election commission for his/her inclusion in the voter list of this precinct, attaching to the application his/her absentee voting certificate and the document with a note stating that an absentee voting certificate has been issued to the bearer, as required by Part 4, Article 175 hereof.
- 3. The absentee voting certificate issued by the precinct election commission of an election precinct abroad shall not entitle the voter to vote in another out-of-country election precinct.
- 4. Based on the documents indicated in Part 2 of this Article, the head, deputy head, or secretary of precinct election commission shall include the voter in the voter list, observing the requirements of Part 3 of this Article and Part 5, Article 177 hereof under the procedure established by the Central Election Commission. In this case, it is required that the absentee voting certificate number, name of the Register maintenance body, which has issued the absentee voting certificate, and signatures of two members of the precinct election commission be entered in the column "Note" in the voter list.
- 5. When including a voter in the voter list, the note of receipt of absentee voting certificate, envisaged in Part 4, Article 175 hereof, shall be cancelled by crossing out the seal of the precinct election commission that has issued this absentee voting certificate, indicating the cancellation date and affixing the signatures of two members of the precinct election commission.
- 6. After the voting is finished, the precinct election commission of an election precinct abroad shall immediately notify by technical means of communication the Central Election Commission of the number of voters included in the voter list of the appropriate election precinct on the basis of absentee voting certificates.

### CHAPTER IV. FINANCIAL, MATERIAL AND TECHNICAL PROVISION OF ELECTIONS

#### SECTION XIII. BUDGET FINANCING OF ELECTIONS

### Article 179. General Provisions Pertaining to Financing of Elections

- 1. Expenditures associated with preparation and conduct of elections pursuant to this Code shall be covered exclusively at the expense of funds from the State Budget of Ukraine or funds from the budget of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea or respective local budget allocated for preparation and conduct of elections as well as at the expense of resources of electoral funds established by subjects of the respective election process as stipulated herein.
- 2. Expenditures associated with preparation and conduct of nationwide elections including those associated with financing of election campaigns in cases envisaged by this Code shall be covered by the Central Election Commission and District Election Commissions at the expense of funds from the State Budget of Ukraine allocated for preparation and conduct of the respective elections pursuant to the budget of expenditures approved by the Central Election Commission.
- 3. Expenditures associated with preparation and conduct of elections of Members of Parliament of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea shall be covered by the election commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea exclusively at the expense of funds from

the budget of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea pursuant to the budget of expenditures approved by the election commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea.

- 4. Expenditures associated with preparation and conduct of local elections (except for elections of Members of Parliament of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea) shall be covered:
- 1) In case of regular, extraordinary and first elections at the expense of funds from the State Budget of Ukraine;
- 2) In case of repeated and interim elections at the expense of funds from the respective local budget.
- 5. Expenditures envisaged by Part 4 of this Article including those associated with financing of election campaigns in cases stipulated by this Code shall be covered by the respective Territorial Election Commission pursuant to the budget of expenditures approved by the same.
- 6. Financing of pre-election informational and campaigning events or materials from sources not envisaged by Part 1 of this Article regardless of availability of the agreement with candidates or parties (organizations of parties) subjects of the election process as well as financial support to members of elections commissions beyond the limits of remuneration of their labor set forth in Article 103 hereof shall be prohibited.

## Article 180. Financing of Elections from the State Budget of Ukraine

- 1. The Central Election Commission shall be the main administrator of funds specified in Part 2 and clause 1 of Part 4 of Article 179 of this Code.
- 2. The respective Territorial Election Commission shall be the administrator of funds specified in clause 1 of Part 4 of Article 179 of this Code as well as the main administrator of funds specified in clause 2 of Part 4 of Article 179 of this Code.
- 3. The amount of funds for preparation and conduct of the elections, subject to a submission of the Central Election Commission, shall be annually envisaged in the Law of Ukraine "On State Budget of Ukraine" as a separate line item.
- 4. The funds for preparation and conduct of elections allocated by the State Budget of Ukraine shall be transferred by the State Treasury of Ukraine to the Central Election Commission within three days from the day of adopting a decision on calling the respective elections (in case that no such decision is adopted in accordance with this Code, such funds shall be transferred within three days from the day of announcing of the beginning of the election process).
- 5. The funds for preparation and conduct of local elections specified in clause 1 of Part 4 of Article 179 of this Code shall be transferred by the Central Election Commission to the respective Territorial Election Commission within three days from the day of beginning of the respective election process.
- 6. Financing of election commissions shall be carried out pursuant to the procedure established by the Central Election Commission jointly with the Ministry of Finance of Ukraine.
- 7. The Central Election Commission shall approve average expenditure amounts of a District Election Commission, Territorial Election Commission as well as average expenditure amounts to cover the needs of Precinct Election Commissions which shall include, in particular, expenditures associated with property lease (rent) of premises for voting, premises for election commissions, remuneration of labor of members of the election commissions and persons involved in work of the commissions, payment for the use of facilities, equipment and other resources.
- 8. The District Election Commission shall, within ten days from the moment of its formation and based on the average expenditure amounts approved pursuant to Part 7 of this Article, draw up a unified estimate of expenditures for preparation and conduct of elections with inclusion therein expenditures of the District Election Commission and expenditures to cover the needs of the Precinct Election Commissions within the territorial district and not later than the next day after the adoption of such decision shall submit it to the Central Election Commission for approval.
- 9. The Main Territorial Election Commission shall, not later than on the tenth day of the respective election process of local elections and in accordance with average expenditure

amounts specified in Part 7 of this Article, draw up a unified estimate of expenditures for preparation and conduct of elections with inclusion therein expenditures of the Territorial Election Commission and expenditures to cover the needs of the Precinct Election Commissions within the borders of the respective administrative-territorial unit. In case of conduct of the general local elections expenditures for the needs of the Precinct Election Commissions shall be envisaged only in the estimates of raion, city (including cities of Oblast and Republic level in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea) and Kyiv and Sevastopol city raion election commissions.

10. In the event that no elections are conducted during the current year the funds allocated in the State Budget of Ukraine for these purposes shall, not later than at the beginning of the fourth quarter of the respective budget year, be reallocated pursuant to the decision of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine for other purposes envisaged by the State Budget of Ukraine.

## **Article 181. Financing of Elections From Local Budgets**

- 1. The amount of funds to be allocated for preparation and conduct of regular elections of Members of Parliament of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, subject to a submission of the election commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, shall be envisaged in the budget of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea for the respective year as a separate line item.
- 2. In case of calling the regular or repeated elections of Members of Parliament of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, the Parliament of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea of the current convocation shall, not later than on the fifteenth day following the calling of elections and subject to a submission of the election commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, introduce amendments to the budget of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea by stipulating in it the amount of funds necessary for preparation and conduct of the said elections.
- 3. In case of calling the repeated or interim local elections (except for elections of Members of Parliament of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea) the respective local council shall, not later than on the fifteenth day following the adoption of the decision on calling the elections and subject to a submission of the respective Territorial Election Commission, introduce amendments to the respective local budget by stipulating in it the amount of funds necessary for preparation and conduct of the said elections.
- 4. Financing of election commissions, approving estimates of expenditures shall be carried out in accordance with Parts 7 and 9 of Article 180 of this Code.

## Article 182. Reporting on the Utilization of Funds

- 1. The District Election Commission shall, not later than within seven days from the day of the official public declaration of election results, return the funds of the State Budget of Ukraine not used by it for preparing and conducting the elections to the account of the Central Election Commission. The State Treasury of Ukraine shall, within three days from the day of receipt of the funds, inform the Central Election Commission on return of such funds to the account of the latter.
- 2. The Main Election Commission of the respective local elections shall, not later than within seven days from the day of the official declaration of results of the local elections that were prepared and conducted at the expense of funds from the State Budget of Ukraine, return the funds of the State Budget of Ukraine not used by it for preparation and conduct of the said elections to the account of the Central Election Commission.
- 3. The District Election Commission, Main Election Commission of the respective local elections shall, within fifteen days from the day of the official public declaration of the election results, draw up and submit to the Central Election Commission a financial report on receipt and utilization of funds from the State Budget of Ukraine for the purpose of preparation and conduct of elections pursuant to the procedure established by the Central Election Commission and in the format approved by the Central Election Commission jointly with the State Treasury of Ukraine.
- 4. The Main Election Commission of the respective local elections shall, within ten days from the day of the official public declaration of results of such local elections that were prepared and conducted at the expense of funds from the respective local budget, draw up and submit to the respective local council a financial report on receipt and utilization of funds from

the respective local budget for the purpose of preparation and conduct of the respective elections.

5. Outstanding accounts payable of the territorial election commissions in conditions of incomplete financing of local elections within the amount of funds obtained from the State Budget of Ukraine for the purpose of preparation and conduct of local elections shall be paid by the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine.

### Article 183. Control Over Utilization of the Budget Funds

- 1. Control over correct and targeted utilization of funds allocated from the State Budget of Ukraine for preparation and conduct of nationwide and local elections shall be exercised by the Central Election Commission, respective bodies of the Ministry of Finance of Ukraine, the Accounting Chamber following the procedure established by the Central Election Commission jointly with the Ministry of Finance of Ukraine.
- 2. Control over correct and targeted utilization of funds allocated from the respective local budget for preparation and conduct of local elections shall be exercised, respectively, by the Parliament of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, other local councils, financial and controlling bodies pursuant to the procedure established by the law.

# Article 184. Material and Technical Provision of Preparation and Conduct of Elections

- 1. Executive bodies, government bodies of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and bodies of local self-governance as well as officials thereof shall facilitate the election commissions in exercise of their powers, in particular: provide them with necessary premises in accordance with the rates envisaged by this Code or set forth in the respective decisions of the Central Election Commission adopted in pursuance of the requirements stipulated herein, assist them in equipping such premises with necessary facilities and amenities; ensure security of the election commissions as well as security of ballots and other electoral documentation; pursuant to the rates and list envisaged by the Central Election Commission provide them with transport vehicles and means of communication, furniture, supplies and office appliances which shall be returned after the election commissions terminate their activities. The procedure for payment or indemnification of the said services shall be established by the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine.
- 2. Purchase of goods, works and services at the expense of funds from the State Budget of Ukraine, budget of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, local budgets intended for preparation and conduct of elections shall be carried out by election commissions without conducting tenders (competitions) pursuant to the procedure established by the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine.

### SECTION XIV. ELECTORAL FUNDS OF SUBJECTS OF THE ELECTION PROCESS

# Article 185. General Provisions Pertaining to Formation of Electoral Fund of Subject of the Election Process

- 1. In cases envisaged by this Code for the respective type of elections, for financial procurement of their participation in elections and financing the election campaign the persons mentioned below shall set up their electoral funds (hereinafter referred to as the "electoral funds of subjects of the election process":
  - 1) a candidate registered for participation in the respective elections:
- 2) a political party (organization of the party) that nominated candidates registered for participation in the respective elections.
- 2. The electoral fund of subject of the election process shall have one accumulation account to which the funds for financing the election campaign of such subject of the election process shall be transferred as well as current accounts from which the expenditures associated with election campaigning shall be covered. The accumulation account of the electoral fund of subject of the election process shall be the only source from which the funds to current accounts of such subject of the election process can be transferred.
- 3. The subject of the election process may open only one accumulation account of its electoral fund and such accumulation account shall be denominated exclusively in the national currency of Ukraine.

- 4. The subject of the election process of nationwide elections shall open its electoral fund's accumulation account in a banking institution of Ukraine located in the city of Kyiv chosen at its sole discretion.
- 5. The subject of the election process of elections of Members of Parliament of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea shall open its electoral fund's accumulation account in a banking institution of Ukraine located in the city of Simferopol chosen at its sole discretion. The subject of the election process of other local elections shall open its electoral fund's accumulation account in a banking institution of Ukraine to be chosen by the respective territorial election commission according to the place of its location.
- 6. The subject of the election process may open current accounts of its electoral fund in banking institutions of Ukraine. Number of the electoral fund's current accounts shall be determined by the subject of the election process itself taking into account the requirements set forth herein.
- 7. Subjects of the election process of local elections (save for the elections of Members of Parliament of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea) may choose not to open current accounts of their electoral funds; in such a case the electoral fund's accumulation account shall be also used as the current account.
- 8. The subject of the election process of nationwide elections shall not make any expenses associated with financing of its election campaigns in Out-of-Country Election District.

### Article 186. Opening and Closing the Electoral Fund's Accounts

- 1. The electoral fund's accumulation account shall be opened on the basis of a decision of the respective election commission on registration of a candidate (candidates nominated by the respective subject of the election process). The electoral fund's current account shall be opened on the basis of a banking institution's certificate on opening of the accumulation account.
- 2. Timeframes for opening the electoral fund's accumulation account by subjects of the election process for the respective type of elections shall be established by this Code.
- 3. Procedure for opening and closing of the electoral funds' accounts of subjects of the election process shall be prescribed by the National Bank of Ukraine subject to the Central Election Commission's consent. The aforementioned procedure may not be amended during the election process.
- 4. Services of banking institutions relating to opening and closing of the electoral fund's account as well as functioning thereof shall be provided on a free of charge basis. A banking institution shall neither accrue nor pay any interests on the funds kept on the electoral fund's accounts of subject of the election process.
- 5. A banking institution shall, not later than on the next business day following the day of opening of the electoral fund's accumulation or current account of subject of the election process, inform the Main Election Commission of the respective elections in writing on opening of the account and account details.
- 6. Disbursements from current accounts of the electoral fund of subject of the election process shall be carried out in cashless form.
- 7. Disbursements from current accounts of the electoral fund of subject of the election process shall be terminated at 16:00 o'clock last Friday prior to the day of voting.
- 8. If a repeated voting is called in cases envisaged by this Code, disbursements from current accounts of the electoral funds of subjects of the election process that preserved their status shall be renewed from the day following the day of adoption of the decision on calling such repeated voting and shall be terminated according to the terms prescribed by Part 7 of this Article.
- 9. Seizure of funds on the electoral fund's accounts of subject of the election process shall not be allowed.
- 10. Closing of accounts, termination of transactions on the electoral fund's accounts of subject of the election process earlier than within the timeframes prescribed by Part 7 of this Article shall be carried out only in case of loss of status of subject of the election process.

## Article 187. Administrators of the Electoral Fund's Accounts of Subject of the Election Process

- 1. The subject of the election process shall appoint not more than two administrators of its electoral fund's accumulation account who shall have the exclusive right to manage the resources kept on such electoral fund's accumulation account. The subject of the election process shall, not later than on the day following the day of opening of the electoral fund's accumulation account, inform the Central Election Commission or the Main Election Commission, respectively, on the decision adopted by it in this respect.
- 2. The subject of the election process shall appoint one administrator per each current account of its electoral fund. The administrator of the electoral fund's current account shall have the exclusive right to manage the resources kept on the respective current account of the electoral fund.
- 3. In case as referred to in Part 7 of Article 185 of this Code no current account administrators shall be appointed. Authorities of the current account administrator shall be vested in one of the accumulation account administrators.
- 4. The accumulation account administrators shall keep records on entry and distribution of resources from the electoral fund between the current accounts. The current account administrators of the electoral fund shall be responsible for utilization of resources of the electoral fund in compliance with the laws of Ukraine, ensure observance of financial discipline and targeted utilization of resources of the electoral fund.
- 5. The administrator of the electoral fund's current account shall keep records on utilization of funds from the respective current account of the electoral fund. The administrator of the electoral fund's current account shall, not later than on the fifteenth day following the day of voting, submit to the administrator of such electoral fund's accumulation account a financial report on utilization of resources from the respective current account of the electoral fund.
- 6. A banking institution in which the electoral fund's accumulation or current account is opened shall provide the administrator of the respective electoral fund's account, on a weekly basis or subject to a request of the same, with information regarding the amounts and sources of the contributions arrived in the accounts of such electoral fund as well as with cash flow and account balance data.
- 7. The administrator of the electoral fund's accumulation account shall, not later than on the fifteenth day following the day of voting (and in case envisaged by Part 8 of Article 186 of this Code, following the day of the repeat voting), submit to the Main Election Commission of the respective elections a financial report on entry and utilization of resources of the electoral fund of subject of the election process.
- 8. Forms of the financial reports envisaged by Parts 5 and 7 of this Article shall be determined by the Central Election Commission. Changes may be introduced not later than on the fifth day of the election process.
- 9. The financial reports on entry and utilization of resources of the electoral funds of subjects of the election process shall be officially published by the Main Election Commission of the respective elections in printed mass media within fifteen days from the day of their submission to the election commission.

# Article 188. Sources of Formation of Electoral Fund of Subject of the Election Process and Utilization of its Resources

- 1. The electoral fund of subject of the election process shall be formed at the expense of:
- 1) own funds of subject of the election process that established such electoral fund;
- 2) funds of the party (organization of the party) that nominated a candidate registered for participation in the respective elections in case of formation of such candidate's electoral fund;
  - 3) voluntary contributions of individuals being the citizens of Ukraine.
- 2. The marginal amount of disbursements made from the electoral fund of subject of the election process of nationwide elections shall not be limited. The marginal amount of disbursements from the electoral fund of subject of the election process of the respective local elections shall be determined by this Code.

- 3. Own resources of subjects of the election process specified in clauses 1 and 2 of this Article shall be transferred to the accumulation account of the electoral fund in cashless form. The said resources shall not be subject to any amendments in terms of the amount and number of transfers made.
- 4. Own resources of the party (organization of the party) that are transferred to the electoral fund of such party (organization of the party) subject of the election process or to the electoral fund of its nominated candidate shall be reflected in the annual profit and loss statement of such party as envisaged by the Law of Ukraine "On Political Parties in Ukraine".
- 5. Own resources of a candidate that are transferred to the electoral fund of the same shall correspond to the amount of funds indicated in such candidate's income statement submitted by it for the purpose of its registration as a candidate in the respective elections pursuant to the procedure set forth in this Code.
- 6. Limitations on the amount of voluntary contributions referred to in clause 3 of Part 1 of this Article shall be prescribed by this Code for the respective type of elections.
- 7. Voluntary contributions to the electoral fund of subject of the election process shall not be made by:
  - 1) foreign citizens and individuals without citizenship;
- 2) anonymous donors (without specifying in a payment document the information envisaged by Part 6 of this Article);
- 3) legal entities (save for legal entities specified in clauses one and two of part one of this Article):
- 4) state authorities, government bodies of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and bodies of local self-governance.

# Article 189. Accounting and Control Over Contributions to Electoral Fund of Subject of the Election Process

- 1. A voluntary contribution to the electoral fund shall be accepted by a banking institution of Ukraine or by a post office within the territory of Ukraine providing that a citizen submits one of the documents specified in clauses 1 or 2 of Part 1 of Article 10 of this Code. The payment document shall obligatory contain full name, date of birth, place and address of residence of an individual making such voluntary contribution.
- 2. Voluntary contribution shall be transferred by a banking institution or remitted by a post office to the electoral fund's accumulation account not later than next banking day after the day of receipt of the respective payment document. The overall period for cashless transfer of the contribution to the electoral fund's accumulation account may not exceed two banking days.
- 3. The administrator of the electoral fund's accumulation account may refuse from a contribution made by an individual of which it shall submit the respective application and payment order to a banking institution where the electoral fund's accumulation account is open. Such voluntary contribution shall be returned to the individual at the expense of funds of such voluntary contribution or, if such return is found impossible, shall be transferred to the respective budget.
- 4. In case of receipt from an individual of a voluntary contribution exceeding the amount prescribed by this Code for the respective elections, the amount in excess of the limit prescribed by this Code shall, based on a respective application and payment order submitted by the administrator of the accumulation account, be returned to such individual by the banking institution in which the electoral fund's accumulation account is opened at the expense of such voluntary contribution and, should such return be found impossible, shall be transferred to the respective budget.
- 5. The administrator of the accumulation account shall be obliged to refuse from a contribution made by a person not eligible to make such voluntary contributions pursuant to Part 5 of this Article, providing that the administrator is aware of it. Based on the administrator's application on refuse from the contribution due to the reason specified above the banking institution where the electoral fund's accumulation account is opened shall transfer such voluntary contribution to the respective budget. Should the administrator of the electoral fund's accumulation account identify that the individual who made the voluntary contribution was not entitled thereto, it shall be obliged to reject such contribution within three days after becoming

aware thereof by submitting the application on transfer of the relevant amount to the respective budget to the banking institution where the electoral fund's accumulation account is opened.

- 6. The banking institution where the electoral fund's accumulation account is opened shall, based on the respective application of the administrator of the electoral fund's accumulation account, transfer the resources from the accumulation account to the current accounts of the same electoral fund.
- 7. Contributions that arrived in the accumulation account of the electoral fund later than one day prior to the day of voting (in case referred to in Part 8 of Article 186 of this Code, prior to the day of the repeat voting) shall be returned by the banking institution to the respective individual at the expense of its voluntary contribution and, if such return is found impossible, shall be transferred to the respective budget.
- 8. Control over arrival, accounting and utilization of resources of the electoral funds of subjects of the election process shall be exercised by the Main Election Commission of the respective elections and banking institution where the electoral fund's account is opened pursuant to the procedure established by the Central Election Commission jointly with the National Bank of Ukraine and central body of executive power in the communications sector. No amendments may be introduced to the said procedure during the election process.

#### Article 190. Undisbursed Resources of the Electoral Funds

- 1. A banking institution in which the electoral fund's current account is opened shall, not later that on the third day after the day of voting (in case specified in Part 8 of Article 186 of this Code, after the day of the repeat voting), transfer the resources not used by subject of the election process to the electoral fund's accumulation account.
- 2. The resources of the electoral fund of the party (organization of the party) subject of the election process undisbursed as of the day of voting shall, subject to a decision of the party's (party organization's) management body submitted to a banking institution where the electoral fund's accumulation account is opened within ten days after the official determination of the election results, be transferred from the electoral fund's accumulation account to the current banking account of such party (organization of the party) within five days following the day of receipt of the respective decision of the party (organization of the party).
- 3. In case of failure to submit to a banking institution the decision of the party (organization of the party) referred to in Part 2 of this Article within the period specified in Part 2 of this Article, the undisbursed resources of the electoral fund shall be transferred by a banking institution to the respective budget on the fifteenth day following the day of the official publication of the election results.
- 4. The resources of the candidate's electoral fund unused as of the day of voting shall be transferred by a banking institution maintaining the electoral fund's accumulation account to the respective budget not later than within ten days following the day of the official publication of the election results.
- 5. Provisions of Parts 3 and 4 of this Article shall not apply, in case of calling the repeated voting, to resources of subjects of the election process that preserve their status until the official determination of the results of the repeated voting.
- 6. In case of pre-term loss by subject of the election process that set up its electoral fund of its status, the resources from the electoral fund of such subject of the election process shall be transferred to the respective budget based on a decision of the election commission chairing the system of the election commissions administrating preparation and conduct of the respective elections.

## CHAPTER V. INFORMATION SUPPORT OF THE ELECTIONS AND ELECTION CAMPAIGN

SECTION XV. INFORMATION SUPPORT OF THE ELECTIONS

Article 191. General Provisions Pertaining to Information Support of the Elections

- 1. Voters shall be guaranteed the possibility of access to diversified, unbiased and unprejudiced information required for making by them a conscious, considered and free choice.
- 2. The information contained in the documents submitted to the respective election commission for registration of candidates shall be open and may be made public.
- 3. Election commissions, mass media and information agencies, state authorities, government bodies of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, bodies of local self-governance, officials thereof, associations of citizens as well as other individuals shall, when disseminating information about elections that is not deemed the election campaign pursuant to Article 199 of this Code, abide by the principles of unbiased, unprejudiced, balanced, reliable, complete and accurate information.

## **Article 192. General Information Support of Elections**

- 1. General information support of elections shall include informing the voters about:
- 1) Electoral rights of citizens and ways to exercise and protect them;
- 2) Possibilities and procedures enabling to check the inclusion of himself / herself and other voters to the State Voter Register and to the lists of voters at election precincts;
- 3) Procedure for obtaining the absentee voting certificate for voting outside the voter address:
- 4) Address of the District (respective Territorial) and Precinct Election Commissions of the election precinct to which the voter address of a voter appertains to;
  - 5) Address of the premises for voting, date and time of voting;
- 6) Grounds and procedures for obtaining the possibility to vote at the place of temporary residence;
  - 7) Voting procedures and method of filling out a ballot:
- 8) Right to appeal against infringement of their electoral rights and ways to exercise this right;
  - 9) Responsibility for violation of the electoral legislation.
- 2. The Central Election Commission shall approve the procedure of general information support of nationwide and local elections, including through mass media. No amendments may be introduced to the said procedure in the course of the election process.
- 3. The Central Election Commission, Main Election Commission of local elections shall not later than on the tenth day following the commencement of the election process of the respective elections and in pursuance of the procedure set forth in Part 2 of this Article approve the events aimed at ensuring general information support of the respective elections.
- 4. Aimed at ensuring the proper information awareness of voters concerning the procedure of their participation in elections, the Central Election Commission, Main Election Commission of the respective elections shall provide for the production of information posters explaining the voting procedures and responsibility for violation of the electoral legislation. The said information posters shall, being in number sufficient to provide each election precinct with at least three copies thereof, be produced and delivered to the Precinct Election Commissions within the timeframes and pursuant to the procedure prescribed by the Central Election Commission, Main Election Commission of local elections, respectively.
- 5. Information materials belonging to general information support of elections shall be governed by the laws regulating social advertising.

### **Article 193. Special Information Support of Elections**

- 1. Special information support of elections shall include informing the voters about:
- 1) Registered candidates and subjects of their nomination;
- 2) Election campaigns of candidates or subjects of their nomination and activities thereof:
- 3) Accounts of the electoral funds of subjects of the election process, eligible amount of contributions and method of making such contributions;
  - 4) Official (contact) addresses of subjects of the election process;
- 5) Withdrawal of candidates (lists of candidates) from running the elections and introduction of respective amendments to the ballot;

- 6) Facts and events relating to the election process;
- 7) Activities of candidates and subjects of their nomination in the course of the election process.
- 2. Special information support of elections with respect to data specified in clauses 1 to 5 of Part 1 of this Article shall be carried out by election commissions within the limits prescribed by this Code and pursuant to the procedure established by the Central Election Commission.
- 3. Mass media, information agencies may take part in special information support of elections subject to a request of the Central or District Election Commission, Main Election Commission of the respective local elections and, with respect to data specified in clauses 6 and 7 of Part 1 of this Article, at its own initiative in compliance with requirements of this Code.

# Article 194. Information Posters and Information Booklets of Subjects of the Election Process

- 1. Purposed at the voters' proper information awareness of the candidates registered for participation in elections as well as subjects of their nomination the Central Election Commission, Main Election Commission of the respective local elections shall ensure, at the expense of funds from the respective budget allocated for preparation and conduct of elections, in cases and pursuant to the procedure established by this Code for the respective type of elections, production of information posters of candidates registered for the respective elections or of parties (organizations of the parties) subjects of the respective election process.
- 2. In cases envisaged by this Code the election commission specified in Part 1 of this Article shall ensure, at the expense of funds from the respective budget allocated for preparation and conduct of elections, production of information booklets of parties (organizations of the parties) subjects of the respective election process.
- 3. Information posters and, respectively, information booklets of subjects of the respective election process shall be the same for all subjects of the respective election process in terms of form, size, polygraphic design approved by the election commission specified in Part 1 of this Article in compliance with requirements of this Code.
- 4. Content of the information posters and information booklets shall be determined by this Code for the respective type of elections.
- 5. The election commission specified in Part 1 of this Article shall agree with a candidate or party subject of the election process, respectively, text of the information poster and information booklet of such subject of the election process in compliance with requirements of this Code.
- 6. Information posters and information booklets of subject of the election process shall be used for the purpose of informing the voters at election precincts, including on the day of voting, pursuant to the procedure established by this Code for the respective type of elections.
- 7. Information posters shall be produced in the same quantity for all subjects of the respective election process. Requirements regarding quantity of the information posters shall be set forth by this Code. Procedure for producing the information posters shall be prescribed by the election commission specified in Part 1 of this Article.
- 8. The produced information posters and information booklets of subjects of the election process shall be delivered to the Precinct Election Commissions pursuant to the procedure established by the Central Election Commission.
- 9. Timeframes for producing information posters and information booklets shall be prescribed by the election commission specified in Part 1 of this Article subject to the compliance with requirements set forth in Part 8 of this Article.

# Article 195. Principles of Participation of Mass Media and Information Agencies in Information Support of Elections

1. During the election process mass media shall place information posters under a request of the Central Election Commission and District Election Commissions, Election

Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, Territorial Election Commissions based on the respective agreements concluded with the said commissions.

- 2. Information agencies and mass media shall disseminate information regarding running of the election process and events relating thereto based on the principles of authenticity, completeness and accuracy. Information agency, mass media disseminating information about the event may not allow suppression of socially important issues relating to such event providing that such issues were known to it at the moment of disseminating the information. Information agency, mass media shall cover information relating to elections in accordance with the facts not allowing distortion of such information. Mass media shall attempt to obtain information about the event relating to elections from two or more sources with preference to be given to original sources.
- 3. Mass media shall disseminate information on running of the election process and events relating to the elections based on the principles of unbiased information and unprejudiced approach towards its presentation. Mass media shall, when disseminating information about candidates or subjects of their nomination, observe equal attitude to all such subjects and candidates irrespective of subject of their nomination.
- 4. Mass media shall cover the comments of candidates and subjects of their nomination appertaining to the events relating to the elections of the basis of parity.

# Article 196. Parity in Disseminating Information about Candidates and Parties (Organizations of Parties) – Subjects of the Election Process

- 1. Information agencies and mass media shall cover the comments of all candidates registered for participation in the respective elections and subjects of their nomination as regards the events relating to the elections on the basis of parity.
- 2. TV and radio broadcasting companies shall independently determine the amount of air time allocated to respective subjects of the corresponding election process in programs (series of programs) specified in Article 197 of this Code. As regards the said programs (series of programs), TV and radio broadcasting companies shall comply with the requirements of equal distribution of air time allocated to each respective subject, while permitted deviation from the average amount of air time for a particular subject shall not exceed 15 percent.
- 3. The subjects specified in Part 2 of this Article shall be determined by this Code for the respective type of elections.
- 4. For certain type of elections this Code may establish specifics of meeting the requirement set forth in Part 2 of this Article.
- 5. The restriction envisaged by Part 2 of this Article in case of local elections shall apply to all TV and radio broadcasting companies which broadcasting covers the territory or part of the territory of the respective administrative-territorial unit.

# Article 197. Specifics of Participation of TV and Radio Broadcasting Companies in Information Support of Elections

- 1. Audiovisual (electronic) mass media (hereinafter referred to as "TV and radio broadcasting companies") shall participate in the information support of elections in compliance with requirements set forth in Parts 2 and 3 of Article 195 and Article 196 of this Code through:
- 1) Disseminating the respective information in news programs or in other information programs (series of programs);
- 2) Circulating special programs on a request of the election commission pursuant to Part 1 of Article 195 of this Code.
- 2. The programs specified in clause 1 of Part 1 of this Article shall not disseminate any editorial or author's comments, other evaluative judgments of positive or negative nature regarding the candidates and subjects of their nomination.
- 3. TV and radio broadcasting companies shall comply with a balanced dissemination of information about candidates, subjects of their nomination in certain programs or series of programs relating to the same or similar issues which may be considered as one complete program, pursuant to the requirements set forth in Part 4 of this Article.
- 4. When disseminating information about events relating to elections, TV and radio broadcasting companies shall observe the balance with regard to candidates or subjects of

their nomination in terms of distribution of air time during which the information specified in Part 3 of this Article is disseminated pursuant to requirements of this Code applicable to the respective type of elections.

# Article 198. Specifics of Disseminating the Information about the Results of Opinion Polls Relating to Elections

- 1. Enterprises, establishments, institutions and organizations that conduct a public poll shall have the right to make public the results of such poll relating to elections with obligatory indication of time of conducting the poll, territory covered by the poll, extent and mode of formation of the sociological sampling of the persons polled, polling method, exact formulation of questions and possible statistics inaccuracies.
- 2. Information agencies, mass media in case of disseminating the results of the opinion poll relating to elections shall indicate full name of the organization that conducted such poll, customers of the poll as well as other data specified in Part 1 of this Article.
  - 3. It shall be prohibited to make public or disseminate in any other manner the results of

the public poll relating to elections during the last ten days prior to the day of voting.

- 4. Voter polling methods with respect to the voters' will expression shall ensure protection of privacy of voting of the voter being polled. It shall be prohibited to make public the results of such poll on the day of voting prior to the end of the voting process.
- 5. In the event when a TV and radio broadcasting company makes public the results of interactive poll of the audience being conducted during the program relating to elections or involving candidates registered for participation in elections or authorized persons (proxies) of subjects of the election process, the participants of the program shall be prohibited from commenting the results of such poll or referring to it otherwise. During the whole period while the results of the interactive poll of the audience are made public the text message "This poll reflects the opinion of the audience only" shall be displayed on a screen (for TV programs) in the form perceptible for a viewer or be voiced (for radio broadcasts) in a well-articulated manner by the speaker or anchorperson of such broadcast immediately prior to and after making public the said results.

#### **SECTION XVI. ELECTION CAMPAIGN**

#### Article 199. Forms and Means of Election Campaign

- 1. Election campaign shall comprise carrying out of any activities aimed at stimulation or stimulating the voters to vote or not to vote for a particular candidate or list of candidates. Election campaign may be performed by any means that do not contradict the Constitution of Ukraine and the laws of Ukraine.
  - 2. Election campaign may run in the following forms:
  - 1) Holding meetings of citizens, other meetings with voters;
  - 2) Holding rallies, walks, demonstrations, pickets;
- 3) Conducting public debates, discussions, "circular tables", press conferences regarding the provisions of election programs and political activities of candidates and subjects of their nomination;
- 4) Making public in printed and audiovisual (electronic) mass media of information, speeches, interviews, feature stories, video films, other publications;
- 5) Distributing leaflets, posters, booklets, brochures and other printed campaigning materials or printed publications containing the election campaign materials;
- 6) Placing printed campaigning materials (political advertisement materials) on outdoor advertising media;
- 7) Running concerts, performances, sporting competitions, film shows and TV broadcasts or other types of public events supported by or intended to support the candidate (candidates), subjects of their nomination, as well as disseminating information about such support:
- 8) Public appeals to vote for or against the candidate, list of candidates or public evaluation of activities of such candidates, subjects of their nomination;
  - 9) In other forms not contravening the Constitution of Ukraine and the laws of Ukraine.

- 3. Political advertising shall comprise placement or dissemination of election campaigning materials with the help of advertising media. The political advertising also includes use of symbols of parties (organizations of the parties) subjects of the election process, surnames of candidates beyond the information notices specified in Articles 195 to 198 of this Code as well as announcements made in any form on support by the candidate (candidates) or subject of its (their) nomination of entertainment or other public events or attraction of attention to participation of certain candidates or subjects of their nomination in such entertainment events.
- 4. The procedure for placing or disseminating the election campaigning materials using the advertising media shall be regulated by this Code and the Law of Ukraine "On Advertising".
- 5. Hidden political advertising as well as placement or dissemination of election campaigning materials not marked in accordance with requirements of this Code shall be prohibited. Advertising of printed publications (newspapers, magazines, books), other goods and services using surnames or images (portraits) of candidates, names or symbols of political parties subjects of the election process shall be deemed the political advertising.
- 6. Official announcements during the election process of the actions of the candidates being the officials of state authorities, government bodies of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea or bodies of local self-governance relating to fulfilling by them of their official duties envisaged by the Constitution of Ukraine and the laws of Ukraine and prepared pursuant to the procedure prescribed by the Law of Ukraine "On Procedure for Covering the Activities of the State Authorities and Bodies of Self-Governance in Ukraine by Mass Media" shall not belong to the election campaign. Such official announcements shall not contain comments of a campaigning nature as well as video and audio tracks, motion pictures, illustrative photos concerning the actions of the said persons in the capacity of candidates.
- 7. Holding by a political party that does not have the status of subject of the election process or by such party's organization of events specified in Part 2 of this Article with the view of popularization of its own activities or explanation of its position shall not be deemed the election campaign providing that in the course of holding such events no candidates and subjects of their nomination or provisions of the election programs of subjects of the election process are whatsoever mentioned.

#### Article 200. General Provisions Pertaining to Financing of Election Campaign

- 1. Election campaign shall be carried out at the expense of funds from the respective budget allocated for preparation and conduct of elections for the purposes specified by this Code and at the expense of resources of the electoral funds of subjects of the respective election process. Use of the candidates' own resources not transferred to the electoral fund pursuant to the procedure set forth by Article 188 of this Code or of funds obtained from other sources for the purpose of conducting the election campaign, including at the voters' initiative, shall be prohibited.
- 2. Election campaign at the expense of funds from the respective budget allocated for preparation and conduct of elections shall be carried out with due observance of the principle of equal opportunities as regards the provision of candidates and subjects of their nomination with equal amount of air time on radio and TV pursuant to the procedure established by this Code.
- 3. Subject of the election process shall finance events and election campaigning materials as well as placement of political advertising materials in its own support or in support of the candidates nominated by the same at the expense of resources from its own electoral fund.
- 4. Supporting by the subject of the election process in its own name or in the name of the candidate (candidates) nominated by it of concerts, performances, sporting competitions, film shows, TV broadcasts or other public events as well as conducting of the said public events in support of the candidate (candidates) or subject of their nomination shall only be allowed providing that financing of such events is covered at the expense of resources from the electoral fund of the respective subject of the election process.

#### **Article 201. Timeframes of the Election Campaign**

1. The candidate registered for participation in the respective elections, party (organization of the party) - subject of the respective election process shall be entitled to

commence its election campaign on the day following the day of adoption by the respective election commission of a decision on registration of the candidate or candidates included to the election lists of the party (organization of the party), respectively.

- 2. Election campaign shall be terminated at 24:00 o'clock last Friday before the day of voting.
- 3. Election campaign prior to the day of voting and on the day of voting shall be prohibited. During this period conducting of mass actions (meetings, rallies, walks, demonstrations, pickets, other public events) on behalf of the candidate (candidates) or subject of their nomination, distributing of election campaigning materials as well as announcing in public of supporting by the candidate (candidates) or subject of their nomination of concerts, performances, sporting competitions, film shows and TV broadcasts or other public events and making notices of such similar events earlier held shall be prohibited.
- 4. Within the period specified in Part 2 of this Article use of outdoor advertising media for placing the election campaigning materials shall be terminated. Starting from the same moment of time all election campaigning materials placed on information posters or in other places (except for outdoor advertising media) shall be removed by respective services of local executive power bodies or bodies of local self-governance, public utility companies.
- 5. In the event the repeated voting is called in cases envisaged by this Code the election campaign shall be renewed by the candidates and subjects of their nomination who preserved their status beginning from the day following the day of adoption a decision on calling the repeated elections. Such election campaign shall be terminated pursuant to the procedure and within the terms prescribed by Parts 2 to 4 of this Article.

#### **Article 202. General Restrictions on Election Campaigns**

- 1. During the election campaign it shall be prohibited to distribute any materials in whatsoever form containing appeals to liquidate the independence of Ukraine, change its constitutional order by use of force, infringement of the state's sovereignty and territorial integrity, undermining its security, illegal seizure of the state power, propaganda of war and violence and fomentation of ethnic, racial, national, religious hostility, encroachment on rights and freedoms of man and health of the population.
- 2. It shall be prohibited to disseminate such information about the candidate or party (organization of the party) subject of the election process unreliability or defamation character of which is generally known or was officially recognized.
- 3. It shall be prohibited to participate in whatsoever form in election campaigns of executive power bodies, executive power bodies of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, bodies of local self-governance, law-enforcement bodies and courts.
- 4. During the election process it shall be prohibited to use in commercial and social advertising:
- 1) Surnames and images of the candidates registered for participation in the respective elections:
- 2) Symbols (logotypes) or names of the parties (organizations of the parties) subjects of nomination of the candidates;
- 3) Announcements in whatsoever form of support by the candidate (candidates) or subject of its (their) nomination of entertainment or other public events as well as attraction of attention to participation of the candidates in public entertaining events.
- 5. It shall be prohibited to conduct the election campaign in the course of which voters, establishments, institutions, organizations are supplied with money or goods (except for the goods referred to in Article 205 of this Code), services, works, securities, loans, lottery tickets and other material values on a free of charge or preferential basis. Such election campaigning or giving the voters, establishments, institutions, organizations money, goods, services, works, securities, loans, lottery tickets and other material values on a free of charge or preferential basis accompanied with appeals or proposals to vote for or against a particular candidate (candidates) or party (organization of the party) or mentioning the candidate's name or name of the party (organization of the party) shall be deemed the indirect bribery of voters.

- 6. During the nationwide elections the Central Election Commission shall ensure placement in the national mass media as set forth herein of clarifications regarding the prohibition on supply of voters, establishments, institutions, organizations, election commissions and members thereof with goods (except for the goods referred to in Part 2 of Article 205 of this Code), services, works, securities, loans, lottery tickets and other material values (indirect bribery). Text of clarification shall be approved by the Central Election Commission and shall be published twice a week on the first page of "Holos Ukrainy" and "Uriadovyi Courier" newspapers and is broadcast on the primary channels of the National Television Company of Ukraine and National Radio Company of Ukraine sixty days prior to the day of voting at the expense of funds from the State Budget of Ukraine allocated for preparation and conduct of elections.
- 7. Interfering with exercise of the right of conducting of the election campaign as well as violating the procedure for conducting such election campaign as prescribed by this Code shall result in imposition of responsibility envisaged by the laws of Ukraine.
- 8. In the event that the Central Election Commission, District Election Commission or Main Election Commission of the respective local elections receives an application, complaint or any other notice stating the facts of infringement of the requirements set forth herein with regard to conducting of the election campaign, which have the signs of crime or administrative offence, such election commission shall immediately apply to the respective law-enforcement bodies for the said notice to be checked and addressed as prescribed by the laws of Ukraine.

### Article 203. Participation of Voters in Election Campaign

- 1. The citizens of Ukraine that are entitled to vote shall have the right to freely and comprehensively discuss political, business and personal qualities of the candidates, election programs and activities of the candidates and subjects of their nomination, take part in conducting of campaigns aimed at supporting or non-supporting of the candidates (list of candidates) without spending their own funds in any form.
  - 2. Participation in election campaigning shall not be allowed for:
- 1) Foreign citizens and persons without citizenship, including through journalistic activities or in the form of participation in performances, exhibitions, sporting competitions, other public events that are conducted in support of or supported by the candidate (candidates) or subject of their nomination;
- 2) Officials of executive bodies, executive bodies of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, bodies of local self-governance, law-enforcement bodies and courts except for the cases when the respective official is a candidate in the corresponding elections;
- 3) Members of election commissions within the term of their office in the respective election commissions.
- 3. The candidates holding the offices in executive power bodies, executive bodies of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, bodies of local self-governance, law-enforcement bodies, courts, government institutions, public utility companies, establishments, institutions, organizations, military units (commands), including on part-time basis, may not involve in the election campaign or engage / use to perform any works relating to the conduct of the election campaign the persons being subordinate to them at their place of work as well as other persons that are dependent on them in view of their office or administratively subordinate to them (during business hours), office vehicles, means of communication, equipment, premises, other facilities and resources at the place of work as well as use business or production meetings, staff meetings for conducting of the election campaign.
- 4. During the election process the officials and creative specialists of mass media shall not be allowed, except for the materials and broadcasts stipulated by contracts concluded pursuant to the requirements of Part 4 of Article 208 and Part 1 of Article 209 of this Code, to participate in the election campaign in support of or against the candidate (candidates) or subjects of their nomination or disseminate information having the signs of the election campaign as well as any other information intended to stimulate or stimulating the voters to vote or not to vote for a particular candidate (candidates) or subject of their nomination.

- 1. Organization and conduct by the candidate (candidates) or subject of their nomination of meetings, walks, demonstrations, pickets shall be carried out in compliance with effective legislation regulating conducting of peaceful events in Ukraine. Expenditures connected with organization and conduct of the said events shall be covered at the expense of resources from the electoral fund of the respective subject of the election process.
- 2. Subject of the election process that established its electoral fund shall have the right on a contract basis and at the expense of resources of such electoral fund to rent buildings and premises of all types of property for holding meetings, meetings with voters, debates, discussions and other public events in the course of election campaigning.
- 3. It shall be prohibited to use the premises of state authorities, government bodies of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and bodies of local self-governance for conducting the election campaigning events.
- 4. In case when a building (premises, regardless of the type of its property, was provided for conducting public pre-election campaigning event or election campaign to one subject of the election process, the owner (proprietor, user) of such building (premises) may not refuse to provide the same building (premises) and on the same conditions to any other subject of the election process that is entitled to conduct the election campaign at the expense of resources of its electoral fund.
- 5. The requirement set forth in Part 4 of this Article shall not apply to premises owned or permanently used by parties (organizations of the parties) subjects of the election process.
- 6. Subject of the election process shall notify the respective district (main territorial) election commission of the time and place of planned public election campaigning events as specified in Parts 1 and 2 of this Article.
- 7. Information agencies shall lend premises for conducting press-conferences to candidates and subjects of their nomination on the conditions of equal access and equal pay. Subject of the election process shall pay for the use of premises lent by information agency for the purpose of holding press-conferences at the expense of the resources from its electoral fund.
- 8. Conducting of pre-election campaigning events in military units (commands) or penitentiary institutions shall be limited. Visiting of military units (commands) and penitentiary institutions by certain candidates or authorized persons (proxies) shall be forbidden. Based on the application of the commander of the military unit (command), head of the penitentiary institution the district (territorial) commission may grant a permission to hold a meeting of candidates or authorized persons (proxies) with voters of such military unit (command) or penitentiary institution.

### Article 205. Production and Distribution of Election Campaign Printed Materials

- 1. Subject of the election process that established the electoral fund may at its own discretion produce the election campaign printed materials (such as books, brochures, booklets, leaflets, posters) at the expense of funds of its electoral fund. The party (organization of the party) subject of the election process, candidate registered for participation in the respective elections may produce printed materials for its election campaign using the equipment belonging to such party (organization of the party) or personally to the candidate, respectively. Information contained in the said materials shall comply with the requirements of this Code and other laws of Ukraine.
- 2. Subject of the election process may produce at the expense of resources of its electoral fund the goods (such as badges, calendars, packages, pencils, pens etc) containing visual images of portraits or surnames of the candidates as well as names, symbols (logotype, flag) of the party (organization of the party) subject of the nomination process providing that the cost of each piece of such goods does not exceed three percent of the minimum salary amount established in accordance with the law as of the day of beginning of the election process.
- 3. Subject of the election process shall submit upon the demand of the Central Election Commission or of respective main election commission of local elections one copy of each printed material of its election campaign specified in Part 1 of this Article or of each piece of

goods specified in Part 2 of this Article not later than within five days as of the day of receipt of the request from the corresponding election commission.

- 4. Printed materials of the election campaign shall contain information about the institution that printed them or include reference stating that printing was performed using the facilities belonging to the party or to the candidate personally, as well as number of printed copies, information about the customer of the materials, persons in charge of the issue and date of the issue of the materials.
- 5. Local bodies of executive power, bodies of local self-governance shall allocate places and equip stands, public bulletin boards in public places for placing the printed materials of the election campaign.
- 6. Candidate, party (organization of the party) subject of the election process shall have the right to freely and on a free of charge basis distribute the printed materials of the election campaign specified in Part 1 of this Article as well as printed publications containing the election campaign materials and goods specified in Part 2 of this Article.
- 7. It shall be prohibited to produce and distribute the printed election campaign materials missing all or some of the information specified in Part 4 of this Article.
- 8. It shall be prohibited to place and distribute the election campaign materials in the premises of state authorities, government bodies of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, bodies of local self-governance, state and communal educational and health care institutions, housing and public utility companies and institutions.
- 9. It shall be prohibited to place the election campaign materials on the objects of cultural heritage.

#### Article 206. Placement of Political Advertising as Outdoor Advertising

- 1. Printed materials of the election campaign may be placed using outdoor advertising media pursuant to the requirements of the Law of Ukraine "On Advertising" with payment for such placement to be effected at the expense of resources from the electoral fund of the respective subject of the election process.
- 2. Enterprises (economic companies) or individuals distributors of outdoor advertising shall ensure equal conditions and equal access to placement of campaigning materials (political advertising) with the use of outdoor advertising media for candidates, parties (organizations of the parties) subjects of the election process.
- 3. Placement of campaigning materials and political advertising on buildings of state authorities, government bodies of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and bodies of local self-governance shall be forbidden.
- 4. Advertising of books, issues of printed mass media or TV and radio programs using surnames or images of candidates, names, symbols (flags or logotypes) of parties (organizations of the parties) subjects of the election process may be placed on outdoor advertising media only providing that it is paid out of the resources of the electoral fund of the respective party.

#### Article 207. Prohibition of Election Campaigning on Transport Means

Placement of political advertising media on external surface of public transport means, including taxies, placement of political advertising in the premises and on the buildings of subway stations, bus and railway terminals, ports and airports as well as distribution of election campaign materials, including political advertising through TV and radio broadcasting or other informational networks of passenger notification and information boards located in station rooms and subway carriages, bus and railway terminals, ports and airports, public transport means shall be forbidden.

### Article 208. General Procedure for Using Mass Media

1. Election campaign in mass media of all types of ownership at the expense of funds from the State Budget of Ukraine and resources of the electoral fund of the subject of the election process shall be conducted on conditions of equal pay for a unit of air time or printable area.

- 2. Rates per one unit of printable area or air time for conducting the election campaign at the expense of funds from the respective budget or at the expense of resources of the electoral funds of subjects of election process shall be established by corresponding mass media not later than on the tenth day of the election process in the amount that may not exceed the amount of average arithmetic value of price for commercial advertising (i.e., advertising that is distributed with the purpose of obtaining profit) during the first nine out of the twelve calendar months preceding the month of beginning of the election process.
- 3. Mass media registered later than within twelve calendar months prior to beginning of the election process shall establish rates per unit of printable area or air time on the basis of the data collected over the entire period of their activities following the procedure established by Part 2 of this Article. The amounts of rates established by such mass media may not exceed the amounts of rates applied by newspaper "Holos Ukrainy" (for printed mass media) and the amounts of rates applied by the National Television Company of Ukraine and National Radio Company of Ukraine (for TV and radio broadcasting companies), respectively.
- 4. Mass media may calculate the rates per unit of printable area or air time specified in Parts 2 and 3 of this Article on a separate basis for business days and days-off and holidays as well as for different periods of air time in terms of the potential audience amount or different printable area. The said rates may not differ depending on the period of time remaining till the day of voting.
- 5. Rates per unit of printable area and unit of air time for conducting the election campaign may not be changed in the course of the election process. Mass media may not grant discounts to or establish extra charges for subjects of the election process when paying for the printable area or air time.
- 6. The national mass media shall officially send the rates per unit of printable area and unit of air time established in accordance with Parts 2 or 3 of this Article to the Central Election Commission not later than on the fifteenth day of the election process while regional and local mass media shall send such rates to the territorial election commissions or district election commissions not later than within five days after establishment thereof. Such rates shall be made public on the web-site of the Central Election Commission.
- 7. Mass media of all types of ownership shall, not later than on the fifteenth day of the election process, publish the rates per unit of air time specified in Part 2 of this Article. TV and radio broadcasting companies broadcasting on the national channels shall publish such rates in "Holos Ukrainy" and "Uriadovyi Courier" newspapers, while regional and local TV and radio broadcasting companies in respective regional and local printed mass media.
- 8. Election campaign materials shall be strictly separated from other information, including from commercial advertising, regardless of forms or methods their presentation so that they can be properly identified. Mixing of political advertising with commercial advertising shall not be allowed.
- 9. Mass media that provided air time or printable area to one candidate or party (organization of the party) subject of the election process may not refuse to provide air time or pintable area on the same conditions to another candidate or party (organization of the party) subject of the election process. Mass media may refuse from providing the air time or printable area to the said subject of the election process only in the case when the materials provided for dissemination do not comply with the requirements of Parts 5 and 7 of Article 210 or Part 1 or 2 of Article 202 of this Code.
- 10. Mass media may refuse from providing the air time or printable area to subject of the election process only in case it has valid grounds to believe that the campaigning materials provided for dissemination do not comply with the requirements of Parts 1 to 3 of Article 202 or Parts 5 and 7 of Article 210 of this Code.
- 11. The requirements set forth by Parts 1 to 9 of this Article shall not apply to printed mass media established (owned) by parties (organizations of the parties) subjects of the election process.
- 12. Specifics of use of mass media while conducting the election campaign for the respective types of elections shall be envisaged by this Code.

# Article 209. Responsibility of Mass Media for Compliance with the Requirements Regarding Dissemination of the Election Campaign Materials

- 1. Conducting of the election campaign in mass media shall be carried out in compliance with the requirements and restrictions envisaged by this Code.
- 2. Mass media shall bear no responsibility for the contents of election campaign which was placed according to the agreements with clients save for the cases envisaged by Parts 1 and 2 of Article 202 of this Code. In the event that a participant of the program of TV and radio broadcasting company makes attempts to disseminate in a live broadcast the information specified in Parts 1 and 2 of Article 202 of this Code, the anchorperson of such program shall take all measures in order to stop such dissemination.
- 3. It shall be forbidden to conduct the election campaign in foreign mass media active on the territory of Ukraine as well as in mass media registered in Ukraine with foreign ownership share exceeding fifty percent.
- 4. During the election process, mass media in their materials and programs that are not envisaged by agreements concluded according to the requirements of Part 4 of Article 210 and Part 1 of Article 211 of this Code may not campaign for or against candidates, parties (organizations of the parties) subjects of the election process or disseminate information having the signs of election campaign, either on a free of charge or paid basis out of the sources not envisaged by this Code, as well as disseminate any information intended to stimulate or stimulating the voters to vote for or against a particular candidate (candidates), party (organizations of the party) subject of the election process.
- 5. The National Television and Radio Broadcasting Council of Ukraine shall by its decision cease, prior to the termination of the election process, the broadcasting on the territory of Ukraine, including by telecommunication operators, of foreign television channels which activities infringe the legal provision stipulating for prohibition of conducting of the election campaign by foreign citizens and persons without citizenship, including through journalistic activities, or which programs contain the appeals to liquidate the independence of Ukraine, change its constitutional order by use of force, violation of sovereignty and territorial integrity of Ukraine, breakthrough of its security, illegal takeover of the state power, propaganda of war and violence, kindling of racial, ethnic and religious hostility, encroachment on the rights and freedoms of man, health of the population.
- 6. In the event of a court ruling taken in the course of considering of the election dispute on a single breach by the mass media of the requirements set forth in this Code, the National Television and Radio Broadcasting Council of Ukraine shall by its decision give an official warning to such mass media requesting it to stop the infringement of the requirements of the electoral legislation. Such warning shall be published in mass media and shall be made public on the official web-site of the Central Election Commission. The mass media to which the warning was addressed shall make it public without comments in a news program that is on the air during prime-time hours or place such warning on the first page of the nearest issue of printed mass media.
- 7. In case of a court ruling taken in the course of considering of the election dispute on the repeated or gross infringement by the mass media of the requirements of this Code, a court shall pass a decision on temporal (until the election process is over) discontinuance of broadcasting of the respective program, suspension of the license of audiovisual mass media or on temporal prohibition (until the election process is over) of issuance of the printed media.

#### Article 210. Procedure for Using Audiovisual (Electronic) Mass Media

- 1. TV and radio broadcasting companies shall provide the candidate or party (organization of the party) subject of the election process, respectively, with air time for conducting the election campaign at the expense of funds from the respective budget allocated for preparation and conduct of elections in the general amount envisaged by this Code for each type of elections. Such air time shall be provided between 19:00 and 23:00 o'clock at Kyiv time.
- 2. It shall be prohibited to comment or evaluate in any form on the same broadcasting channel the content of the election campaigning program, actions of the candidate or subject

of its nomination within 20 minutes prior to and after TV or radio broadcasting of TV or radio election campaign of the candidate or party (organization of the party).

- 3. Payment for the airtime provided according to Part 1 of this Article shall be effected pursuant to the approved estimate within the scope of funds of the respective budget allocated for preparation and conduct of elections and according to the agreements concluded, respectively, between the Central Election Commission, the National Television Company of Ukraine and the National Radio Broadcasting Company of Ukraine, between territorial or district election commission and regional TV and radio broadcasting company of state or communal form of ownership.
- 4. Air time at the expense of resources of the electoral fund of subject of the election process shall be provided on the basis of the agreement concluded on behalf of such subject of the election process between the administrator of the respective electoral fund's current account and TV and radio broadcasting company of any type of ownership. It shall be prohibited to provide such air time without concluding the said agreement and transferring the funds to the account of TV and radio broadcasting company.
- 5. Uninterrupted duration of the air time provided to a subject of the election process at the expense of resources of its electoral fund may not be less than three minutes.
- 6. It shall be forbidden to include election campaigning materials of subjects of the election process to information television and radio programs (news programs). Election campaigning, including political campaigning in television and radio programs, shall be expressly separated from other broadcasts, programs at the moment of their beginning and end with the help of audio and video or combined means, titles, advertising logo or comments of anchorman using the words "Election campaign". It shall be prohibited to interrupt election campaign programs with advertising of goods, works and services and with other notices.
- 7. In the course of broadcasting of the election campaign program on television it is necessary to indicate the name of its customer in the form of a text message covering not less than fifteen percent of the screen area, which must be made in a color contrasting with the main display background and be easily perceptible for a viewer.
- 8. Broadcasting time allocated for the election campaign on radio and television may not exceed twenty percent of the actual amount of broadcasting time of a TV and radio broadcasting company of any type of ownership within the astronomic day.
- 9. TV and radio broadcasting companies shall make audio and video records of all programs containing signs of election campaigning and shall keep them within thirty days as of the day of official declaration of the election results.
- 10. TV and radio broadcasting companies of all types of ownership shall, subject to a decision of the Central Election Commission, main election commission of the respective local elections or written request of the National Television and Radio Broadcasting Council of Ukraine, submit within the timeframes specified in the decision all information pertaining to allocation of air time to subject of the respective election process for the purpose of conducting of the election campaign and, if necessary, copies of corresponding agreements, payment receipts and programs recorded on tape or other media.

#### Article 211. Procedure for Using Printed Mass Media

- 1. Subject of the election process shall have the right to publish at the expense of resources of its electoral fund the election campaign materials, including political advertising in printed mass media of any forms of ownership that are issued on the territory of Ukraine, except for the mass media specified in Part 8 of Article 208 of this Code.
- 2. The election campaign materials shall be expressly separated from other materials published in a printed mass media and shall be published under the heading "Election Campaign".
- 3. The election campaign materials specified in Part 1 of this Article shall be published on the basis of the agreement to be concluded on behalf of subject of the election process between the administrator of its electoral fund's current account and editorial board (publisher) of the printed mass media. Without conclusion of such agreement and transfer of funds to the account of the editorial board (publisher) of the printed mass media, publication

of such materials shall be prohibited. This requirement shall not apply to the printed mass media established (owned) by the party (organization of the party) – subject of the election process.

- 4. Editorial boards (publishers) of printed mass media of all types of ownership shall, subject to written requests of the Central Election Commission, election commission chairing the system of commissions that perform preparation and conduct of the respective local elections, provide them with all information pertaining to the use of printable area for the purpose of allocating of election campaign materials of subjects of the election process and, if necessary, with copies of corresponding agreements, payment receipts and corresponding publications.
- Article 212. Procedure for Creating and Disseminating by TV and Radio Broadcasting Companies of Programs with Participation of Candidates and Authorized Persons Thereof as well as Authorized Persons of Parties (Organizations of Parties) Subjects of the Election Process
- 1. TV and radio broadcasting companies shall have the right to create and disseminate in a live broadcast the programs with participation of candidates, their authorized persons, authorized persons of parties (organizations of parties) subjects of the election process in the form of pre-election debates or discussions. The above referred programs shall be organized into a series of programs of the same format with the purpose to ensure that all candidates or parties (organizations of parties) subjects of the election process have the possibility to participate in such programs at their own free will. TV and radio broadcasting company may create only one series of such programs during the election process.
- 2. Broadcasting time used for the series of programs specified in Part 1 of this Article shall not be taken into account in terms of limitations established by Part 8 of Article 210 of this Code.
- 3. TV and radio broadcasting company intending to broadcast the programs specified in Part 1 of this Article shall at the same time and in the same manner send the proposals to take part in the series of the said programs to all candidates or to all said parties (organizations of parties). The proposal shall specify the program format, period of time within which to give a consent to participate in the program and cost of participation in such program.
  - 4. The format of the program (series of programs) shall include:
- 1) Procedure for determining the participants of each program out of the series of programs with participation of representatives of two or more candidates or parties (organizations of parties) subject to the participants' consent, by lot, etc;
  - 2) Procedure for determining the order of placing the programs within the series;
- 3) Duration of each program and amount of air time allocated for speeches to each participant of the program;
  - 4) Broadcasting schedule of the programs;
  - 5) Anchorman of the program or procedure for its appointment;
- 6) Availability of other people present in the studio during the programs (experts, journalists, audience in the studio, etc), their roles and procedure of their election or appointment;
  - 7) Regulations and rules of conduct of the participants in the program;
- 8) Procedure for choosing the topics for discussion and back-to-back questions of participants in the program;
- 9) Conditions of disseminating of other information during the program (results of polls, public opinions, interactive voting, statistic data, educational and referential information, concert performances etc);
  - 10) Other conditions pertaining to creation of the program.
- 5. Cost of participation in the program specified in Part 1 of this Article shall be equal for all candidates or parties (organizations of parties) subjects of the election process and shall be determined based on the amount of the air time provided to each of the participants of the program and unit of air time established pursuant to Parts 2 or 3 of Article 208 of this Code.
- 6. The amount of air time provided to the participants of the programs in order to take part in the discussions or answer the questions shall be determined according to the same rules.

- 7. Conducting of the interactive poll and declaration of its results during the program may only be included into the program if all the participants of the program consented thereto.
- 8. Candidate, party (organization of the party) subject of the election process is entitled to take part in one program of the series only. The number of participants from one party (organization of the party) shall be determined by the program format. The party (organization of the party) shall at its own discretion appoint the participants to present such party during the program. On behalf of the party (organization of the party) consent towards its participation in the program shall be given by its head or authorized person in the respective election district.
- 9. Candidate or party (organization of the party) which did not give its consent to participation in the program within the period specified in Part 2 of this Article may not take part in such programs broadcast by the respective TV and radio broadcasting company.
- 10. TV and radio broadcasting company shall make public the list of participants in the series of programs as well as of those who refused from participation in the series of programs.

### Article 213. Right of Reply

- 1. Candidate or party (organization of the party) subject of the election process shall have the right to apply to the mass media that made public the information which such candidate or party (organization of the party) believes to be unreliable demanding to publish its reply to such information. Such reply shall not be deemed the election campaign.
- 2. The mass media that made public the respective material shall provide the candidate, party (organization of the party) with regard to which the unreliable information was disseminated according to such candidate's or party's opinion with the possibility to publish a reply, in particular, provide the candidate, party (organization of the party) with air time on television or radio, respectively, or publish in the same printed mass media the material submitted by such candidate or party (organization of the party).
- 3. The material of the reply specified in Part 2 of this Article shall be made public within three days after the day of applying with the demand for reply but in any case not later than one day prior to the day of voting. If the information that the candidate or party (organization of the party) believes to be unreliable was published later than within three days prior to the day of voting, the reply may be published on the last day before the day of voting.
- 4. Broadcasting time for the reply shall be provided at the same time of the day as the time of the notice to which such reply appertains. Duration of the broadcasting time provided for the reply may not exceed the duration of the notice by more than twice.
- 5. The reply that is published in a printed mass media shall be typed with the same font and placed under the heading "Reply" at the same place on the page. The size of the reply may not exceed by more than 50 percent the size of the respective notice.
- 6. The reply shall contain a reference to the respective publication in a printed mass media, television or radio program as well as to the content of the information that is deemed to be unreliable. The reply shall be made public without additions, comments or abridgements. The reply may not contain direct appeals to vote for or against a certain candidate (candidates), party (organization of the party) subject of the election process.
- 7. If the material containing the disputed information was published on the last day preceding the day of regular issue of a printed mass media, the publisher of such printed mass media shall publish the reply in a special issue with the same circulation and within the timeframes specified in Part 3 of this Article.
- 8. Publication of the reply shall be carried out at the expense of funds of the mass media. The mass media shall be entitled to claim indemnification of losses caused to the same by the customer of publishing of the disputed information pursuant to the procedure prescribed by the law.
  - 9. Reply to the reply shall not be provided.

#### CHAPTER VI. ORGANIZATION AND CONDUCT OF VOTING AND COUNTING OF VOTES

Section XVII. OFFICIAL OBSERVERS

**Article 214. Official Observers** 

- 1. Official observers from the candidates or parties (organization of parties) subjects of the election process may take part in the election process. The right of a subject of the election process to have official observers is determined by this Code for each type of elections.
- 2. Official observers from non-governmental organizations monitor the election process pursuant to the procedure provided for in this Law.
- 3. An official observer provided for in parts one and two of this Article is a subject of the respective election process.
- 4. Official observers from foreign states and international organizations (hereinafter referred to as the International Observers) may monitor the election process. An International Observer is not a subject of the election process.

#### Article 215. Term of Powers of Official Observers

- 1. The term of powers of official observers as provided for in parts one and two Article 214 of this Code starts on the day of their registration by a respective election commission pursuant to the procedure provided for in Article 217 of this Code and ends after establishment of the results of the respective elections.
- 2. The term of powers of official observers from foreign states and international organizations starts on the day of their accreditation by the Central Election Commission and ends after the public declaration of the results of the respective elections.
- 3. The subject that nominated an official observer has the right to recall such official observer by submitting a written statement to a respective election commission on termination of his/her powers and to submit the documents necessary for registration (accreditation) of another person as an official observer pursuant to the procedure provided for in this Code.
- 4. An official observer has the right to submit at any time a statement to an election commission that registered (accredited) him/her asking it to terminate his/her powers. On the grounds of such statement, the respective election commission is to adopt a decision on termination of registration (accreditation) of the official observer, a copy of which is handed out to the subject that nominated the official observer.

# Article 216. Participation of Non-Governmental Organizations in Election Observation

- 1. A non-governmental organization, the statute of which envisages activities related to the election law issues, adherence to and protection of the citizens' electoral rights, and (or) monitoring of the election process, that is registered pursuant to the procedure established by law minimum two years before the election day (hereinafter referred to as the non-governmental organization) has a right, upon consent of the Central Election Commission, to has official observers during the elections.
- 2. A non-governmental organization at all times, but during the election process not later than on the thirties day after the start of the election process may submit a statement to the Central Election Commission asking for a permission to have official observers during the elections. The statement signed by the head of the non-governmental organization is to have attached copies of the statute of the non-governmental organization and of the certificate on state registration of the non-governmental organization validated by the body that registered that non-governmental organization, or by a notary.
- 3. The Central Election Commission not later than on the fifth day after the receipt of the said statement is to adopt a decision on granting the permission to such non-governmental organization to have official observers or on a refusal to grant it, and to notify the non-governmental organization on the day following the adoption of the respective decision. The grounds for a refusal may be a violation by the non-governmental organization of the requirements provided for in parts one and two of this Article. A copy of the decision on granting to the civil society organization the permission to have official observes or on a refusal to grant it is handed out to the authorized representative of the non-governmental organization not later than on the day following the adoption of such decision. A non-governmental organization has the right to file a complaint with a court against the refusal to grant a permission to have official observers.

- 4. A permission to have official observers granted to a non-governmental organization as provided for in part three of this Article is valid for two years from the day of adoption of the decision by the Central Election Commission.
- 5. The Central Election Commission forwards the list of non-governmental organizations that were granted the permission to have official observers during the elections stating the term of validity of such permissions to the Election Commissions of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, Oblast, Kyiv and Sevastopol City Election Commissions.
- 6. The Central Election Commission not later than thirty days before the voting at the nationwide elections is to publish in the *Holos Ukrainy* and *Uriadovyi Courier* newspapers the list of non-governmental organizations that were granted the permission to have official observers during the elections stating the terms and the territory of validity of such permissions.
- 7. Not more than three official observers from different non-governmental organizations may be present simultaneously at an election commission meeting, the final meeting and at a polling station during the voting. When a larger number of registered official observers from non-governmental organizations are present, a District (Territorial) Election Commission is to recommend that the representatives of non-governmental organizations should agree on how to divide the polling stations among the non-governmental organization.

# Article 217. Registration of Official Observers Nominated by Subjects of Election Process and by Non-Governmental Organizations

- 1. An official observer nominated by a subject of the election process or by a non-governmental organization may be a citizen of Ukraine having a right to vote. The following persons may not be official observers:
  - 1) an election commission member;
- 2) an official of an executive body, a governmental body of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, a local self-government body or a court;
  - 3) an official of law-enforcement bodies;
  - 4) a serviceperson:
  - 5) a person in alternative (non-military) service.
- 2. An official observer during the nationwide elections in a territorial election district is registered by a District Election Commission upon nomination of a candidate's proxy, an authorized representative of a party in the respective territorial or national election district, or the head of a non-governmental organization.
- 3. An official observer during the local elections is registered by the main election commission on the respective elections upon nomination by a candidate (candidate's proxy), the head or an authorized representative of the party organization –subject of the respective election process, the head of a non-governmental organization.
- 4. The nomination for registration of an official observer is to contain his/her family name, first name, patronymic, citizenship, date of birth, place of residence and home address, place of work (occupation) and position, and contact phone numbers. Statements of the respective persons on their consent to be official observers from the subject of the election process of the non-governmental organization are to be attached to the nomination documents.
- 5. A nomination for registration of an official observer is to be submitted to the respective election commission not later than five days before the election day.
- 6. Not later than next day following the receipt of the nomination provided for in part four of this Article, the respective election commission is to adopt a decision on registration of the official observer. An election commission may refuse to register an official observer only when the nomination documents were submitted by an improper subject or when the provisions of parts one five of this Article were violated.
- 7. Clerical errors or technical inaccuracies in the nomination documents do not constitute the grounds for rejection of the nominated candidacies. When such errors or inaccuracies were found, a respective election commission is to immediately notify the nominating subject thereon. The aforementioned errors and inaccuracies may be corrected by submitting a corrected nomination on the respective candidacies within the timelines

provided for in part five of this Article, and when such nomination was received on the last day of this period – on the day following the receipt of the said notification. When the corrected nomination was not submitted within the established period, the respective candidacies are rejected.

- 8. A respective election commission hands out an ID to an official observer in the form defined by the Central Election Commission immediately after adoption of a decision on his/her registration.
- 9. Official observers in the out-of-country election district are registered by the Central Election Commission pursuant to the procedure provided for in this Article.

#### Article 218. Rights and Responsibilities of Official Observers

- 1. An official observer nominated by a subject of the election process or a non-governmental organization has the right to:
- 1) be present at polling stations during the voting, observe actions of election commission members from any distance, including their actions during issuing the ballot papers to voters and counting of votes without physically getting in the way of the election commission members;
- 2) make photo- and film, audio and video recordings without violating the secrecy of voting;
- 3) be present during the issuance of ballot papers to the election commission members, including issuing of ballot papers for organization of mobile voting, and during such voting:
- 4) be present, provided the requirements of this Code are observed, at the meeting of Precinct Election Commissions and District Election Commissions taking into consideration the provisions of clauses 3 and 4 part two Article 114 of this Code, including the presence during the counting of votes in the election precinct, and the establishment of the results of voting in a territorial election district or during the local elections;
- 5) lodge a complaint against the violations of the election legislation to a respective election commission or to a court pursuant to the procedure established by law;
- 6) draw an act on violation of the requirements of election legislation pursuant to the procedure provided for in part three of this Article that may be attached to a complaint or a statement of claim:
- 7) request from the members of a respective election commission an immediate elimination of violations of this Code when such violations are discovered;
- 8) take necessary measures that are not prohibited by law to stop illegal actions during the voting and the counting of votes in the election precinct;
- 9) receive copies of the protocol on the transfer of ballot papers and establishment of the results of voting as well as other documents in the cases envisaged in this Code;
  - 10) exercise other rights provided for in this Code for official observers.
- 2. An official observer nominated by a subject of the election process or a non-governmental organization is not entitled to:
  - 1) fill out a ballot paper for a voter (including upon the voter's request);
- 2) be present during the filling-out of a ballot paper by a voter in the cabin for secret voting or violate the secrecy of voting in any other way;
- 3) perform other actions that violate the lawful course of the election process or illegally prevent the election commission members from exercising their authorities.
- 3. An act on violation of the requirements of election legislation is a document describing illegal action or inaction of an election commission, a member of an election commission or another person. Such act is to be drawn immediately after a violation has been discovered. The act is to be signed by the person who drew it and minimum two other voters who confirm the fact of such violation stating their family names, first names, patronymics, and voting addresses.
- 4. When an official observer nominated by a subject of the election process or a non-governmental organization violates the requirements of part two of this Article, an election commission is to give him/her a warning. When the observer commits the repeat or a one-time grave violation of the requirements of part two of this Article, an election commission may deprive him/her of the right to be present at its meeting pursuant to the procedure

provided for in part six Article 114 of this Code. The official observer may lodge a complaint against such a decision to an election commission of a higher level or to a court pursuant to the procedure provided for in this Code.

# Article 219. Official Observers from Foreign States and International Organizations

- 1. An official observer from a foreign state or an international organization, including international non-governmental organization, registered outside Ukraine is accredited by the Central Election Commission. An application for accreditation of official observers is submitted by a foreign state or a respective international organization directly or through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine to the Central Election Commission after the start of the election process but not later than ten days before the day of voting during the respective elections.
- 2. The Central Election Commission accredits official observers from foreign states and international organizations not later than five days before the election day. A request for accreditation may be rejected only when it is submitted by a subject that does not comply with the requirements of part one of this Article.
- 3. A citizen of Ukraine may not be accredited as an official observer from a foreign state or an international organization. A citizen of Ukraine, a foreigner or a stateless citizen who speaks Ukrainian may accompany the accredited official observers from foreign states and international organizations in the premises for voting at the polling stations and during the meetings of election commissions only provided he/she acts as an interpreter.
- 4. The Central Election Commission hands out to an accredited official observer from a foreign state or an international organization an ID in the form established by the Central Election Commission.
- 5. Official observers from foreign states or international organizations perform their functions in the whole territory of Ukraine and in out-of-country election precincts.
- 6. An official observer from a foreign state or an international organization has the right to:
- 1) be present during the meeting of the candidates, their proxies, authorized representatives of parties (organizations of parties) with the voters, during the campaign meetings, rallies, and meetings of election commissions;
  - 2) have an access to the campaigning materials;
- 3) be present at the polling stations during the voting as well as during the meetings of Precinct Election Commissions during the counting of votes and District (Territorial) Election Commissions during tabulation of protocols without physically getting in the way of election commission members:
- 4) make photo- and film-, audio and video recordings not violating the secrecy of voting;
- 5) publicly state his/her comments and recommendations concerning the organization and conduct of the elections and improvement of Ukrainian legislation taking into consideration the international experience, organize press conferences in accordance with the requirements of the Ukrainian legislation;
- 6) together with other observers from foreign states or international organizations, upon consent of the Central Election Commission, create temporary groups of official observers in order to coordinate their activities within the scope of powers provided for in this Code.
- 7. Official observers from foreign states or international organizations observe autonomously and independently.
- 8. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine, other executive bodies, governmental bodies of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, local self-government bodies and election commissions are to facilitate the performance of functions by official observers or international organizations.
- 9. Financial and material support of activities of official observers and international organizations is provided at the expense of the states or organizations that sent such observers to Ukraine or at the observers' own expense.

10. An official observer from a foreign state or international organization may not interfere with the work of an election commission, commit actions that impede the lawful course of the election process, prevent election commission members from performing their functions, fill out a ballot paper for a voter (including upon a voter's request) or violate the secrecy of voting in any other way, and use his/her status for activities that are not related to observation of the course of the election process. The aforementioned restrictions are also applied to a person who, pursuant to part three of this Article, accompanies an official observer during his/her direct work with the official observer from a foreign state or international organization.

#### Section XVIII. BALLOT PAPERS

#### Article 220. Ballot Paper

- 1. Voters vote during the elections with the help of a ballot paper.
- 2. All ballot papers for the voting during the respective elections are to have the same size, color and contents. The level of protection of the ballot paper for the nationwide elections is determined by the Central Election Commission. The level of protection of the ballot paper for local elections is determined by the main election commission on the respective local elections.
- 3. The form and the color of a ballot paper are approved for all types of elections by the Central Election Commission not later than forty days before the election day. The form and the color of ballot papers for local elections may not be changed before the start of the election process of the next regular elections.
- 4. The contents of a ballot paper for the nationwide elections are approved by the Central Election Commission. The contents of a ballot paper on local elections are determined by the main election commission on the respective local elections taking into consideration the provisions of parts five eight of this Article.
  - 5. A ballot paper is to contain the following information:
  - 1) the name of elections and the date of voting (repeat voting);
- 2) the number of a territorial (single mandate, multiple mandate) election district or (for the nationwide elections) the identification of the foreign election district;
  - 3) the number of an election precinct;
  - 4) the place assigned for the seal of a Precinct Election Commission;
- 5) the place assigned for the name and signature of a Precinct Election Commission member who will issue the ballot paper.
- 6. The ballot paper is to contain an explanation of the procedure of its filling-out by a voter during the voting that may not take more than 20 per cent of the ballot paper size.
- 7. The text of the ballot paper is to be stated in the official language and placed on one sheet on one side only.
- 8. Additional requirements concerning the form and contents of the ballot paper for the respective type of elections are established by this Code.
- 9. The ballot paper has a voucher separated by a tear-off line. The voucher is to contain:
  - 1) the data and marks provided for in clauses 1-3. 5 part five of this Article;
  - 2) a place for the voter's number in the Voter List for voting in this election precinct:
  - 3) a place for the signature of a voter who receives the ballot paper.

#### Article 221. Status of Ballot Paper

- 1. A ballot paper is a document subject to strict reporting requirements. Election commissions are to organize registration of the received and issued ballot papers according to the requirements of this Code.
- 2. The documents that ensure registration of ballot papers for the nationwide elections are to be submitted by the manufacturers, by District and Precinct Election Commissions to the Central Election Commission, and on local elections for the main election commission on the respective local elections.

3. An election commission mentioned in part two of this Article after the public declaration of the election results is to organize the transfer of registration documents for storage to the respective archives.

### Article 222. Procedure for Production of Ballot Papers by Printing Company

- 1. Ballot papers for each election precinct are produced in the amount that exceeds the number of voters included in the preliminary Vote Lists of this election precinct by two per cent.
- 2. For the nationwide elections, additional ballot papers are produced for the election precincts that pursuant to part one Article 177 of this Code are identified for voting using the absentee voting certificates in the amount exceeding the number of voters in the respective territorial election district by one per cent.
- 3. The Central Election Commission organizes production of ballot papers for the nationwide elections not later than seven days before the election day in a centralized way by a state-owned printing company on the basis of an agreement signed between the Central Election Commission and the company.
- 4. The main election commission on local elections organizes production of ballot papers for the respective local elections not later than seven days before the election day by a state-owned or a municipal printing company selected by the respective election commission on the basis of an agreement signed by the respective election commission and the company.
- 5. An election commission provided for in parts three and four of this Article determines the company for production of ballot papers at its own discretion without conducting (competitive) bidding procedures.
  - 6. The company manufacturing the ballot papers is to ensure:
- 1) strict correspondence between the produced and the ordered number of ballot papers;
- 2) strict adherence to the requirements concerning registration and transfer of the produced ballot papers to the customer pursuant to the procedure established by the Central Election Commission.
- 7. Technical waste, printing defects as well as typographic plates are to be destroyed pursuant to the procedure and within the timelines provided for in the agreement on production of ballot papers.
- 8. An election commission that ordered production of ballot papers receives the ballot papers in the manufacturer's package on the basis of the statement on delivery and acceptance of ballot papers in the form established by the Central Election Commission.
- 9. Control of production of ballot papers for the nationwide elections by the manufactures, adherence to the provisions on the destruction of typographic plates, technical waste and printing defects is exercised by an oversight commission that is to be created by the Central Election Commission not later than on the day of approval of the ballot paper form. The oversight commission is created upon nominations submitted by political parties represented by factions in the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine of the current convocation (not more than two persons from each party).
- 10. The statements on delivery and acceptance of ballot papers for the nationwide elections stating the number of received ballot papers for each territorial (foreign) election districts are to be published not later than on the day following the signing of each statement on the official web-site of the Central Election Commission.
- 11. The main election commission on local elections upon the first request is to provide access to the statements on delivery and acceptance of ballot papers for the respective local elections to the candidates, their proxies, authorized representatives of party organizations, and representatives of the mass media.
- 12. Consolidated data based on the statements on delivery and acceptance of ballot papers about the number of ballot papers produced on each territorial election district of a respective administrative territorial unit are published pursuant to the procedure provided for in parts ten and eleven of this Article, respectively, not later than two days before the election day.

#### Article 223. Production of Ballot Papers by Precinct Election Commission

- 1. As an exception, ballot papers may be produced upon consent of the Central Election Commission directly only by a Precinct Election Commission of a special election precinct created on a ship sailing under the National Flag of Ukraine on the election day, and on the polar station of Ukraine. A decision of the Central Election Commission on granting such consent stating the number of ballot papers that are to be produced may be adopted not later than three days before the election day on the basis of a statement submitted by a respective District Election Commission.
- 2. The request submitted by a District Election Commission mentioned in part one of this Article is to contain the following information:
- 1) the number of an election precinct created on a respective ship or the polar station of Ukraine;
  - 2) the name of a ship or the polar station of Ukraine;
  - 3) the number of voters in the election precinct;
- ) the number of ballot papers necessary for organizations of voting in such election precinct;
  - 5) the day and time when the respective ship left the last Ukrainian port.
- 3. Ballot papers produced by the company mentioned in part three Article 222 of this Code for an election precinct mentioned in part one of this Article after having received the consent for production of ballot papers by the Precinct Election Commission are to be invalidated and packed by the Central Election Commission (if they were not forwarded to a District Election Commission) or by the District Election Commission according to the procedure provided for in part seven Article 242 of this Code. A respective act is to be drawn thereon in the form and pursuant to the procedure provided for in part ten Article 115 of this Code. The data stated in such act are to be taken into consideration by the Central Election Commission when drawing the Final Results Protocol or by the District Election Commission during the tabulation of protocols in the territorial election district.

# Article 224. Procedure for Acceptance of Ballot Papers for Nationwide Elections by District Election Commissions

- 1. A District Election Commission accepts ballot papers in the manufacturer's package from an authorized representative of the Central Election Commission or a representative of the Secretariat of the Central Election Commission authorized by a decision of the Central Election Commission not earlier than seven days before the election day.
- 2. A District Election Commission draws a protocol in three copies on acceptance of ballot papers. The said protocol is drawn pursuant to the procedure set forth in part ten Article 115 of this Code and is to be signed by an authorized member or a representative of the Secretariat of the Central Election Commission authorized by a decision of the Central Election Commission who transfers the ballot papers. The first copy of the protocol is forwarded to the Central Election Commission, the second is kept by the District Election Commission is the third is to be immediately hung in the premises of the District Election Commission for general access.
- 3. The candidate, his/her proxy, an authorized representative of a party that is a subject of the election process, and an official observer who was present during the transfer of ballot papers have the right to receive a copy of the protocol provided in part two of this Article immediately upon his/her request signed on every page by the Head and the Secretary of the District Election Commission and stamped with the commission seal not more than one copy of the protocol for a candidate or a party subject of the election process.
- 4. A District Election Commission is to organize storage and safeguarding of the received ballot papers. Ballot papers are stored in the premises of the District Election Commission in a metal case or in a separate room that has only one entrance, which is sealed with a tape with the signatures of all members present at the commission meeting and stamped with the commission seal. The metal case or the separate room is to be guarded by a representative of the police at all times (until the ballot papers are transferred to Precinct Election Commissions).

## Article 225. Procedure for Transfer of Ballot Papers to Precinct Election Commissions

- 1. A District (Territorial) Election Commission not earlier than two days before the election day but not later than 20 hours before the election day at its meeting transfers the ballot papers in the manufacturer's package to Precinct Election Commissions of the election district (administrative territorial unit). Ballot papers are to be received by minimum three members of each Precinct Election Commission representing different subjects that nominated candidates to the commission.
- 2. All ballot papers bearing the number of the respective election precinct are to be transferred to such election precinct commission.
- 3. A District (Territorial) Election Commission draws the protocol on the transfer of ballot papers to the Precinct Election Commission pursuant to the procedure and in the form provided for in part ten Article 115 of this Code. The protocol is to contain the following data:
  - 1) the number of a territorial election district (name of the administrative territorial unit);
- 2) the total amount of ballot papers for the respective elections received by the District (Territorial) Election Commission;
- 3) the number of each election precinct, members of which received ballot papers; for local elections also the number (numbers) of a single-mandate or multiple mandate districts (constituencies);
- 4) the amount of voters at an election precinct according to the Voter List (for the nationwide elections including the number of voters included in the list for voting using absentee voting certificates);
- 5) the amount of ballot papers transferred to an election precinct for the respective elections;
- 6) family names and signatures of the commission members who received ballot papers;
- 7) in the case provided for in part three Article 223 of the Code, also the amount of ballot papers invalidated by the District Election Commission that were produced for special election precincts created on a ship sailing under the National Flag of Ukraine on the election day, and on the polar station of Ukraine that were allowed to produce ballot papers as provided for in part one Article 223 of this Code.
- 4. The number of copies of the protocol on the transfer of ballot papers to the Precinct Election Commission for the nationwide elections is to exceed the number of members of the district election commission by three. The copies of the protocol are to be numbered and have equal legal force. The first copy of the protocol is to be forwarded to the Central Election Commission, the second is kept by the District Election Commission is the third is to be immediately hung in the premises of the District Election Commission for general access. The remaining copies of the protocol are handed out to the District Election Commission members.
- 5. The excerpt from the protocol provided for in part three of this Article in the form determined by the Central Election Commission stating the data related to the respective election precincts is handed out together with ballot papers to the representatives of each election precinct who received ballot papers, and is to be signed by the Head and the Secretary of the District (Territorial) Election Commission and three members of the respective Precinct Election Commission and stamped with the seal of the District (Territorial) Election Commission.
- 6. A District (Territorial) Election Commission is obliged to immediately hand out a copy of the excerpt from the protocol provided for in part three of this Article upon a request of a candidate, his/her proxy, an authorized representative of a party (an organization of parties) or to an official observer who was present during the transfer of ballot papers upon their request. The said copy is to be signed on every page by the Head and the Secretary of the District (Territorial) Commission and stamped with the commission seal not more than one copy for a candidate or a party (organizations of parties) that is a subject of the election process.

Article 226. Procedure for Acceptance of Ballot Papers by Election Commissions of Regular and Special Election Precincts

- 1. Members of a Precinct Election Commission of a regular or a special election precinct (except for the election precincts created on ships sailing under the National Flag of Ukraine at that time, or on the polar station of Ukraine) transport the ballot papers they received according to Article 225 of this Code to the premises of the Precinct Election Commission in the presence of an representative of the police who is responsible for their security.
- 2. Ballot papers are accepted by a Precinct Election Commission at its meeting immediately after the arrival of election commission members who received ballot papers. After the ballot papers are unpacked, the commission secretary stamps them with the Precinct Election Commission seal at the designated place on each ballot paper. Another Precinct Election Commission member identified by the protocol decision counts the received ballot papers checking the compliance of the number of the election precinct and the election district on the ballot papers with the number of the election precinct, for which the ballot papers were received, and the election district to which it belongs.
- 3. During the counting of ballot papers, the designated Precinct Election Commission member counts the ballot paper aloud. Other commission members observe the counting. It is disallowed to divide the commission into several groups each of which counts part of the ballot papers.
- 4. When ballot papers are discovered that were produced for other elections, with wrong numbers of the election precinct or a territorial (single-mandate, multiple mandate) election district, The Precinct Election Commission draws an act in the form and pursuant to the procedure provided for in part ten Article 115 of this Code stating the type and the amount of such ballot papers. The District (Territorial) Election Commission that transferred the ballot papers is to be notified immediately on the discovery of such ballot papers. Such ballot papers are not to be counted as ballot papers received by the Precinct Election Commission.
- 5. When there is a discrepancy between the established number of ballot papers and the number stated in the excerpt from the protocol of the District (Territorial) Election Commission on the transfer of ballot papers, including on the grounds provided for in part four of this Article, a Precinct Election Commission draws an act in two copies on the discrepancy stating the grounds for such discrepancy established by a decision of the Precinct Election Commission. Such act is drawn in the form and pursuant to the procedure provided for in part ten Article 115 of this Code. One copy of the act is forwarded to the District (Territorial) Election Commission and the second copy is kept by the Precinct Election Commission. When such discrepancies are found, the number of ballot papers received by the Precinct Election Commission is the number established at the Precinct Election Commission meeting that was stated in the act on discrepancies and the minutes of the commission meeting.
- 6. Ballot papers are kept in the premises of a Precinct Election Commission in a safe (a metal case) that is to be sealed during the same commission meeting with a tape with the signatures all commission members present at the meeting and stamped with the commission seal. It is to be guarded by a representative of the police at all times (until the start of the morning preparatory meeting of the commission as provided for in Article 233 of this Code).

# Article 227. Procedure for Transfer of Ballot Papers to Precinct Election Commissions of Out-of-Country Election Precincts

1. Ballot papers in the manufacturer's package are transferred to Precinct Election Commissions of out-of-country election precincts not earlier than eight days before the election day through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine pursuant to the procedure established by the Central Election Commission. The Central Election Commission draws a protocol on the transfer of ballot papers to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs as provided for in part three Article 225 of this Code. The protocol is to be drawn in two copies, one of which is kept by the Central Election Commission and the second together with the excerpts from the protocol for each out-of-country election precinct is forwarded to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine. The data contained in the said protocol are to be posted on the official web-site of the Central Election Commission not later than on the following day.

- 2. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine through the respective diplomatic institutions of Ukraine is to transfer the ballot papers to Precinct Election Commissions of out-of-country election precincts not later than 20 hours before the election day.
- 3. A Precinct Election Commission is to accept the ballot papers pursuant to the procedure provided for in parts two through five of Article 226 of this Code. The accepted and accounted ballot papers are to be kept in a safe that is sealed pursuant to the procedure provided for in part six Article 226 of this Code.
- 4. Copies of the protocol provided for in part one of this Article are handed out to the representatives of candidates or parties in the Central Election Commission.

## Article 228. Procedure for Amending Ballot Papers

- 1. In the event when, pursuant to this Code, the text of a ballot paper contains a list of names of the candidates registered for participation in the respective elections, after adoption of a decision on cancelling registration or announcement of withdrawal of a candidate after production of ballot papers, the Central Election Commission or the main election commission on local elections, respectively, adopts a decision on amending the ballot paper.
- 2. Ballot papers are amended by members of Precinct Election Commissions using the "Withdrawn" stamp. The form of the "Withdrawn" stamp is to be approved by the Central Election Commission not later than thirty-five days before the election day. District (Territorial) Election Commissions not later than ten days before the election day are to organize production of such stamps. The stamps are transferred to Precinct Election Commissions together with the ballot papers.
- 3. Ballot papers may not be amended without a decision of the Central Election Commission or the main election commission on local elections, respectively.
- 4. When a decision on amending the ballot paper mentioned in part one of this Article is adopted before the transfer of ballot papers to Precinct Election Commissions pursuant to the procedure established by Articles 225 or 227 of this Code, the ballot papers are amended by a Precinct Election Commission when accepting the ballot papers before the commission secretary stamps them with the commission seal as provided for in part two Article 226 of this Code.
- 5. Ballot papers are amended by a commission member identified by the protocol decision of the commission who stamps them with the "Withdrawn" stamp in the square next to the name of a candidate whose registration was cancelled. The stamp is put horizontally and should not overlap with the text on the ballot paper with the name and other personal data of another candidate.
- 6. When a decision provided for in part one of this Article is adopted after the receipt of ballot papers by Precinct Election Commissions, the ballot papers are amended at a meeting of the Precinct Election Commission pursuant to the procedure set forth in parts seven and eight of this Article.
- 7. A Precinct Election Commission opens the safe (the metal case) where the ballot papers are stored according to the procedure set forth in parts two four Article 233 of this Code.
- 8. After amending the ballot papers pursuant to the procedure provided for in part two of this Article, the ballot papers are to be re-counted pursuant to the procedure provided for in parts three and four Article 226 of this Code. The safe (the metal case) with amended voting ballots is sealed pursuant to the procedure provided for in part six Article 226 of this Code.
- 9. Each voter is to be informed about the amendments introduced to the ballot papers pursuant to the Central Election Commission Decision when receiving a ballot paper for the voting.
- 10. When ballot papers were amended without a decision provided for in part one of this Article or not in compliance with such a decision, the Precinct Election Commission at its meeting is to draw an act in two copies in the form and pursuant to the procedure set for in part ten Article 115 of this Code. The act is to state the number of received ballot papers and the names of persons responsible for it. One copy of the act is to be immediately forwarded

to a District Election Commission and the second is to be kept by the Precinct Election Commission. The data contained in the said act are to be taken into consideration by the Precinct Election Commission when drawing the vote counting protocol of the Precinct Election Commission.

- 11. The spoiled ballot papers are invalidated pursuant to the procedure provided for in part eight Article 242 of this Code and packed as provided for in part eight Article 240 of this Code. The package is marked as "Spoiled ballot papers". The packed spoiled ballot papers are to be stored by the Precinct Election Commission till the election day and then forwarded to the District (Territorial) Election Commission together with other election documents pursuant to the procedure provided for in Article 250 of this Code.
- 12. When it is necessary, the Central Election Commission or the main election commission on local elections on the grounds of the act mentioned in part ten of this Article and upon a request from a District Election Commission may adopt a decision on re-printing the respective amount of ballot papers. Such ballot papers are produced pursuant to the procedure provided for in this Code within the timelines established by the Central Election Commission or the main election commission on local elections.
- 13. The ballot paper that was not amended in accordance with the decision provided for in part one of this Article or that was amended without such decision or not in compliance with such decision is considered invalid.
- 14. Persons responsible for illegal spoiling of ballot papers are to reimburse the incurred harm pursuant to the procedure established by law.

#### Section XIX. ORGANIZATION AND CONDUCT OF VOTING

#### Article 229. Premises for Voting

- 1. The voting is conducted in the premises that were specially designated and equipped with cabins for secret voting with the places allocated for issuance of ballot papers and installation of ballot boxes. One election precinct is to have one room equipped for voting. The Precinct Election Commission is responsible for the control of equipping the premises for voting.
- 2. Equipment is to be placed in the premises for voting in such a way so that the places for issuance of ballot papers, entrance and exit from the cabins for secret voting, and ballot boxes can be seen by the Precinct Election Commission members and the persons who pursuant to this Code have the right to be present in the premises for voting.
- 3. Directly in front of the entrance to the promises for voting, a Precinct Election Commission must place the information posters explaining the voting procedure and responsibility for violation of the election legislation.

#### **Article 230. Voting Cabins and Ballot Boxes**

- 1. The premises for voting are to have a sufficient number of cabins for secret voting, for small election precincts, the number of such cabins is to be minimum two, for middle minimum four and for large minimum six.
- 2. Ballot boxes are used for voting, into which the voters cast the filled-out ballot papers.
- 3. Ballot boxes are to be made from a transparent material and their size is determined by the Central Election Commission. The procedure for production, registration, use and storage of ballot boxes is determined by the Central Election Commission.
- 4. Each election precinct is to receive the necessary number of ballot boxes stationary (large) and mobile (small). An election precinct is to have minimum two stationary ballot boxes, a medium minimum three stationary ballot boxes, and a large minimum four stationary ballot boxes. Each election precinct is to have minimum two mobile ballot boxes.
- 5. Each ballot box is to have its personal number within the boundaries of an election precinct that is put by the Precinct Election Commission on this box.
- 6. Stationary ballot boxes are installed in the premises for voting so that the voters when coming to them could go through the cabins for secret voting.

## Article 231. Distribution of Responsibilities of among Precinct Election Commission Members

- 1. A Precinct Election Commission on the last day before the election day is to divide at its meeting the responsibilities among the Precinct Election Commission members for the election day (except for the Head and the Secretary of the commission) concerning:
  - 1) checking identification of a voter and his/her inclusion in the Voter List;
  - 2) issuance of a ballot paper to the voter;
- 3) control of the voters' entrance to the cabins for secret voting and (if available) of the proper condition of the stands in the cabins;
  - 4) control of the ballot boxes;
  - 5) control of the entrance to and the exit from the premises for voting.
- 2. The commission is to select three commission members who will organize mobile voting. Among these members, there must be commission members performing the responsibilities provided for in clauses 1 and 2 part one of this Article.
- 3. Commission members responsible for organization of mobile voting are to represent different subjects that nominated candidates to the commission.

#### Article 232. Preparation for Mobile Voting

- 1. A voter included in the voters list in an election precinct who can not move independently due to his/her age, disability or state of health may be allowed by the Precinct Election Commission to take part in mobile voting.
- 2. In order to organize mobile voting for the voters who can not move on their own, a Precinct Election Commission on the last day before the election day is to prepare an excerpt from the Voter List at its meeting in the form established by the Central Election Commission.
  - 3. The excerpt from the Voter List is to include:
- 1) without a commission's decision voters who permanently can not move on their own whose names in the Voter List have marks provided for in clause 4 part nine Article 158 of this Code when such voters did not notify the Precinct Election Commission in writing or personally before the noon of the last Saturday before the election day on their desire to vote in the premises for voting;
- 2) upon a decision of the Precinct Election Commission voters who temporarily can not move on their own on the basis of their applications and a respective document confirming their physical condition.
- 4. A voter who temporarily can not move independently is to submit via mail or through other persons an application written by his/her own hand asking to organize mobile voting for him/her stating the place of residence with the attached document confirming the voter's disability to move independently. Such a statement is to be submitted to the Precinct Election Commission not later than at 8 P.M. of the last Friday before the election day.
- 5. The application provided for in part four of this Article means the voter's obligation to provide the conditions for adherence to the voting procedure stipulated in this Code.
- 6. The document provided for in part four of this Article that confirms the fact of the voter's temporary disability to move independently may be, among other things, a certificate of a medical-social expert commission, a hospital or a body (institution) for social protection of population. If necessary, a copy of the document is to be certified by a notary pursuant to the procedure established by law or by the Head, Deputy Head or the Secretary of a Precinct Election Commission and stamped with the Precinct Election Commission seal.
- 7. In special election precincts created in in-patient care establishments, mobile voting is conducted on the basis of a voter's application written by his/her own hand asking to organize mobile voting for him/her due to the confinement to bed. The application is to be certified by the head physician whose signature has to be stamped with the seal of the establishment.
- 8. The voter's application stating his/her desire to take part in mobile voting with the attached document provided for in part six of this Article or a copy thereof is to be registered by the Precinct Election Commission in a separate register indicating the day and time of arrival of the request, family name, first name and patronymic, residence address (place of

temporary residence) as well as the way of submission of the application; when submitted by a certain individual – the family name, first name and patronymic of such individual are to be indicated as well as the document that confirms these data.

- 9. A Precinct Election Commission may examine the grounds for organizing mobile voting by visiting the voter at the indicated address by the commission member (members).
- 10. When a voter is included in the excerpt from the Voter List for mobile voting, the Secretary of the Precinct Election Commission puts a note "Mobile voting" in the column "Voter's signature".

#### **Article 233. Morning Preparatory Meeting of Precinct Election Commission**

- 1. A Precinct Election Commission on the election day but not earlier than forty-five minutes before the start of voting is to hold a preparatory meeting. The meeting is to start in the premises where the ballot papers are stored.
- 2. At the beginning of the meeting, commission members and other persons who have the right to be present at the commission meeting examine the safe (the metal case) where the ballot papers are stored and check the authenticity and integrity of the tape that sealed the safe (the metal case).
- 3. When during the examination damage of the safe (the metal case) where the ballot papers are stored was found or violation of integrity of the tape that sealed the safe (the metal case), or a discrepancy between the signatures and the seal with the signatures and the seal put during the commission meeting at which the ballot papers were accepted as provided for in Article 226 of this Code, or when the ballot papers were amended as provided for in Article 228 of this Code, the Head of the Precinct Election Commission is to immediately notify the respective law enforcement body of Ukraine and the District Election Commission thereon. After it, the Head of the commission is to immediately open the safe (the metal case) and take out the available ballot papers from it. Members of the Precinct Election Commission and the number (numbers) of the territorial (single-mandate, multiple mandate) election district (constituencies), and the presence of the seal of the Precinct Election Commission. After it, they are to count the ballot papers according to the procedure provided for in part three Article 226 of this Code.
- 4. The Precinct Election Commission then draws an act in the form and pursuant to the procedure provided for in part ten Article 115 of this Code on the signs of opening of the safe (the metal case) and on the number of ballot papers established after re-counting of the ballot papers. The number of ballot papers found in the safe (the metal case) is also to be entered in the minutes of the election commission meeting.
- 5. When there is a discrepancy between the established number and the number of ballot papers indicated in the excerpt from the protocol of the District (Territorial) Election Commission provided for in part six Article 225 of this Code, or in the act on discrepancy provided for in part five Article 226 of this Code, the number of lost or excessive ballot papers is to be stated in the act provided for in part four of this Article. Such act is to be drawn in the form and pursuant to the procedure provided for in part ten Article 115 of this Code.
- 6. In the event provided for in part five of this Article, the number of ballot papers established after the re-counting is to be considered the number of ballot papers received by the Precinct Election Commission.
- 7. When the safe (the metal case) and the tape that sealed the safe (the metal case) are not damaged and the tape has the respective signatures and the seal, the safe (the metal case) with the ballot papers is opened. The Head of the Precinct Election Commission on the grounds of the excerpt from the protocol of the District (Territorial) Election Commission provided for in part six Article 225 of this Code or the act on discrepancy provided for in part five Article 226 of this Code is to announce the number of ballot papers received by the Precinct Election Commission. This number is entered in the minutes of the commission meeting.

- 8. The Secretary of the Precinct Election Commission enters the number of ballot papers received by the Precinct Election Commission established as provided for in parts six or seven of this Article in the vote counting protocol of the Precinct Election Commission.
- 9. The Head of the Precinct Election Commission transfers the necessary number of ballot papers to members of the Precinct Election Commission who will issue ballot papers to voters in the premises for voting and who will organize mobile voting according to the distribution of responsibilities provided for in Article 231 of this Code. The transfer of ballot papers is to be registered in the register in the form determined by the Central Election Commission. The aforementioned commission members confirm the receipt of ballot papers by putting their signatures in the register and are to ensure their preservation and adherence to the procedure of issuance of ballot papers to the voters according to the this Code. There may be not a single ballot paper left in the safe (the metal case).
- 10. The Head of the Precinct Election Commission transfers the sheets of the Voter List, including the lists for voting using the absentee voting certificates to the Precinct Election Commission members responsible for work with the voters list on the election day according to the distribution of responsibilities provided for in Article 231 of this Code. The respective commission members are to ensure their preservation and adherence to the procedure for the use thereof according to this Code.
- 11. After performance of actions provided from in parts two ten of this Article, the meeting of the Precinct Election Commission continues in the premises for voting.
- 12. The Head of the Precinct Election Commission is to give all the ballot boxes available at the polling station for examination to members of the Precinct Election Commission, the present candidates, their proxies, authorized representatives of parties (organizations of parties), official observers and representatives of the mass media in turn announcing the number of each box. After examination of each ballot box, it is to be sealed with a special numbered seal. The Head of the commission announces the number of such box and the number of the seal that is entered in the minutes of the commission meeting. In a special election precinct created on a ship sailing under the National Flag of Ukraine on the election day, on the polar station of Ukraine, ballot boxes are to be sealed with a paper tape with the Precinct Election Commission stamp.
- 13. After the ballot box has been sealed (stamped) a check list is put into it stating the number of the election precinct, the number of the ballot box, the time of putting the check list into the ballot box with the signatures of all members of the Precinct Election Commission present at the meeting and of the present candidates, their proxies, authorized representatives of parties (organizations of parties) and official observers should they wish so. The signatures are to be stamped with the Precinct Election Commission seal.
- 14. After the check list has been put into a ballot box, the Head of the commission gives the next ballot box for inspection and performs the actions provided for in parts twelve and thirteen of this Article.
- 15. After the last ballot box has been sealed or stamped and the check list has been put into it, and after the stationary (large) boxes have been installed in the places designated for them, the premises for voting are ready for the conduct of voting. Mobile (small) ballot boxes are placed in the premises for voting with the holes for ballot papers down within the eyeshot of members of the Precinct Election Commission and other persons present during the voting pursuant to the provisions of this Law.

### **Article 234. Morning Notification of Election Commissions**

- 1. Before the start of voting, a Precinct Election Commission informs the District (Territorial) Election Commission on:
- 1) the number of voters included in the Voter List for voting in the election precinct as of the moment of the start of voting;
  - 2) the number of voters in the excerpt from the Voter List for mobile voting;
- 3) the number of voters included in the Voter List for voting using absentee voting certificates (for election precincts designated for voting using absentee voting certificates).

- 2. The number of voters provided for in clause 3 part one of this Article is announced by the Head of the commission and entered by the Secretary of the commission in the vote counting protocol of the Precinct Election Commission.
- 3. For the nationwide elections, the District Election Commission forwards the aforementioned data generalized for the given territorial election district to the Central Election Commission through the computerized information analytical system and via telegraph (teletype) not later than 10 A.M. of the election day.
- 4. The Central Election Commission immediately after the receipt of these data is to post them on its official web-site and to publish them in the printed mass media not later than on the day following the election day.
- 5. On local elections, the main election commission not later than 10 A.M. of the respective election day is to publish the received data provided for in part one of this Article generalized for the respective administrative territorial unit according to the procedure stipulated in this Code.

#### **Article 235. Organization of Voters' Voting in Election Precinct**

- 1. The voting is held on the election day from 8 A.M. to 9 P.M. In out-of-country election precincts, voting is held according to the local time of the states where such election precincts are created.
- 2. During the period provided for in part one of this Article, it is disallowed to interrupt the voting or involve members of the Precinct Election Commission in activities not provided for in this Article or Articles 236 and 237 of this Code.
- 3. The Precinct Election Commission is responsible for organization of the conduct of voting and preservation of proper order in the premises for voting, ensuring the presence of stands with the necessary information material in the voting cabins in cases provided for in this Code as well as creation of the necessary conditions to ensure secrecy of expression of voters' will during the voting.
- 4. When a voter violates the public order or commits another breach of law in the voting cabin, which entails punishment provided for by law, the Head or the Deputy Head of the Precinct Election Commission have the right to invite a representative of the police to the premises for voting who is to remove the violator from the premises for voting and take the measures provided for by law outside the premises for voting. The presence of a representative of the police in the premises for voting in other cases is prohibited.
- 5. When a ballot box is damaged during the voting, it is to be sealed by the Head of the commission and minimum three commission members representing different subjects that nominated them in a way that makes it impossible to put ballot papers into the box or take them out of it. Such ballot box is then kept in the premises for voting within the eyeshot of the commission members and other persons present at the polling station during the voting according to this Law and may not be used until the end of the voting.
- 6. At 9 P.M. the Head of the Precinct Election Commission announces the end of voting, after which only the voters present in the premises for voting have the right to vote. The voting may not continue after the time determined in this Code. After the last voter has left the premises for voting, the premises are closed and only members of the Precinct Election Commission and the persons who pursuant to this Code have the right to be present during the final meeting of the Precinct Election Commission may stay in the premises for voting.
- 7. In an election precinct on a ship sailing under the National Flag of Ukraine on the election day, on the polar station of Ukraine, the Precinct Election Commission may announce the voting finished before the time determined in part one of this Article when all the voters included in the Voter List for voting at such election precinct have voted.

#### Article 236. Procedure for Issuance of Ballot Paper to Voter

1. During the conduct of voting in an election precinct, two members of the Precinct Election Commission are to provide the voter with an opportunity to vote pursuant to the procedure stipulated in parts two – five of this Article.

- 2. A voter shows to a respective members of the Precinct Election Commission authorized pursuant to part one Article 231 of this Code to work with the Voter List one of the documents provided for in parts two five Article 10 of this Code. The commission members checks whether the voter is included in the Voter List and if he/she is, gives the list to the voter to sign.
- 3. A member of the Precinct Election Commission authorized pursuant to part one Article 231 of this Code to issue ballot papers to the voters, puts down his/her name, signs at the designated place on the ballot papers and the voucher, and puts the number, under which the voter is included in the Voter List in the election precinct.
- 4. The voter signs the Voter List to confirm the receipt of the ballot paper and puts his/her signature at the designated place on the voucher of the ballot paper.
- 5. The Precinct Election Commission member separates the voucher from the ballot paper and issues the ballot paper to the voter for voting. The voucher is kept by the commission member who issued the ballot paper. It is disallowed to put any marks on ballot papers.

### Article 237. Procedure for Voting by Voter

- 1. A voter may stay in the premises for voting only during the time necessary for the voting.
- 2. The ballot paper is to be filled out only by the voter personally in the cabin for secret voting. Other persons may not be present in the cabin for secret voting when the voter fills out the ballot paper.
- 3. A voter who, due physical disability, may not fill out the ballot paper independently has the right to ask permission from the Head of the commission or another commission member to use assistance of another voter except for a commission member, a candidate, a proxy or an authorized representative, or an official observer.
- 4. A voter may not transfer his/her ballot paper to other persons. Receipt of a ballot paper from other persons (other than an authorized commission member issuing the ballot papers), encouragement or coercion of voters to transfer their ballot papers to other persons by means of bribery, threats or other ways are prohibited.
- 5. The procedure for filling out the ballot papers by a voter is determined by this Code for each type of elections.
- 6. The voter personally puts the filled out ballot paper in the ballot box. The voter who due to some physical disabilities may not put the ballot paper in the ballot box independently may ask permission from the Head of the commission or another commission member to have another person do it for his/her except for a commission member, a candidate, his/her proxy, an authorized representative of a party (organization of parties) or an official observer.
- 7. When a voter makes a mistake while filling out the ballot paper, he/she has a right to immediately submit a written request to a commission member asking for another ballot paper. A commission member issues another ballot paper to the voter pursuant to the procedure provided for in Article 236 of this Code only in exchange for the unused ballot paper with a mistake. The commission member is to put a respective note in the Voter List next to the name of the respective voter and certify it with his/her signature.
- 8. The returned ballot paper is to be immediately invalidated by the commission member who issued it as unused and a respective act is drawn thereon in the form determined by the Central Election Commission. The act is to be signed by two members of the Precinct Election Commission who issued by ballot paper and by the voter who spoiled the ballot paper, and is to be attached to the Voter List. The invalidated ballot paper together with the separated voucher is kept till the counting of votes by the commission member who issued the ballot paper. During the counting of votes, this ballot paper is counted as unused and packed together with the voucher in the package with unused ballot papers pursuant to part seven Article 242 of this Code.
- 9. A new ballot paper may be issued instead of a spoiled ballot paper to one and the same voter only once.

- 1. Mobile voting is organized in such a way that the commission members who organize such voting return to the premises for voting not later than one hour before the end of voting provided for in part one Article 235 of this Code.
- 2. Mobile voting is organized on the election day by members of the Precinct Election Commission identified by the commission decision pursuant to parts two and three Article 231 of this Code.
- 3. The Head of The Precinct Election Commission announces the departure of members of the Precinct Election Commission for organizing mobile voting.
- 4. The Head of the Precinct Election Commission after the announcement provided for in part three of this Article is to give an excerpt from the Voter List to the identified members of the Precinct Election Commission compiled as provided for in part two Article 232 of this Code and announced the number of voters included in the excerpt from the list.
- 5. The Head of the Precinct Election Commission gives to the commission members who organize mobile voting a sealed mobile ballot box, into which the second check list is put. The check list is to contain the number of the ballot box, the time of departure (hour and minutes) of the commission members for organizing mobile voting, the number of ballot papers they received, family names of the commission members conducting mobile voting, including the commission member who received the ballot papers. The check list is to be signed by the present commission members and by the candidates, their proxies, authorized representatives of parties (organizations of parties), official observers should they wish so; their signatures are stamped with the commission seal.
- 6. In cases provided for in this Code, the commission members receive copies of information materials placed on the stands in voting cabins.
- 7. During the mobile voting, candidates, their proxies, authorized representatives of parties (organizations of parties), and official observers may be present.
- 8. A voter or his/her family members may not refuse to let in the commission members who conduct the voting and the persons mentioned in part seven of this Article be present during the voting. When he/she refuses to let the aforementioned persons to enter the room where the voter stays, members of the Precinct Election Commission can not allow the voter to take part in mobile voting.
- 9. A member of the Precinct Election Commission, on the grounds of the excerpt from the Voter List and after the voter has presented one of the documents listed in part two Article 10 of this Code, issues one ballot paper to the voter. The Precinct Election Commission member puts down his/her name and signs at the designated place on the ballot paper and the voucher and puts the number under which the voter is included in the Voter List on the voucher.
- 10. The voter signs the voucher of the ballot paper and the excerpt from the Voter List. A member of the Precinct Election Commission issues a ballot paper to the voter. In cases provided for in this Code, a commission member gives the information materials provided for in part six of this Article to the voter for information.
- 11. The voter fills out the ballot paper and puts it into the mobile ballot box. A member of the voter's family or a person who takes care of him/her has the right to be present during the voting, assist the voter to fill out the ballot paper and put it into the ballot box when the voter due to physical disability or state of health is unable to perform these actions independently.
- 12. After the mobile voting and the return of commission members to the premises for voting, the member of the Precinct Election Commission who issued a ballot paper to the voter is to put down "Took part in mobile voting" next to the voter's name in the Voter List, his/her name and signature.
- 13. When a voter included in the excerpt from the Voter List for mobile voting came to the premises for voting after the commission members left for organization of mobile voting, a ballot paper may not be issued to such voter until the commission members organizing mobile voting return and it is clear whether such voter took part in mobile voting. When after the return of such commission members it is established that the voter did not take part in mobile voting, he/she may vote pursuant to the procedure provided for in Articles 236 and

237 of this Code. The voter signs the Voter List at the place for the notes provided for in part twelve of this Article. An act is to be drawn on the issuance of a ballot paper to such voter in the form determined by the Central Election Commission that is to be signed by the voter, the Head or Deputy Head of the commission, one of the commission members who organized mobile voting, and the commission member who issued a ballot paper to the voter. This act is to be attached to the Voter List.

- 14. The excerpt from the Voter List used to organize mobile voting is attached to the Voter List and is an integral part thereof. Written applications of the voters together with the documents confirming their disability to move independently or copies thereof are also attached to the Voter List.
  - 15. The provisions of this Article are not applied in out-of-country election precincts.

### **Article 239. Evening Notification of Election Commissions**

- 1. Immediately after the end of voting, a Precinct Election Commission is to submit to the District (Territorial) Election Commission the preliminary data on:
- 1) the number of voters included in the Voter List for voting in the election precinct as of the moment of the end of voting;
- 2) the number of voters who received ballot papers in the premises for voting, as of the moment of the end of voting;
  - 3) the number of voters who received ballot papers during mobile voting;
- 4) the number of voters who received ballot papers on the basis of absentee voting certificates (for the polling stations designated for voting using absentee voting certificates).
- 2. A Precinct Election Commission of a special precinct created on a ship sailing under the National Flag of Ukraine on the election day, on the polar station of Ukraine is to submit the preliminary data provided for in clauses 1 and 2 part one of this Article by technical means of communication to the respective District Election Commission immediately after the end of voting.
- 3. A Precinct Election Commission of an out-of-country election precinct is to submit the preliminary data provided for in clauses 1, 2, and 4 part one of this Article by technical means of communication to the Central Election Commission immediately after the end of voting.
- 4. For the nationwide elections, the District Election Commission forwards the aforementioned data generalized for the territorial election district to the Central Election Commission through the computerized information analytical system and via telegraph (teletype) not later than 11 P.M. of the election day.
- 5. The Central Election Commission posts the aforementioned data on its official website immediacy after the receipt and publishes them in the printed mass media not later than on the day following the election day.
- 6. On local elections, the main election commission not later than the next day after the respective local election day is to publish the received data provided for in part one of this Article generalized for the respective administrative territorial unit pursuant to the procedure stipulated by this Code.

## Section XX. COUNTING OF VOTES AND ESTABLISHMENT OF RESULTS OF VOTING

## Article 240. Final Meeting of Precinct Election Commission

- 1. The final meeting of the Precinct Election Commission starts after the end of voting at the polling station and transmission of the notice provided for in part one Article 239 of this Code. The meeting is to be held in the same premises where the voting took place. The final meeting may not be interrupted and is finished after all copies of the vote counting protocol of the Precinct Election Commission have been drawn, signed and packed as provided for in part nine Article 247 of this Code and the copies of the protocol have been handed out as provided for in part eleven Article 247 of this Code.
- 2. When simultaneously with the nationwide elections local elections or a referendum are held, the votes cast during the local elections or the referendum are counted after the vote counting protocol of the Precinct Election Commission for the nationwide elections has

been drawn and signed pursuant to the established procedure at the same meeting of the Precinct Election Commission. Packages with the protocol and other election documents till the end of the meeting of the Precinct Election Commission are to be kept in the premises where the meeting is held within the eyeshot of the commission members and the persons present at the commission meeting.

- 3. For the time of conduct of the final meeting, the Precinct Election Commission is to adopt a protocol decision charging the Deputy Head of the commission or another commission member with keeping the minutes. The Secretary of the commission at this meeting is to enter the data in the vote counting protocol of the Precinct Election Commission.
- 4. When during the conduct of voting the Precinct Election Commission received statements or complaints against the violations committed during the voting at the polling station, the Precinct Election Commission is to consider them at the beginning of the meeting before the counting of votes in the election precinct.
- 5. The votes cast in the election precinct are to be counted openly and transparently exclusively by the members of the Precinct Election Commission. The counting of votes in the election precinct is to take place in the order provided for in Articles 241–244 of this Code.
- 6. The votes cast in the election precinct created on a ship sailing under the National Flag of Ukraine on the election day, on the polar station of Ukraine are counted pursuant to the procedure provided for in this Code immediately after the announcement of the end of voting and transmission of the notice provided for in part two Article 239 of this Code.
- 7. The Precinct Election Commission while counting the votes is to keep the vote counting protocol of the Precinct Election Commission. All data established during the counting of votes are entered in the protocol in words and in figures.
- 8. The Precinct Election Commission packs the processed election documents in paper packages. A package with election documents is glued. The date and the type of the elections, the type of the packed documents and the number of the respective election district or the marking of the out-of-country election precinct, the number of the election precinct, the date and time of packing are to be indicated on the package and signed by all the Precinct Election Commission members present at the meeting, and stamped with the commission seal.

#### Article 241. Work with Voter List and Excerpt from Voter List

- 1. Each member of the Precinct Election Commission responsible for work with the Voter List counts and indicates on every sheet of the Voter List he/she received the following data separately for each sheet:
- 1) the number of voters included in the Voter List as of the moment of the end of voting;
- 2) the number of voters who received ballot papers in the premises for voting (according to the signatures in the Voter List);
- 3) the number of voters who received ballot papers during mobile voting (according to the note "Took part in mobile voting" in the Voter List).
- 2. After the data provided for in part one of this Article have been entered, the member of the Precinct Election Commission signs every sheet of the Voter List, sums up the respective figures on all the sheets of the Voter List he/she received and hands in the sheets and the summarized figures to the Head of the commission. The aforementioned summarized figures are entered in the register provided for in part nine Article 233 of this Code. The Head and the Secretary of the Precinct Election Commission sum up these figures for the election precinct. The Head of the commission announces the figures and puts them down on the last page of the Voter List.
- 3. The Voter List in an out-of-country election precinct after the end of voting is to be closed by crossing out the empty columns in the Voter List designated for entering the voters' names in the way that makes it impossible to add any more voters to the list, signed by the Head and the Secretary of the Precinct Election Commission and stamped with the Precinct Election Commission seal.

- 4. Based on the Voter List, the Precinct Election Commission establishes the number of voters in the election precinct. This number is announced by the Head of the commission and put down by the Secretary of the commission in the vote counting protocol of the Precinct Election Commission.
- 5. By comparing the Voter List and the excerpt from the Voter List, the Precinct Election Commission establishes the number of voters in the election precinct who were included in the excerpt from the Voter List for mobile voting. This number is announced and put down by the Secretary of the commission in the vote counting protocol of the Precinct Election Commission.
- 6. The Precinct Election Commission counts the number of voters who received ballot papers in the premises for voting according to the voters' signatures in the Voter List. This number is announced and put down by the Secretary of the commission in the vote counting protocol of the Precinct Election Commission as the number of voters who received ballot papers in the premises for voting.
- 7. The Precinct Election Commission counts the number of voters who received ballot papers during mobile voting according to the note "Took part in mobile voting" in the Voter List and signatures in the excerpt from the Voter List. This number is announced and put down by the Secretary of the commission in the vote counting protocol of the Precinct Election Commission as the number of voters who took part in mobile voting.
- 8. The Precinct Election Commission of the polling station designated for voting using absentee voting certificates counts the number of voters who received ballot papers on the grounds of absentee voting certificates according to signatures in the Voter List for voting using absentee voting certificates. This number is announced and put down by the Secretary of the commission in the vote counting protocol of the Precinct Election Commission as the number of voters who received ballot papers for voting using absentee voting certificates.
- 9. The Voter List with the attached excerpt from the Voter List for mobile voting, voters' applications with the copies of respective documents, on the basis of which the excerpt from the Voter List was compiled, the Voter List for voting using absentee voting certificates, absentee voting certificates, on the basis of which the voters were included in the Voter List on the election day in out-of-country election precincts as provided for in part two Article 178 of this Code are packed pursuant to the procedure provided for in part eight Article 240 of this Code. The package is to be marked as "Voter List".

### Article 242. Work with Unused Ballot Papers and Vouchers

- 1. Members of the Precinct Election Commission, except for the Head of the commission, the member of the Precinct Election Commission keeping the minutes of the commission meeting, and the Secretary of the commission who enters the figures in the vote counting protocol of the Precinct Election Commission, from the moment of start of their work with ballot papers during the counting of votes may not use pens or any other writing means.
- 2. Members of the Precinct Election Commission who received ballot papers as provided for in part nine Article 233 of this Code in turns count aloud their remaining unused ballot papers together with the returned ballot papers provided for in part eight Article 237 of this Code.
- 3. The sum of the number of ballot papers issued by the said commission member to voters (according to the number of voters' signatures in the respective Voter List provided for in clause 2 part one Article 241 of this Code) and the number of ballot papers that remained unused by the commission member should be equal to the number of ballot papers received by the commission member according to the register of issuance of ballot papers provided for in part nine Article 233 of this Code. When these numbers correspond, the member of the Precinct Election Commission transfers the counted unused ballot papers to the Head of the Precinct Election Commission. The Head of the Precinct Election Commission puts down the number of unused ballot papers returned by the commission member in the register of issuance of ballot papers.

- 4. When there is a discrepancy in the numbers provided for in part three of this Article, the Precinct Election Commission is to draw an act pursuant to the procedure provided for in part ten Article 115 of this Code stating the possible reason of such discrepancy.
- 5. The Head of the Precinct Election Commission sums up the number of unused ballot papers and announces it. The announced number of unused ballot papers is entered by the Secretary of the Precinct Election Commission in the vote counting protocol of the Precinct Election Commission.
- 6. If necessary or upon request of a commission member, the unused ballot papers may be re-counted. The counting of ballot papers is done pursuant to the procedure provided for in part three Article 226 of this Code.
- 7. Unused ballot papers are invalidated by cutting off the bottom right corner of the ballot paper. The invalidated ballot papers together with the ballot papers provided for in part eight Article 237 of this Code are packed pursuant to the procedure provided for in part eight Article 240 of this Code. The package is to be marked as "Unused ballot papers'.
- 8. Members of the Precinct Election Commission who issued ballot papers to the voters in turns count aloud the vouchers of the issued ballot papers. The member of the Precinct Election Commission then hands in the counted vouchers to the Head of the commission. The Head of the Precinct Election Commission puts down the number of vouchers of the issued ballot papers in the register of the issued ballot papers.
- 9. The Head of the commission sums up the total number of vouchers of the issued ballot papers and announces it.
- 10. The Precinct Election Commission checks whether the total number of the issued ballot papers provided for in part nine of this Article coincides with the sum of numbers provided for in parts six and seven (for polling stations designated for voting using absentee voting certificates also in part eight) Article 241 of this Code.
- 11. If necessary or upon request of a commission member, vouchers of the issued ballot papers may be re-counted. The counting of vouchers of the issued ballot papers is done pursuant to the procedure provided for in part three Article 226 of this Code.
- 12. When there is no discrepancy in the numbers provided for in part ten of this Article, the Head of the Precinct Election Commission announces it as the number of voters who received ballot papers at the polling station. The Secretary of the Precinct Election Commission enters this number in the vote counting protocol of the Precinct Election Commission.
- 13. When there is a discrepancy in the number provided for in part ten of this Article, the Precinct Election Commission is to draw an act thereon pursuant to the procedure provided for in part ten Article 115 of this Code. After it, the Precinct Election Commission adopts a protocol decision on establishing the number of voters who received ballot papers. This number is announced and entered in the vote counting protocol of the Precinct Election Commission.
- 14. Vouchers of the issued ballot papers are packed pursuant to the procedure provided for in part eight Article 240 of this Code. The package is to be marked "Vouchers".
- 15. The Precinct Election Commission checks whether the number of ballot papers received by the Precinct Election Commission coincides with the sum of the unused ballot papers and the number of voters who received ballot papers. When there is a discrepancy in these figures, the Precinct Election Commission draws an act thereon pursuant to the procedure provided for in part ten Article 115 of this Code stating the reason of such discrepancy established by the commission decision.
- 16. Packages with the documents provided for in part nine Article 241 of this Code, parts seven and fourteen of this Article are kept until the end of the meeting in the premises for voting within the eyeshot of the commission members and the persons present at the meeting.

#### **Article 243. Procedure for Opening Ballot Boxes**

1. After performance of actions provided for in Article 242 of this Code, the Precinct Election Commission checks the integrity of seals or stamps on the ballot boxes.

- 2. When it discovers that seals or stamps were damaged or that there are other damages violating the integrity of a ballot box, the Precinct Election Commission is to draw an act thereon in the form and pursuant to the procedure provided for in part ten Article 115 of this Code stating the nature of the discovered damages.
- 3. The Precinct Election Commission opens the ballot boxes one by one. The first to be opened are the mobile ballot boxes that were used to organize mobile voting and the last if available the ballot boxes with damaged seals or stamps and other damages discovered during the voting.
- 4. After an undamaged ballot box has been opened, its contents are emptied on the table at which members of the Precinct Election Commission are sitting. After it, the presence of the check list in the ballot box is to be confirmed (in a mobile ballot box two check lists).
- 5. Ballot papers from a damaged ballot box are to be taken out one by one without mixing. The Precinct Election Commission counts the number of ballot papers in the ballot box. The presence of the check list in the ballot box is to be confirmed that is to be taken out the last (in a mobile ballot box two check lists).
- 6. The total number of ballot boxes in each ballot box is counted separately. The voting results of voting for each individual ballot box are not counted. The ballot papers are counted pursuant to the procedure provided for in part three Article 226 of this Code.
- 7. All items found in the ballot boxes other than ballot papers are put separately and not counted. The items include check lists. When there are doubts whether to consider an item to be a ballot papers, the Precinct Election Commission is to decide it by voting. Each commission member has the right to examine the item. For the time of such examination, the counting of ballot papers is suspended. Items that are not ballot papers are packed pursuant to the procedure provided for in part eight Article 240 of this Code. The package is marked as "Items".
- 8. When after the mobile ballot box is opened, more ballot papers are found in it than it is stated in the check list for this ballot box, the Precinct Election Commission draws an act on such discrepancy in the form and pursuant to the procedure provided for in part ten Article 115 of this Code, in which it states the number of ballot papers in such ballot box and the names of Precinct Election Commission members whose signatures are on these ballot papers.
- 9. While drawing the act provided for in part eight of this Article, the commission is to check whether the ballot papers found in the mobile ballot box have the numbers of the receptive territorial (single-mandate, multiple mandate) election district and the respective election precinct, the seal of the respective Precinct Election Commission, names and signatures of members of the receptive Precinct Election Commission who organized mobile voting. The ballot papers with improper characteristics are not to be counted during the counting of voters who participated in the voting and during the counting of votes. If, after separation of such ballot papers from the ballot papers that shall be counted the discrepancy provided for in part eight of this Article is eliminated, the ballot papers with proper characteristics are counted to establish the total number of voters who took part in the voting and during the counting of votes cast in the election precinct. When there are no ballot papers with improper characteristics or their separation from the ballot papers that shall be counted does not eliminate the discrepancy provided for in part eight of this Article, all ballot papers from the mobile ballot box are not counted to establish the total number of voters who took part in the voting and during the counting of votes.
- 10. When there is no check list in a ballot box (two check lists in a mobile ballot box) the Precinct Election Commission is to draw an act on the absence of the check list (check lists) in a ballot box in the form and pursuant to the procedure provided for in part ten Article 115 of this Code stating the number of ballot papers in such ballot box. These ballot papers are not to be counted to establish the number of voters who took part in the voting and during the counting of votes.
- 11. When the commission members have doubts as to the authenticity of the check list and in other doubtful situations provided for in part eight and ten of this Article, the Precinct Election Commission is to vote on a decision whether to consider the ballot papers in the

ballot box as such that are not to be counted to establish the number of voters who took part in the voting and during the counting of votes. A respective decision and the results of voting are entered in the minutes of the commission meeting.

- 12. The number of ballot papers in each ballot box except for the items and ballot papers that shall not be counted as well as the number of the respective ballot box are announced and entered in the vote counting protocol of the Precinct Election Commission. After opening of the last ballot box, the total number of ballot papers in the boxes is summed up. The summarized number of ballot papers is the number of voters who took part in the voting. This number is to be announced by the Head of the Precinct Election Commission and entered by the Secretary of the Precinct Election Commission in the vote counting protocol of the Precinct Election Commission.
- 13. The ballot papers with the numbers of the territorial (single-mandate, multiple mandate) election district and (or) the election precinct that do not coincide with the numbers of the respective election precinct of the respective territorial (single-mandate, multiple mandate) election district as well as the ballot papers with no seal of the Precinct Election Commission or with the seal of another Precinct Election Commission or any other seal are considered as such that are not to be counted to establish the number of voters who took part in the voting and during the counting of votes.
- 14. Ballot papers that shall not be counted pursuant to parts nine, ten, eleven and thirteen of this Article to establish the number of voters who took part in the voting and during the counting of votes are counted and entered in the vote counting protocol of the Precinct Election Commission and packed pursuant to the procedure provided for in part eight Article 240 of this Code. The package is to be marked as "Ballot papers that shall not be counted".

#### Article 244. Procedure for Counting of Votes in Election Precinct

- 1. Ballot papers that shall be counted are sorted into places labeled with special tables according to the candidates or subjects that nominated them according to the procedure stipulated in this Code for the respective type of elections and the table "Invalid".
- 2. When sorting the ballot papers, the commission member identified by the Precinct Election Commission shows every ballot to all commission members announcing the result of the expression of the voter's will.
  - 3. A ballot paper is considered invalid when:
- 1) it has no name and (or) no signature of the commission member who issued it or it has the signature of a person who did not issue ballot papers in this election precinct;
  - 2) the voucher of the ballot paper was not separated;
- 3) the rules of filling out the ballot paper established in this Code for the receptive type of elections were violated in the way that makes it impossible to establish the contents of the expression of the voter's will;
- 4) it is impossible due to other reasons to establish the contents of the expression of the voter's will for support of the election list of a certain political party.
- 4. When the commission members have doubts as to the validity of the ballot paper or the contents of the expression of the voter's will, the Precinct Election Commission puts this issue to vote. Before voting, each commission member may personally examine the ballot paper. For the time of examination of the ballot paper and the voting, the work with other ballot papers is suspended. A respective protocol decision and the results of voting are entered in the minutes of the Precinct Election Commission meeting.
- 5. Invalid ballot papers are counted separately pursuant to the procedure provided for in part three Article 226 of this Code. This number is announced by the Head of the Precinct Election Commission and entered by the Secretary of the Precinct Election Commission in the vote counting protocol of the Precinct Election Commission. Invalid ballot papers are packed pursuant to the procedure provided for in part eight Article 240 of this Code. The package is marked as "Invalid ballot papers".
- 6. The results of voting in the election precinct are established pursuant to the procedure stipulated in this Code for each type of elections.

- 1. The form of the vote counting protocol of the Precinct Election Commission is to be approved by the Central Election Commission not later than twenty days before the election day.
- 2. For the nationwide elections, the Central Election Commission ensures production of forms of the vote counting protocol of the Precinct Election Commission for each election precinct in the amount of 100 copies pursuant to the procedure and within the timelines provided for in Article 222 of this Code for production of ballot papers. The forms of the protocol of Precinct Election Commission are numbered by the manufacturer for each election precinct.
- 3. On local elections, the main election commission on respective local elections ensures production of forms of the vote counting protocol of the Precinct Election Commission for each election precinct in the amount of 100 copies within the timelines provided for in part three or four Article 222 of this Code for production of ballot papers.
- 4. The forms of the vote counting protocol of the Precinct Election Commission are forwarded to the election commissions together with the ballot papers pursuant to the procedure and within the timelines provided for in Articles 225 and 227 of this Code.

### Article 246. Data Entered in Vote Counting Protocol of Precinct Election Commission

- 1. The vote counting protocol of the Precinct Election Commission consists of two parts general and special.
- 2. The general part of the protocol is to contain the following data established by the Precinct Election Commission:
  - 1) the number of ballot papers received by the Precinct Election Commission;
  - 2) the number of ballot papers produced by the Precinct Election Commission;
  - 3) the number of unused ballot papers;
- 4) the number of voters included in the Voter List for voting in the election precinct (as of the moment of the end of voting);
- 5) the number of voters included in the excerpt from the Voter List in the election precinct for mobile voting;
- 6) the number of voters included in the Voter List for voting using absentee voting certificates;
  - 7) the number of voters who received ballot papers in the premises for voting;
  - 8) the number of voters who took part in mobile voting;
- 9) the number of voters who received ballot papers on the grounds of absentee voting certificates:
  - 10) the total number of voters who received ballot papers in the election precinct;
- 11) the number of ballot papers present in each ballot box (stating the number of the box);
  - 12) the number of ballot papers that shall not be counted;
  - 13) the number of voters who took part in voting in the election precinct.
- 3. The vote counting protocol of the Precinct Election Commission for the elections, at which the ballot papers also contain the names of the candidates, in addition to the data provided for in part two of this Article also has to consist the number of spoiled ballot papers.
- 4. The vote counting protocol of the Precinct Election Commission on local elections does not contain the data provided for in clauses 2, 6, and 9 of part two of this Article.
- 5. The data included in the special part of the vote counting protocol of the Precinct Election Commission are stipulated in this Code for each type of elections.

# Article 247. Procedure for Drawing Vote Counting Protocol of Precinct Election Commission

1. The vote counting protocol of the Precinct Election Commission is drawn by the Precinct Election Commission. The number of copies of the protocol should exceed by four the number of members of the Precinct Election Commission. The copies of the protocol are numbered and have equal legal force.

- 2. The first copy of the protocol is drawn during the counting of votes in the election precinct pursuant to the procedure provided for in Articles 241-244 of this Code. Other copies of the protocol are filled out after the first copy of the protocol has been drawn.
- 3. Each copy of the protocol is to be signed by the Head, the Deputy Head, the Secretary and other members of the Precinct Election Commission present at the commission meeting. The vote counting protocol of the Precinct Election Commission is to contain the date and time (hour and minutes) of its signing by the members of the Precinct Election Commission.
- 4. A member of the Precinct Election Commission present at the meeting of the Precinct Election Commission is obliged to sign the vote counting protocol of the Precinct Election Commission. When he/she disagrees with the actions of the Precinct Election Commission during the counting of votes or with the results of the counting of votes entered in the protocol, such commission member signs the protocol with a note "With dissenting opinion". The written statement of the dissenting opinion of the commission member is to be attached to the vote counting protocol of the Precinct Election Commission. When there is no signature of a commission member in the vote counting protocol of the Precinct Election Commission, the reason of the absence of the signature is to be indicated next to his/her name.
- 5. Each copy of the protocol is to be signed and stamped with the seal of the Precinct Election Commission only after it has been completed. It is prohibited to sign the vote counting protocol of the Precinct Election Commission that is not filled out or incomplete.
- 6. The absence of the signature of a commission member in the vote counting protocol of the Precinct Election Commission due to the absence of the commission member or his/her refusal to sign the protocol has no legal effect on the validity of the protocol.
- 7. The candidates, their proxies or authorized representatives, and official observers who were present at the commission meeting during the counting of votes have the right to sign the first and the second copies of the vote counting protocol of the Precinct Election Commission.
- 8. It is disallowed to use a pencil to fill out the vote counting protocol of the Precinct Election Commission or to introduce any amendments to the protocol without a respective decision of the Precinct Election Commission.
- 9. The first and the second copies of the vote counting protocol of the Precinct Election Commission are packed (together with the act provided for in part ten of this Article) into a disposable package with a special protection system pursuant to the procedure provided for in part eight Article 240 of this Code. The package is marked "Vote counting protocol". The third copy of the vote counting protocol of the Precinct Election Commission is kept by the commission secretary, and the fourth copy of the protocol is immediately hung out in the premises of the Precinct Election Commission for general access. The remaining copies of the protocol are handed out to the commission members one copy for each.
- 10. The Precinct Election Commission must hand out immediately to each candidate, the candidate's proxy, an authorized representative of a party (organization of parties) subject of the respective election process who were present during the counting of votes in the election precinct, upon his/her request, copies of the vote counting protocol of the Precinct Election Commission verified by the Head and the Secretary of the Precinct Election Commission and stamped with the commission seal not more than one copy of each protocol for every candidate or party (organizations of parties) –subject of the respective election process.
- 11. An act is to be drawn on handing out of copies of the vote counting protocol of the Precinct Election Commission in the form determined by the Central Election Commission. The act is to contain the list of persons who received the copies of the respective protocol, the candidate or the party (organization of parties) represented by each person who received copies of the protocol, the date and time of handing out of the copies and the signatures of persons who received copies of the protocol. The act is to be signed by the Head and the Secretary of the Precinct Election Commission and stamped with the commission seal. The act is packed together with the first and the second copies of the vote counting protocol of the Precinct Election Commission.

#### Article 248. Corrected Vote Counting Protocol of Precinct Election Commission

- 1. In the event when, after the original vote counting protocol of the Precinct Election Commission provided for in Article 247 of this Code has been signed but not yet packed as provided for in part nine Article 247 of this Code, the Precinct Election Commission finds inaccuracies (a clerical error or a mistake in figures) in it, it is to consider at the same meeting the issue of amending the established results of voting in the election precinct by drawing a new vote counting protocol of the Precinct Election Commission eliminating the inaccuracies. Such protocol is to be marked as "Corrected". No re-counting of ballot papers is required.
- 2. The number of copies of the protocol marked as "Corrected" is provided for in part one Article 247 of this Code, and they are to be signed pursuant to the procedure provided for in parts four eight Article 247 of this Code. Drawing of the protocol marked as "Corrected" is to be mentioned in the minutes of the Precinct Election Commission meeting.
- 3. The Precinct Election Commission may not draw the protocol marked as "Corrected" at another commission meeting without a decision of the District (Territorial) Election Commission as provided for in clause 2 part four Article 251 of this Code.
- 4. The first and the second copies of the protocol marked as "Corrected" are packed together with the first two copies of the original vote counting protocol of the Precinct Election Commission pursuant to the procedure provided for in part nine Article 247 of this Code. The third copy of the vote counting protocol of the Precinct Election Commission marked as "Corrected" is kept by the Secretary of the commission and the fourth is immediately hung out in the premises of the Precinct Election Commission for general access. The remaining copies of the protocol are handed out to the commission members without taking away the copies of the original protocol.
- 5. Copies of the protocol marked as "Corrected" are handed out to the candidates, their proxies, authorized representatives of parties (organizations of parties) subjects of the respective election process, and the official observers who received copies of the original protocol, and a respective note is made in the act on the handing out of copies of the protocol pursuant to the procedure provided for in part eleven Article 244 of this Code.

# Article 249. Recognizing Voting in Election Precinct Invalid by Precinct Election Commission

- 1. The Precinct Election Commission may recognize voting in the election precinct invalid when it has established violations of the requirements of this Code, due to which it is impossible to determine the true results of the expression of voters' will under the following circumstances:
- 1) discovery of the facts of illegal voting (a ballot paper cast into the ballot box for the voter by another person, except for the cases provided for in part six Article 237 of this Code; voting by the persons who have no right to vote; voting by the persons not included in the Voter List in this election precinct or included in it without a sound basis; voting by a voter more than once; mobile voting by a voter not included in the excerpt from the Voter List or included in it with violation of the procedure provided for in Article 232 of this Code; mobile voting with violations of the procedure provided for in part eight Article 238 of this Code) in the amount exceeding ten per cent of the number of voters who received ballot papers in the election precinct;
- 2) destruction or damage of a ballot box (ballot boxes) that makes it impossible to determine the contents of the ballot papers when the number of such ballot papers exceeds twenty per cent of the number of voters who received ballot papers in this election precinct;
- 3) discovery of ballot papers in the ballot boxes in the amount exceeding by ten per cent the number of voters who received ballot papers in this election precinct.
- 2. In each case provided for in part one of this Article, the Precinct Election Commission is to draw an act in the form and pursuant to the procedure provided for in part ten Article 115 of this Code. Such act (acts) as well as the acts drawn by official observers pursuant to the procedure provided for in part three Article 218 of this Code constitute the grounds for consideration by the Precinct Election Commission the issue of recognizing the voting in the election precinct invalid.

- 3. A decision on recognizing the voting in the election precinct invalid by the Precinct Election Commission is adopted in the form of a resolution stating the grounds for such decision.
- 4. When the Precinct Election Commission adopts a decision on recognizing the voting in the election precinct invalid, the vote counting protocol of the Precinct Election Commission is to contain only the data provided for in clauses 1–10, and 12 of part two Article 247 of this Code. The place designated for other data, including the special part of the protocol, is to be crossed. The vote counting protocol of the Precinct Election Commission is drawn by the Precinct Election Commission pursuant to the procedure provided for in Article 247 of this Code.
- 5. When the Precinct Election Commission decides to recognize the voting in the election precinct invalid, the ballot papers are to be packed as provided for in part eight Article 240 of this Code. The package is to be marked as "Ballot papers".
- 6. The excerpt from the minutes of the Precinct Election Commission meeting together with the decision of the commission on recognizing the voting in the election precinct invalid and the act (acts), on the basis of which a respective decision was made, are attached to the first copy of the vote counting protocol of the Precinct Election Commission, packed and transported to the District (Territorial) Election Commission pursuant to the procedure provided for in this Code.
- 7. The special features of application of the requirements provided for in part one of this Article for the individual types of local elections are stipulated by this Code.

# Article 250. Procedure for Transportation of Election Documents to District (Territorial) Election Commission

- 1. Packages with the vote counting protocol of the Precinct Election Commission, vouchers and the items, lists of electors as well as if available the dissenting opinions of the commission members stated in writing, acts, statements, complaints and decisions adopted by the Precinct Election Commission after consideration thereof immediately after the end of the final meeting of the Precinct Election Commission are to be transported to the District (Territorial) Election Commission pursuant to the procedure provided for in this Article with the specific features provided for in this Code for each type of elections.
- 2. Election documents provided for in part one of this Article are transported by members of the Precinct Election Commission of a regular or a special election precinct (except for the special election precincts created on a ship sailing under the National Flag of Ukraine on the election day, on the polar station of Ukraine) representatives of three different subjects that nominated them, namely: by the Head or the Deputy Head of The Precinct Election Commission and two members of this commission representing two subjects who received the majority of votes in their support in this election precinct.
- 3. Upon their desire, other members of the Precinct Election Commission, candidates, their proxies, authorized representatives of parties (organizations of parties) subjects of the respective election process, and official observes may accompany the transported documents. No other persons may accompany transportation of the election documents.
- 4. The transported documents must be accompanied by a representative of the police who is to ensure their security during transportation.
- 5. During transportation of the election documents it is prohibited to unpack the packages with the ballot papers and other election documents.
- 6. When different elections or a referendum are held simultaneously, the election documents related to different elections or the referendum are transported to the respective District Or Territorial Election Commission as provided for in part two of this Article by members of the Precinct Election Commission who do not participate in transportation of the election documents to another election commission.
- 7. When, pursuant to this Code, the election documents from different local elections held simultaneously are to be transported to one Territorial Election Commission, the election documents from different elections are transported to such election commission by the same members of the Precinct Election Commission.

- 8. The Secretary of the Precinct Election Commission and other commission members who do not accompany the election documents transported to the District (Territorial) Election Commission stay in the premises of the Precinct Election Commission until notified that the District (Territorial) Election Commission has accepted the vote counting protocol of the Precinct Election Commission. During transportation of the election documents, the seal of the Precinct Election Commission is to be kept in a safe (a metal case) in the premises of the Precinct Election Commission.
- 9. The contents of the vote counting protocol of the Precinct Election Commission in an out-of-country election precinct and in a special election precinct created on a ship sailing under the National Flag of Ukraine on the election day, on the polar station of Ukraine after the protocol have been signed by the Precinct Election Commission members, are to be immediately transferred by the Precinct Election Commission via the technical means of communication to the Central Election Commission (through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine) or to a respective District Election Commission with the mandatory submission of the first and the second copies of the vote counting protocol of the Precinct Election Commission pursuant to the procedure determined by the Central Election Commission. Other election documents provided for in part one of this Article are to be attached to the protocol.

# Article 251. Procedure for Acceptance and Consideration of Documents of Precinct Election Commissions by District (Territorial) Election Commission

- 1. After the notification provided for in part four Article 239 of this Code has been transmitted to the Central Election Commission, the District (Territorial) Election Commission starts its final meeting that continues till establishment of the results of voting in the territorial election district (administrative territorial unit). During this time, all members of the District (Territorial) Election Commission may not be involved in performance of other functions other than participation in the election commission meeting.
- 2. During the meeting of the District (Territorial) Election Commission provided for in part one of this Article, the Head of the District (Territorial) Election Commission receives the sealed packages with the protocols of Precinct Election Commission, unpacks them and announces the contents of the vote counting protocol of the Precinct Election Commission in the respective election precincts; the commission chair also receives the sealed packages with other election documents provided for in part one article 250 of this Code. The time of the receipt of the vote counting protocol of the Precinct Election Commission by the District (Territorial) Election Commission, the list of the received election documents and the data entered in the vote counting protocol of the Precinct Election Commission are entered in the minutes of the meeting of the District (Territorial) Election Commission.
- 3. When receiving the documents of a Precinct Election Commission, the District (Territorial) Election Commission is to examine the completeness of the documents of a Precinct Election Commission and the integrity of all packages with the election documents. Each commission member has the right to examine any package with the documents. When all election documents are present and all packages are intact, the Head of the District (Territorial) Election Commission opens the package with the vote counting protocol of the Precinct Election Commission and announces the data stated in it.
- 4. When the District (Territorial) Election Commission before the end of the receipt of documents from a Precinct Election Commission receives statements or complaints against violations of this Code committed during the conduct of voting and the counting of votes in the receptive election precinct as well as during transportation of the election documents, the District (Territorial) Election Commission must consider such statements and complaints before it adopts one of the decisions on the respective election precinct as provided for in part five of this Article and decide on each statement or complaint on the basis of the results of such consideration.
- 5. Based on the results of consideration of the documents of a Precinct Election Commission, statements and complaints provided for in part four of this Article, the District (Territorial) Election Commission adopts one of the following decisions:
- 1) to accept the election documents from the Precinct Election Commission and to count the data of the vote counting protocol of the Precinct Election Commission for

establishing the results of voting in the territorial election district (administrative territorial unit):

- 2) to refuse (stating the grounds) to accept the election documents from the Precinct Election Commission and to oblige the Precinct Election Commission to remove the discovered shortcomings by drawing the protocol marked as "Corrected' without re-counting of votes:
- 3) to re-count the votes in the election precinct pursuant to the procedure provided for in Article 252 of this Code.
- 6. A protocol decision provided for in part five of this Article is to be adopted after voting of all members of the District (Territorial) Election Commission by the majority of the general membership of the commission and put down in the minutes of the election commission meeting.
- 7. The protocol vote counting protocol of the Precinct Election Commission is considered by the District Election Commission after it has been announced. When corrections, mistakes or inaccuracies were found in the vote counting protocol of the Precinct Election Commission that can be eliminated without re-counting of votes, the District (Territorial) Election Commission adopts a decision provided for in clause 2 part five of this Article. During the time necessary for the Precinct Election Commission to implement this decision, copies of the vote counting protocol of the Precinct Election Commission and the attached election documents that were submitted to the District (Territorial) Election Commission stay in the District (Territorial) Election Commission.
- 8. Within the time determined by the District (Territorial) Election Commission, the Precinct Election Commission is to consider at it meeting the issue of correcting the protocol without re-counting of ballot papers. The protocol marked as "Corrected" drawn and signed as provided for in Article 248 of this Code is to be transported to the District (Territorial) Election Commission pursuant to the procedure provided for in Article 250 of this Code. The time of the receipt of the protocol of the Precinct Election Commission marked as "Corrected" by the District (Territorial) Election Commission and the figures contained in the protocol are entered in the minutes of the meeting of the District (Territorial) Election Commission.
- 9. When there are complaints confirmed by the duly drawn acts provided for in part three Article 218 of this Code on violations of the requirements of this Code during the voting and (or) the counting of votes in the election precinct that discredit the results of the counting of votes in such election precinct, and when there are acts or written complaints submitted by the persons provided for in part four Article 251 of this Code violations of the requirements of this Code during the transportation of the vote counting protocol of the Precinct Election Commission and other documents to the District (Territorial) Election Commission, the District (Territorial) Election Commission may adopt a decision provided for in clause 3 part five of this Article.
- 10. When it is impossible to eliminate inaccuracies in the protocol of the Precinct Election Commission without re-counting the votes and also when there are clear signs that the packages with the documents of the Precinct Election Commission were unpacked, the District (Territorial) Election Commission is to adopt a decision provided for in clause 3 part five of this Article. The repeat counting of votes is conducted pursuant to the procedure provided for in Article 232 of this Code.

### Article 252. Procedure for Re-Counting of Votes in Election Precinct

- 1. When a decision provided for in clause 3 part five Article 251 of this Code is adopted, the vote counting protocol of the Precinct Election Commission and the sealed package with other election documents of the Precinct Election Commission are kept in the premises where the meeting of the District (Territorial) Election Commission is held until the re-counting of votes in the election precinct has been conducted.
- 2. The re-counting of votes in the election precinct is done by the District (Territorial) Election Commission after consideration and acceptance of the protocols and other documents of all Precinct Election Commissions with the mandatory participation of members of the Precinct Election Commission who transfer the election documents pursuant to the procedure provided for in parts four thirteen of this Article. All members of the

Precinct Election Commission may take part in the re-counting of votes I such election precinct; the candidates, their proxies, authorized representatives of parties (organizations of parties) – subjects of the respective election process, and official observers have the right to be present.

- 3. The form of the protocol of a District (Territorial) Election Commission on the recounting of votes in the election precinct is approved as provided for in part one Article 245 of this Code. The forms are produced for each District (Territorial) Election Commission in the amount of 500 copies pursuant to the procedure and within the timelines provided for in part two or three Article 245 of this Code. The form of the protocol on the re-counting of votes in the election precinct does not contain the data provided for in clauses 2 and 11 of part two Article 246 of this Code.
- 4. During the re-counting of votes, the District (Territorial) Election Commission on the grounds of its protocol on the transfer of ballot papers to Precinct Election Commissions provided for in part three Article 225 of this Code, acts of the Precinct Election Commission (if available) provided for in part four Article 226 and part our Article 233 of this Code is to establish first the data provided for in clause 1 part two Article 246 of this Code. These data are announced and entered in the protocol of the district (territorial) election commission on the re-counting of votes in the election precinct.
- 5. The Head of the District (Territorial) Election Commission opens the packages with the Voter List and other documents attached thereto as provided for in part nine Article 241 of this Code. On the basis of the Voter List, expert from the Voter Lists for mobile voting, and the Voter Lists for voting using absentee voting certificates, the District (Territorial) Election Commission establishes the figures provided for in clauses 4-9 part two Article 246 of this Code. These figures are announced and entered in the protocol of the District (Territorial) Election Commission on the re-counting of votes in the election precinct. The presence of circumstances provided for in clause 1 part one Article 249 of this Code is also checked. The Voter List and other attached documents are packed pursuant to the procedure provided for in part ten Article 241 of this Code.
- 6. The Head of the District (Territorial) Election Commission opens the package provided for in part seven Article 242 of this Code and the commission re-counts the unused ballot papers pursuant to the procedure provided for in part three Article 226 of this Code and establishes the figures provided for in clause 3 part two Article 246 of this Code. These figures are announced and entered in the protocol of the District (Territorial) Election Commission on the re-counting of votes in the election precinct. The unused ballot papers are packed pursuant to the procedure provided for in part ten Article 241 of this Code.
- 7. The Head of the District (Territorial) Election Commission opens the package provided for in part fourteen Article 242 of this Code and the commission re-counts vouchers of the issued ballot papers pursuant to the procedure provided for in part three Article 226 of this Code and establishes their number. The commission checks whether the established number coincides with the sum of the figures provided for in clauses 7-9 part two Article 246 of this Code established as provided for in part four of this Article. When a discrepancy in the aforementioned figures is found, the District (Territorial) Election Commission draws an act in the form and pursuant to the procedure provided for in part ten Article 115 of this Code stating the reason for such discrepancy determined by the commission decision. The summarized number of voters who received ballot papers in the election precinct established in this way as provided for in clause 10 part six Article 246 of this Code is announced and entered in the protocol on the re-counting of votes in the election precinct. The vouchers of the issued ballot papers are packed pursuant to the procedure provided for in part ten Article 241 of this Code.
- 8. The District (Territorial) Election Commission checks whether the figures established as provided for in part four of this Article coincide with the sum of figures established as provided for in parts six and seven of this Article. When there is a discrepancy in the aforementioned figures, the District (Territorial) Election Commission draws an act in the form and pursuant to the procedure provided for in part ten Article 115 of this Code stating the reason for such discrepancy determined by the commission decision.

- 9. The Head of the District (Territorial) Election Commission opens the packages provided for in part seven Article 243 of this Code and the commission examines the items it contains. When ballot papers that shall be counted are found among the items, the District (Territorial) Election Commission draws an act in the form and pursuant to the procedure provided for in part ten Article 115 of this Code stating the number of such ballot papers. The aforementioned ballot papers are kept by the Head of the commission until the re-counting of ballot papers that shall be counted. The items are packed pursuant to the procedure provided for in part ten Article 241 of this Code.
- 10. The Head of the District Election Commission opens the package provided for in part fourteen Article 243 of this Code and the commission examines the ballot papers that shall not be counted. To this end, the commission is to take into consideration the acts (if available) drawn by the Precinct Election Commission as provided for in parts eight and ten Article 243 of this Code. When there are ballot papers that shall be counted, the District (Territorial) Election Commission draws an act in the form and pursuant to the procedure provided for in part ten Article 115 of this Code stating the number of such ballot papers. The said ballot papers are kept by the Head of the commission until the re-counting of ballot papers that shall be counted. The commission counts the number of ballot papers that shall not be counted pursuant to the procedure provided for in part three Article 226 of this Code establishing the figures provided for in clause 12 part two Article 246 of this Code. The established figure is entered in the protocol on the re-counting of votes in the election precinct. The ballot papers that shall not be counted are packed pursuant to the procedure provided for in part ten Article 241 of this Code.
- 11. The Head of the District (Territorial) Election Commission opens the package provided for in part five Article 244 of this Code and the commission examines invalid ballot papers. When there are ballot papers that shall be considered valid, the District (Territorial) Election Commission draws an act in the form and pursuant to the procedure provided for in part ten Article 115 of this Code stating the number of such ballot papers. The said ballot papers are kept by the Head of the commission until the re-counting of ballot papers that shall be counted. The commission counts the number of invalid ballot papers pursuant to the procedure provided for in part three Article 226 of this Code establishing the figures provided for in clause 14 part two Article 246 of this Code. The established number of invalid ballot papers is announced and entered in the protocol on the re-counting of votes in the election precinct. The invalid ballot papers are packed pursuant to the procedure provided for in part ten Article 241 of this Code.
- 12. The District (Territorial) Election Commission establishes the figures provided for in the special part of the protocol on the re-counting of votes in the election precinct pursuant to the procedure provided for in this Code for each type of elections. The aforementioned figures are announced and entered in the protocol on the re-counting of votes in the election precinct.
- 13. The number of copies of the protocol on the re-counting of votes in the election precinct drawn by the District (Territorial) Election Commission should exceed the number of commission members by four. Copies of the protocol are to be numbered and have equal legal force. All copies of the protocol are to be signed by the members of the District (Territorial) Election Commission present at the meeting and by the members of the Precinct Election Commission who took part in the re-counting of votes in the respective election precinct and stamped with the seal of the District Election Commission. The candidates, their proxies, authorized representatives of parties (organizations of parties) subject of the respective election process, and the official observes who were present during the recounting of votes have the right to sign the first and the second copies of the protocol.
- 14. The first copy of the protocol of the District (Territorial) Election Commission on the re-counting of votes in the election precinct together with the respective vote counting protocol of the Precinct Election Commission is attached to the protocol of the District (Territorial) Election Commission on the results of voting at the respective territorial election district (administrative territorial unit). The second copy of the protocol of the District (Territorial) Election Commission on the re-counting of votes is kept by the Secretary of the District (Territorial) Election Commission, the third is handed out to the Precinct Election Commission and the fourth is hung immediately in the premises of the District (Territorial)

Election Commission for general access. The remaining copies are handed out to the members of the District (Territorial) Election Commission – one copy for each.

# Article 253. Recognizing Voting in Election Precinct Invalid by District (Territorial) Election Commission

- 1. The District Election Commission may recognize voting in the election precinct invalid in the following cases:
- 1) when during the re-counting of votes in the receptive election precinct, circumstances provided for in part one Article 249 of this Code were discovered;
- 2) when there were discovered the facts of conscious creation of obstacles for performance of functions by commission members on the day preceding the election day, on the election day or during the counting of votes, conscious illegal removal of official observers who have the right to be present in the said premises, from the preparatory meeting of the Precinct Election Commission, from the premises for voting during the voting or the counting of votes, and illegal non-admission of the official observers to the aforementioned premises.
- 2. When the voting in the election precinct has been recognized invalid during the recounting of votes, the protocol of the District (Territorial) Election Commission is drawn pursuant to the procedure provided for in Article 252 of this Code that is to contain only the data provided for in clauses 1-10, and 12 of part two Article 246 of this Code. The place designated for other figures, including the figures provided for in the special part of the protocol, is to be crossed.
- 3. The excerpt from the minutes of the meeting of the District (Territorial) Election Commission with the commission decision on recognizing the voting in the election precinct invalid is attached to the first copy of the protocol of the District (Territorial) Election Commission on the results of voting for the respective territorial election district (administrative territorial unit).
- 4. During the nationwide elections, voting in the territorial election district may not be recognized invalid.

# Article 254. Establishment of Results of Voting by District (Territorial Acting as District) Election Commission for Territorial Election District

- 1. After acceptance and consideration of all vote counting protocols of the Precinct Election Commissions in the respective territorial election district, including the protocols marked as the "Corrected" and the completion (if held) of the re-counting of votes in individual election precincts, the District (territorial acting as the district) Election Commission (hereinafter referred to as the District Election Commission) establishes the results of voting for the respective territorial election district, on which the protocol of the District Election Commission on the results of voting for the territorial election district is to be drawn.
- 2. The results of voting are established by summing up the respective figures contained in the vote counting protocols of the Precinct Election Commissions accepted by the District Election Commission and (for the nationwide elections), the notifications on the contents of such protocols of Precinct Election Commissions transmitted with the help of technical means of communication from the special election precincts created on a ship sailing under the National Flag of Ukraine on the election day, on the polar station of Ukraine.
- 3. When the District Election Commission receives the protocol of the Precinct Election Commission marked as "Corrected", the District Election Commission takes into consideration only the data contained in the protocol marked as "Corrected" for tabulation of protocols.
- 4. When the votes in the individual election precinct are re-counted, the District Election Commission takes into consideration only the figures contained in the protocol on the District Election Commission on the re-counting of votes to establish the results of voting in such election precinct.

## Article 255. Protocol of District Election Commission on Results of Voting for Territorial Election District

- 1. The form of the protocol of the District Election Commission on the results of voting for the territorial election district provided for in part one Article 254 of this Code is approved by the Central Election Commission not later than thirty-two days before the election day.
- 2. The protocol of the District Election Commission on the results of voting for the territorial election district consists of two parts general and special. The general part of the protocol is to contain the following data established by the District Election Commission on the basis provided for in part one of this Article:
  - 1) the number of ballot papers received by the District Election Commission;
  - 2) the number of ballot papers invalidated by the District Election Commission;
- 3) the number of ballot papers received by Precinct Election Commissions in the territorial election district:
- 4) the number of ballot papers produced by Precinct Election Commissions in the territorial election district:
- 5) the number of unused ballot papers invalidated by Precinct Election Commissions in the territorial election district;
  - 6) the number of voters included in the Voter Lists in the territorial election district:
- 7) the number of voters included in excerpts from the Voter Lists for mobile voting in the election precincts in the territorial election district;
- 8) the number of voters included in the Voter Lists for voting using absentee voting certificates in the territorial election district:
  - 9) the number of voters who received ballot papers in the premises for voting;
  - 10) the number of voters who took part in mobile voting;
- 11) the number of voters who received ballot papers on the basis of absentee voting certificates:
- 12) the total number of voters who received ballot papers in the territorial election district:
  - 13) the number of voters who took place in the voting in the premises for voting;
  - 14) the number of voters who took part in mobile voting;
- 15) the number of ballot papers that shall not be counted found at polling stations of the territorial election district;
- 16) the total number of voters who took part in the voting in the territorial election district:
  - 17) the number of ballot papers recognized invalid.
- 3. The protocol of the District Election Commission on the results of voting for the territorial election district for the elections where names of the candidates are included in the ballot papers, in addition to the data provided for in part two of this Article also has to contain the data on the number of spoiled ballot papers.
- 4. The data entered in the special part of the protocol of the District Election Commission on the results of voting for the territorial election district are determined by this Code for the respective type of elections.
- 5. The data on the results of voting during the territorial elections provided for in part two four of this Article are entered in the protocol of the District Election Commission on the results of voting for the territorial election district in figures and in words. The data provided for in clauses 3 17 part two and part three of this Article and the data provided for in part four of this Article are entered in the protocol of the District Election Commission on the results of voting for the territorial elections in figures for each election precinct belonging to the territorial election district and summarized in figures and in word for the territorial election district.

### Article 256. Procedure for Drawing Protocol on Results of Voting for Territorial Election District

1. The number of copies of the protocol on the results of voting for the territorial election district drawn by the District Election Commission is to exceed the number of District Election Commission members by three. Copies of the protocol are to be numbered and have equal legal force.

- 2. It is disallowed to use a pencil to fill out the protocol on the results of voting for the territorial election district or to introduce any corrections to the protocol without a respective decision of the District Election Commission.
- 3. The protocol on the results of voting for the territorial election district is to be signed by the Head, the Deputy Head, the Secretary and other members of the District Election Commission present at the commission meeting and stamped with the seal of the District Election Commission. The protocol has to indicate the date and time (hour and minutes) of its signing by members of the District Election Commission.
- 4. The member of the District Election Commission present at the meeting is obliged to sign the protocol on the results of voting for the territorial election district. When he/she disagrees with the results of voting entered in the protocol on the results of voting, or with the decisions (actions) of the commission during the consideration and acceptance of the protocols of Precinct Election Commissions, such commission member signs the protocol with a note "With dissenting opinion". The written statement of the dissenting opinion of the commission member is to be attached to the protocol on the results of voting for the territorial election district. When there is no signature of a commission member, the reason of the absence of the signature is to be indicated next to his/her name.
- 5. Each copy of the protocol is to be signed and stamped with the seal of the District Election Commission only after it has been completed. It is prohibited to sign the protocol on the results of voting for the territorial election district that is not filled out or incomplete or to stamp such protocol with the seal of the District Election Commission.
- 6. The absence of the signature of a commission member in the protocol on the results of voting due to the absence of the commission member or his/her refusal to sign the protocol has no legal effect on the validity of the protocol.
- 7. The candidates, their proxies, authorized representatives of parties, and official observers who were present during the establishment of the results of voting for the territorial election district have the right to sign the first copy of the protocol.
- 8. The first copy of the protocol of the District Election Commission on the results of voting for the territorial election district is packed into a disposable package with the special protection system pursuant to the procedure provided for in part eight Article 240 of this Code. The package is marked as "Protocol on the results of voting".
- 9. The second copy of the protocol on the results of voting for the territorial election district is kept by the District Election Commission, and the third is immediately hung out in the premises of the District Election Commission for general access. The remaining copies and handed out to members of the district Election Commission one copy for each member.
- 10. The District Election Commission must hand out immediately to each candidate, a proxy, an authorized representative of a party, or an official observer, upon their request, a copy of the protocol of the District Election Commission on the results of voting for the territorial election district and, of available, a copy of the protocol on the re-counting of votes in the respective election precinct— one copy of each protocol for each party—subject of the election process. The said copies are to be signed on every page by the Head and the Secretary of the District Election Commission and stamped with the commission seal.

# Article 257. Corrected Protocol on Results of Voting for Territorial Election District

- 1. When after the original protocol on the results of voting for the territorial election district has been signed but before it has been forwarded to the Central Election Commission (the main election commission on the respective local elections), the District Election Commission finds inaccuracies in it (a clerical error or a mistake in figures) it is to consider amending the protocol on the results of voting for the territorial election district by drawing a new protocol marked as "Corrected".
- 2. The number of copies of the protocol marked as "Corrected" is determined in part one Article 256 of this Code and such protocol is to be signed pursuant to the procedure provided for in parts three six Article 256 of this Code.

- 3. The District Election Commission may not draw a protocol marked as "Corrected" at a different meeting without an order of the Central Election Commission (the main election commission on the receptive local elections).
- 4. The first copy of the protocol on the results of voting for the territorial election district marked as "Corrected" is packed together with the first copy of the original protocol pursuant to the procedure provided for in part seven Article 256 of this Code.
- 5. The second copy of the protocol on the results of voting for the territorial election district marked as "Corrected" is kept by the District Election Commission, and the third is immediately hung out in the premises of the district Election Commission for general access. The remaining copies of the protocol are handed out to members of the District Election Commission without taking away the copies of the original protocol.
- 6. Copies of the protocol marked as "Corrected" are handed out to the candidates, their proxies, authorized representatives of parties (organizations of parties) subjects of the respective election process, and official observers who received the copies of the original protocol on the results of voting for the receptive territorial election district.

### Article 258. Transportation of Election Documents to Central Election Commission or Main Election Commission on Local Elections

- 1. The package with the first copy of the protocol of the District Election Commission on the results of voting for the territorial election district, and in the case provided for in Article 257 of this Code also with the first copy of the protocol marked as "Corrected" together with the respective protocol and acts of Precinct Election Commissions, and complaints provided for in part four Article 251 of this Code, decisions adopted after consideration thereof and other decisions of the District Election Commission adopted during acceptance and consideration of documents of The Precinct Election Commissions and establishment of the results of voting for the territorial election district, and if available the protocol of the District Election Commission on the re-counting of votes in the respective election precinct, dissenting opinions of Precinct Election Commission members stated in writing are transported by the District Election Commission to the Central Election Commission or to the main election commission on local elections, respectively.
- 2. The election documents provided for in part one of this Article are to be transported by the Head of the District Election Commission or the Deputy Head and two members of this election commission representing different subjects that nominated to the commission.

# Article 259. Special Requirements for Establishing Results of Voting for Foreign Election District

- 1. The Central Election Commission at its meeting accepts, considers and announces the vote counting protocols of Precinct Election Commissions of out-of-country election precincts for the nationwide elections or notifications on the contents of the receptive vote counting protocols transmitted by means of technical communication as provided for in part six Article 247 of this Code.
- 2. The Central Election Commission after acceptance and consideration of the vote counting protocols of Precinct Election Commissions of out-of-country election precincts establishes at the same meeting, on the basis of the vote counting protocols of Precinct Election Commissions and notifications on the contents of such protocols of Precinct Election Commissions transmitted by technical means of communication, the data for the foreign election district pursuant to the procedure provided for in Article 254 of this Code required in the forms of the vote counting protocols for the territorial election district except for clauses 4, 7, 10, and 14 part two Article 255 of this Code. The data on the results of voting for the foreign election district are announced at the meeting of the Central Election Commission.
- 3. The Central Election Commission draws two copies of the protocol on the results of voting for the foreign election district with due regard to the provisions of part five article 255 of this Code. The data established as provided for in part two of this Article are entered in the aforementioned protocol in figures and in words.
- 4. The protocol is to be signed by the Head, Deputy Heads, the Secretary and other members of the Central Election Commission present at the meeting and stamped with the

seal of the Central Election Commission. The protocol is to contain the date and time (hour and minutes) of its signing by members of the Central Election Commission.

- 5. The member of the Central Election Commission present at the meeting is obliged to sign the protocol on the results of voting. When he/she disagrees with the results of voting entered in the protocol of the Central Election Commission, such commission member signs the protocol with a note "With dissenting opinion". The written statement of the dissenting opinion is to be attached to the protocol on the results of voting. When there is no signature of a member of the Central Election Commission, the reason of the absence of the member of the Central Election Commission at its meeting is to be indicated next to his/her name.
- 6. The candidates, their proxies or authorized representatives of parties subjects of the election process in the Central Election Commission, candidate's proxies or authorized representatives of parties in the nationwide election district present during the establishment of the results of voting for the foreign election district have the right to sign the first copy of the protocol. The contents of the protocol are to be immediately posted on the official website of the Central Election Commission.
- 7. When, during acceptance of the original protocol of Precinct Election Commissions of out-of-state election precincts, the contents of which were included in the protocol of the Central Election Commission provided for in part two of this Article on the basis of data transmitted by technical means of communication, there are found discrepancies between the latter data and the contents of the first copy of the vote counting protocol of the Precinct Election Commission of an out-of-state election precinct, the Central Election Commission at its meeting is to amend the protocol provided for in part two of this Article by drawing the protocol marked as "Corrected" that is to be drawn and signed pursuant to the procedure provided for in parts one six of this Article.
- 8. A candidate, a proxy or a representative of a party in the Central Election Commission, upon their request, are to be immediately handed out a copy of the protocol (including the protocol marked as "Corrected") of the Central Election Commission on the results of voting for the foreign election district one copy for each candidate of a party subject of the election process. The aforementioned copies are to be signed on every page by the Head and the Secretary of the Central Election Commission and signed with the seal of the Central Election Commission.

# Article 260. Procedure for Acceptance and Consideration of Protocols of District Election Commissions by Central Election Commission, Main Election Commission on Local Elections

- 1. The Central Election Commission, the main election commission on the respective local elections at its meeting considers and accepts the protocols of District Election Commissions on the results of voting for the territorial election district. The data contained in the aforementioned protocols are announced at the meeting of the Central Election Commission, the main election commission on the respective local elections by the Head or the Deputy Head of the respective District Election Commission. The time of acceptance by the respective election commission of the protocol of the District Election Commission and the data contained in the protocol are entered in the minutes of the commission meeting.
- 2. When there are corrections, mistakes or inaccuracies found in the protocol of the District Election Commission on the results of voting for the territorial election district, the Central Election Commission, the main election commission on the respective local elections may adopt a decision obliging the District Election Commission to amend the protocol of the District Election Commission on the results of voting for the territorial election district, which decision is to be included in the minutes of the commission meeting. During the time necessary for consideration of this issue by the District Election Commission, the copies of the protocol on the results of voting for the territorial election district submitted to the Central Election Commission, the main election commission for the respective local elections and the attached documents stay in the Central Election Commission, the main election commission on local elections.
- 3. The District Election Commission has to consider amending the established results of voting for the territorial election district within the time determined by the Central Election Commission re-counting, if necessary, votes at individual election precincts in the territorial

election district pursuant to the procedure provided for in Article 252 of this Code. The protocol marked as "Corrected" is drawn pursuant to the procedure provided for in Article 257 of this Code. The said protocol and other necessary election documents are transported to the Central Election Commission, the main election commission on local elections pursuant to the procedure provided for in Article 258 of this Code.

4. The protocol of the District Election Commission on the results of voting for the territorial election district marked as the "Corrected" is accepted by the Central Election Commission, the main election commission on local elections pursuant to the procedure provided for in part one of this Article.

#### Article 261. Tabulation of Protocols

The results of voting are established by the Central Election Commission or by the main election commission on local elections, respectively, pursuant to the procedure provided for in this Code for the respective type of elections.

#### Section XXI. STORAGE OF ELECTION DOCUMENTS

### Article 262. Storage of Election and Other Documents

- 1. After the official promulgation of the results of the nationwide elections, the Central Election Commission forwards the election and other documents subject to submission to the National Archive Fund, including the vote counting protocols and the protocols on the results of voting for territorial election districts and for the foreign election district to the respective central state archive institution, and the District Election Commissions forward such documents to the respective local state archive institutions.
- 2. The main election commission on the receptive local elections after official promulgation of the results of local elections forwards the election and other documents subject to submission to the National Archive Fund, including the vote counting protocols of Precinct Election Commissions and on the results of the respective local elections to the respective state archive institutions.
- 3. The election documents not subject to submission to the National Archive Fund are to be forwarded by the election commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, by District or Territorial Election Commissions to local archive institutions created by local executive bodies or local self-government bodies according to the Law of Ukraine "On National Archive Fund and Archive Institutions".
- 4. The Voter Lists and other documents subject to storage in the state and other archive institutions and the procedure for their submission are determined by the Central Election Commission in coordination with the central executive body on archive business and records.
- 5. Ballot papers, vouchers of ballot papers, Voter Lists, absentee voting certificates, acts, statements, complaints against the violation of provisions of this Code during the voting and the counting of votes, protocols and decisions of election commissions are stored in the local archive institutions for three years from the day of official promulgation of the results of elections but not longer than official publication of the results of the next regular or extraordinary elections of the same type, after which they are destroyed pursuant to the established procedure.
- 6. Archive institutions are to provide access to the election documents as provided for in the Ukrainian legislation.

### Article 263. Storage of Inventory Values between Elections

Local executive bodies and local self-government bodies after the end of the election process are to ensure storage of ballot boxes, voting cabins, stands, and methodological literature provided to the election commissions for the period of the election process pursuant to the procedure established by the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine.

### Section XXII. COMPLAINTS LODGED AGAINST ACTIONS OR INACTION RELATED TO ELECTION PROCESS

# Article 264. Fundamental Principles of Complaints Lodged during Election Process

- 1. A decision, action or inaction related to the election process is to be appealed against in the respective election commission or in a court upon the decision of the subject of appeal (complainant party).
- 2. A complaint lodged against a decision, action or inaction related to the election process is submitted to the respective election commission; the complaints are considered and decisions adopted by the election commission pursuant to the procedure provided for in this Code.
- 3. Complaints lodged against decision, action or inaction related to the election process are submitted to the court, and the cases are considered and the decisions adopted by the court pursuant to the procedure provided for in the Code of Administrative Court Proceedings of Ukraine.
- 4. The court, to which the complaint provided for in part one of this Article was submitted is to immediately notify the respective election commission and the commission of a higher level on the receipt of such claim, initiation of the proceedings or a refusal to initiate proceedings on the case and on the decision adopted by the court.
- 5. When the court initiated legal proceedings on an administrative complaint, and the same subject submitted the same claim on the same issue and grounds to an election commission, the election commission after the receipt of a notification from the court on initiation of legal proceedings is to stop consideration of the complaint until the court decision enters into legal force.
- 6. Courts, election commissions, bodies of the State Voter Register, and law enforcement bodies are to organize their work during the election process, including holidays and the election day, in such a way, including prolongation of the time for the receipt of documents until midnight, that they can receive and consider complaints (statements of claim) and appeals from the election commissions within the timelines and pursuant to the procedure provided for in this Code.

### **Article 265. Subject of Submission of Complaint**

- 1. The subject having the right to submit a complaint related to the election process may be:
  - 1) a candidate nominated or registered for participation in the respective elections:
  - 2) a party (organization of parties) –subject of the respective election process;
  - 3) an official observer –subject of the respective election process;
- 4) a voter whose electoral rights or interests protected by law related to participation in the election process, including participation in the work of an election commission, observation or presence at the meeting of an election commission and during the voting as provided for in this Code as well as to the access to public events related to the elections were violated as a result of a decision, action or inaction of the respondent party.
- 2. A voter may submit a complaint against inaccuracies in the Voter List provided for in part one Article 166 of this Code without the need to observe provisions of clause 4 part one of this Article.

### Article 266. Matter of Dispute and Respondent Party

- 1. A complaint related to the designation, organization and conduct of the elections (hereinafter referred to as the complaint) may be submitted by the respective subject having the right to submit a complaint against a decision, action or inaction of:
  - 1) an election commission, a member of an election commission;
- 2) a government body, a government body of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, a self-government body, an enterprise, an institution or an organization, or an official thereof:
- 3) an association of citizens, except for the decisions and actions that, pursuant to law or to the statute of (provisions on) the association of citizens belongs to its internal organizational activities or its exclusive competence;

- 4) a mass media outlet, an information agency, its owner (co-owner), an official or a creative specialist thereof:
- 5) another subject of the election process provided for in clauses 1, 4, and 5 Article 23 of this Code.
- 2. A complaint against inaccuracies in the Voter Lists is submitted and considered within the timelines and pursuant to the procedure provided for in Article 166 of this Code.

# Article 267. Special Features of Representation of Subjects of Election Process when Lodging Complaint

- 1. A person who in accordance with this Code was registered as the representative of a candidate in the Central Election Commission, the main election commission on local elections, or as the candidate's proxy acts as the representative of the respective candidate when lodging a complaint against violations of the election legislation in a respective election commission without additional authorization, including the right to submit a complaint on behalf of the candidate.
- 2. The leader of a party (organization of parties) –subject of the election process who in accordance with this Code was registered as the authorized representative of the party (organization of parties) –subject of the election process acts as the representatives of the respective party (organization of parties) during when lodging a complaint against violations of the election legislation in a respective election commission without additional authorization, including the right to submit a complaint on behalf of the party (organization of parties).
- 3. A document confirming the powers of representatives, authorized persons or proxies provided for in parts one and two of this Article is a respective certificate issued by an election commission pursuant to the procedure provided for in this Code.
- 4. A central management body of a party (organization of parties) may adopt a decision authorizing a person other than the persons provided for in part two of this Article to represent its interests during consideration of complaints in a respective election commission.

### Article 268. Timelines for Lodging Complaint

- 1. A complaint may be submitted to an election commission by a subject having the right to submit a complaint within five days after the decision was adopted, action or inaction committed by the respondent party, except for the cases provided for in part two and three of this Article.
- 2. A complaint against a violation committed before the election day may be submitted within the period provided for in part one of this Article but not later than midnight of the day preceding the election day.
- 3. A complaint against a violation committed on the election day before the end of voting may be submitted to a respective Precinct Election Commission not later than the end of voting. A complaint against a decision, action or inaction of the election commission or members thereof the took place on the election day and during the counting of votes and establishment of the results of voting in the election precinct may be submitted to an election commission of a higher level within two days after adoption of the decision or commitment of action or inaction.
- 4. The day of commitment of inaction is the last day, on which the action stipulated by law was to be performed but was not performed.
- 5. The day of submission of a complaint is the day of its actual receipt by the subject of consideration of the complaint.
- 6. The period for submission of a complaint may not be extended or renewed except for the cases of repeat submission of the complaint after elimination of its shortcomings not later than the next day after such complaint was returned by the subject of consideration of the complaint without consideration as provided for in part one Article 271 of this Code.
- 7. A change or clarification of demands by the subject having the right to submit a complaint caused by the discovery of circumstances of which such subject was not aware

before is not considered a new complaint and thus not liable to the established time restrictions.

8. The requirements of this Article are not applied to the complaints against inaccuracies in the Voter Lists provided for in Article 166 of this Code.

#### Article 269. Layout and Contents of Complaint

- 1. A complaint is to be submitted to an election commission in a written form. The complaint is to contain:
  - 1) name of the subject of consideration of the complaint, to which it is submitted;
- 2) family name, first name and patronymic (denomination) of the subject having the right to submit a complaint, his/her place of residence or official contact address (legal or mailing address), and the number of communication means or an e-mail, if available;
- 3) family name, first name and patronymic (denomination) of the respondent party, his/her place of residence or official contact address (legal or mailing address) as well as the number of communication means or an e-mail, if known to the subject having the right to submit a complaint;
  - 4) subject matter of the issue in question;
- 5) description of circumstances and evidence used by the subject having the right to submit a complaint to justify his/her claims;
- 6) clear formulation of demands stating the essence of the decision, adoption of which is expected from the subject of consideration of the complaint;
  - 7) list of attached documents and materials;
- 8) signature of the subject having the right to submit a complaint or the persons representing him/her as provided for in Article 261 of this Code stating the day of signing.
- 3. A voter complaining against a decision, action or inaction has to state in his/her complaint in which way such decision, action or inaction violates his/her personal electoral rights, except for complaints against inaccuracies in the Voter Lists.
- 4. A complaint may contain a referral to the interested parties whom the subject having the right to submit a complaint deems necessary to involve in consideration of the complaint.
- 5. Copies of the Complaint and copies of other documents attached to it are to be included in the number equal to the number of the respondent parties and the interested parties mentioned in the complaint.

#### Article 270. Return of Complaint without Consideration

- 1. A complaint written without due regard to the provisions of Article 269 of this Code is to be returned to the subject having the right to submit a complaint without consideration not later than the next day after the receipt of such complaint, and the complaint submitted on the eve of the election day or on the following day is to be returned immediately.
- 2. The following entities have the right to return a complaint without consideration on the grounds provided for in part one of this Article:
- 1) complaints submitted to the Central Election Commission the Head, the Deputy Head of the Central Election Commission or another member of the Central Election Commission on behalf of the Head of the Central Election Commission;
- 2) complaints submitted to another election commission the Head or the Deputy Head of the respective election commission.
- 3. A complaint is returned as a letter signed by the person provided for in part two of this Article stating the exhaustive list of shortcomings that make it impossible to consider the complaint and describing the possibility to submit the complaint again in the form stipulated in Article 269 of this Code within the timelines provided for in this Code.
- 4. When during the repeat submission of the complaint the shortcomings have not been eliminated or the new shortcomings are present in it, the subject of consideration of the complaint adopts a decision to reject the complaint without consideration of its essence.

### **Article 271. Timelines for Consideration of Complaints**

1. A complaint written as provided for in Article 269 of this Code is considered by the respective election commission at its meeting not later than on the fifth day after its receipt except for the cases provided for in parts two – four of this Article.

- 2. A complaint against violations committed before the election day is considered by the election commission within the timelines provided for in part one of this Article but not later than the start of voting.
- 3. A complaint against a violation committed on the election day before the end of voting submitted to a Precinct Election Commission is considered immediately after the end of voting.
- 4. A complaint against a violation committed on the election day, during the counting of votes and establishment of the results of voting in the election precinct submitted to an election commission of a higher level is considered by the respective subject of consideration of the complaint within two days after its submission.

### Article 272. Procedure for Consideration of Complaints

- 1. A complaint is considered by an election commission with mandatory timely invitation of the subject having the right to submit a complaint, the respondent party and other interested parties.
- 2. The election commission is to notify the subject having the right to submit a complaint, the respondent party and other interested parties on the time and place of the meeting at which it is planned to consider the complaint and on the invitation to take part in such meeting by a registered telegram, a fax or an e-mail. It is allowed to notify the subject having the right to submit a complaint, the respondent party and interested parties on the time and place of consideration of the complaint on the phone provided such act is recorded by an officer of the subject of consideration of the complaint in the form of a special written certificate that is to be attached to the case file (minutes).
- 3. A failure to arrive to the election commission meeting of the persons who were duly notified thereon does not prevent the commission from considering the complaint.
- 4. Copies of the complaint and the attached documents are to be provided to the respondent party and the interested parties in advance, and when it is impossible not later than the start of consideration of the complaint. The respondent party has the right to submit a written explanation on the matter of the complaint that is to be taken into account by the election commission during consideration of the complaint.
- 5. When the election commission after consideration of the complaint deems it is necessary for the law enforcement bodies to inquire into the circumstances described in the complaint, the respective law enforcement bodies upon a request of the election commission investigate the said circumstances and take the necessary measures to stop violation of legislation within three days after the receipt of the election commission's request; when such request is received fewer than three days before the election day, on the election day or the following day immediately. The respective bodies are to notify the election commission that submitted such request on the results of investigation and the taken measures.
- 6. The election commission adopts a decision on leaving the complaint without consideration of its essence with such complaint is submitted by an improper subject, when the timelines for submission of a complaint provided for in this Article were not observed or when the matter of the complaint is beyond the scope of powers provided for by law for the receptive election commission.
- 7. The Central Election Commission may decide to consider the facts described in a complaint upon its own initiative when adopting a decision to reject such complaint without consideration of its essence.
- 8. Other issues pertaining to the procedure of consideration of complaints by election commissions are determined by the Central Election Commission in accordance with the provisions of this Code.

#### Article 273. Evidence

1. The following evidence may be used by an election commission to establish the presence or absence of circumstances justifying the demands or objections of the complainant, the subject having the right to submit a complaint or the interested parties and other circumstances important for correct consideration of the complaint:

- 1) written documents and materials (including electronic) containing information about the circumstances important for correct consideration of the complaint;
- 2) written explanations of the subjects of the election process, officials of the executive bodies, governmental bodies of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, local self-government bodies, enterprises, institutions and organizations, or respective law enforcement bodies received upon request of the subject of consideration of the complaint, including the commission members executing the powers of an election commission;
  - 3) material evidence:
- 4) experts' conclusions provided in a written form upon request of the election commission the subject of consideration of the complaint, the subject having the right to submit a complaint or the respondent party.
- 2. The subject having the right to submit a complaint, the respondent party and the interested parties provide evidence to the election commission. The election commission subject of consideration of the complaint may forward a request (demand) for evidence upon it own initiative or upon a request of the subject having the right to submit a complaint, the respondent party or the interested parties.
- 3. When the subject having the right to submit a complaint, the respondent party or the interested party fails to provide evidence to confirm the circumstances he/she refers to, the election commission decides on the case using the available evidence.
- 4. The election commission is to take into account only the evidence that matters for consideration of the complaint. The election commission –subject of consideration of the complaint is to mention in its decision the rejection of evidence that does not matter for consideration of the complaint or have no evidentiary force.
- 5. The circumstances (facts) that according to the law require certain means of proof may not be proved using other means.
- 6. Written evidence is to be submitted in the original form or as a duly certified copy. When a copy of the written evidence is submitted, the election commission may require submission of the original document or demand the original written document itself. After consideration of the complaint, the election commission, upon request of the document owner, returns the original document and attaches its copy certified by the commission to the case file
- 7. The election commission is to assess the correspondence and authenticity of each piece of evidence as well as completeness and interrelation of all pieces of evidence in their totality according to law. No evidence has the previously established force except for the circumstances and facts established by a court decision that has entered into legal force.

# Article 274. Decision of Subject of Consideration of Complaint Based on Results of Consideration of Complaint

- 1. A decision of the subject of consideration of the complaint is to be legal and justified.
- 2. During consideration of the essence of a complaint against a decision of the respondent party, the subject of consideration of the complaint is to establish:
  - 1) whether the disputed decision was adopted by the respondent party;
- 2) whether the disputed decision was adopted by the responding party on legal grounds;
- 3) whether the disputed decision was adopted within the scope of powers and pursuant to the procedure provided for by law;
  - 4) which legal norms are to be applied to these legal relations:
- 5) whether each demand of the subject having the right to submit a complaint is to be satisfied or rejected;
- 6) whether the infringed rights or legal interest of the subject having the right to submit a request should be restored in a different way;
- 7) which decisions are to be adopted or which actions are to be performed following the cancellation of the decision.
- 3. During consideration of the essence of the complaint against action (inaction) of the respondent party, the subject of consideration of the complaint is to establish:
  - 1) whether the disputed action (inaction) of the respondent party really took place;

- 2) whether the disputed action (inaction) was performed by the respondent party on legal grounds;
- 3) which legal norms are to be applied to these legal relations and whether the law ascribes consideration of this complaint to the scope of powers of the subject of consideration of the complaint;
- 4) whether each demand of the subject having the right to submit a complaint is to be satisfied or rejected;
- 5) whether the infringed rights or legal interest of the subject having the right to submit a request should be restored in a different way;
- 6) which decisions are to be adopted or which actions are to be performed following the recognition of the disputed action or inaction as illegal.
- 4. When considering the essence of the complaint, the subject of consideration of the complaint may satisfy the complaint in full or in part, or reject it.
- 5. When the complaint is to be satisfied, the subject of consideration of the complaint may adopt a decision, according to which:
- 1) the decision of the respondent party or individual provisions thereof, action or inaction are recognized as incompliant with the provisions of election legislation (as illegal), as violating citizens' electoral rights, the rights and legal interests of a subject of the election process;
  - 2) the disputed decision is cancelled;
- 3) the respondent party is obliged to perform actions stipulated by law that regulates the organization and the procedure for conduct of the elections:
  - 4) the respondent party is obliged to abstain from performance of certain actions;
- 5) the infringed electoral rights of the citizens, the rights and legal interests of a subject of the election process are to be restored in a different way;
- 6) the respondent party and (or) another body, a mass media outlet, or an official thereof are obliged to perform actions stipulated by law that regulates the organization and the procedure for conduct of the elections, or actions following the cancellation of the decisions, recognition of the disputed action or inaction as illegal.
- 6. After having established that the decision, action or inaction is incompliant with the election legislation, the subject of consideration of the complaint satisfies the complaint. The subject of consideration of the complaint may satisfy the complaint of the subject having the right to submit the complaint in full or in part.
- 7. When a court cancels a decision of the respective election commission, including the decision on recognizing the voting in the election precinct invalid, or establishment of the figures and the results of voting, establishment of the election results, a decision thereon is to be adopted by the election commission, the decision of which was cancelled, or an election commission of a higher level on the basis of the court decision. When such decision was not cancelled on the formal grounds, the election commission may not adopt a decision, which in essence duplicates the cancelled decision.
- 8. An election commission of a higher level based on the results of consideration of a complaint, a court decision or upon its own initiative may cancel a decision of an election commission of a lower level and adopt a decision on the essence of the issue.
- 9. An election commission rejects the complaint when it establishes that a decision, action or inaction of the respondent party is in accordance with the law, within the scope of powers stipulated by law and does not infringe the electors' electoral rights, the rights and legal interests of other subjects of the election process.
- 10. A copy of the decisions of the subject of consideration of the complaint, is handed out or sent to the subject having the right to submit a complaint, the respondent party, the interested parties, the respective election commission, or another subject mentioned in the decisions not later than the next day after adoption of the decision, and when the decision is adopted on the eve of the election day, on the election day or the following day immediately.

Article 275. Specific Features of Lodging Complaint against Decision, Action or Inaction of Executive Bodes, Government Bodies of Autonomous Republic of Crimea,

# Local Self-Government Bodies, Enterprises, Institutions, Organizations and Companies, and Their Officials

- 1. A subject of the election process provided for in part one Article 269 of this Code may appeal against a decision, action or inaction of an executive body, including the Register maintenance body or a regional Register administering body, a government body of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, a local self-government body, an enterprise, an institution, an organization or a company, and an official thereof related to their failure to perform the responsibilities they are charged with by law, illegal interference with activities of election commissions or commission members, or a failure to meet the requirements of the law on pre-election campaigning.
- 2. A complaint provided for in part one of this Article is to be submitted, respectively, to the District Election Commission during the nationwide elections at the locality of the respondent party or to the Central Election Commission, the main election commission on the respective local elections.
- 3. Consideration of a complaint against a decision, action or inaction of an executive body, a government body of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, a local self-government body, an enterprise, an institution, an organization or a company, and an official thereof does not exclude bringing individual officials to disciplinary, administrative, criminal or other liability in the cases and pursuant to the procedure provided for by law.

# Article 276. Specific Features of Lodging Complaint against Decision, Action or Inaction of Parties (Organizations of Parties), Other Associations of Citizens

- 1. A candidate, a party (organization of parties) subject of the respective election process as well as a voter whose electoral rights have been infringed may lodge a complaint against a decision, action or inaction of a party (organization of parties), another association of citizens, its official or an authorized representative in the Central Election Commission, the main election commission on local elections, a proxy or an authorized representative related to the election process, except for the decision, action or inaction that pursuant to the law, the statute of (provisions on) the association of citizens belong to its internal organizational activities or its exclusive competence.
- 2. A complaint provided for in part one of this Article is to be submitted respectively to a District Election Commission during the nationwide elections at the locality of the management body or the respondent party or to the Central Election Commission, the main election commission on the respective local elections.

# Article 277. Specific Feature of Lodging Complaint against Actions of Official Observers

- 1. A subject of the election process provided for in part one Article 265 of this Code may appeal against the actions of an official observer on behalf of a subject of the election process or on behalf of an non-governmental organization concerning his/her violation of the provisions of this Code.
- 2. A complaint against the actions of an official observer is submitted to the election commission that registered such official observer.

# Article 278. Special Features of Lodging Complaint against Action or Inaction of Mass Media, Information Agencies, Their Owners (Co-Owners), Officials or Creative Specialists

- 1. A candidate, a party (organization of parties) subject of the respective election process may appeal against action or inaction of a mass media outlet, an information agency, its owner(co-owner), an official or a creative specialist violating the procedure established by law regulating activities of mass media during the election process, including the provisions on the coverage of the elections, exercising the right to a response as provided for in article 213 of the Code, and other requirements concerning pre-election campaigning.
  - 2. A complaint provided for in part one of this Article is to be submitted to:

- 1) the Central Election Commission, the main election commission on the respective local elections against action or inaction of a national mass media outlet, its owner (coowner), an official or a creative specialist;
- 2) the respective District (Territorial) Election Commission against action or inaction of a regional or local mass media outlet, its owner (co-owner), an official or a creative specialist.

# Article 279. Special Features of Lodging Complaint against Action or Inaction of Candidate

- 1. A candidate, a party (organization of parties) subject of the respective election process may lodge a complaint against action or inaction of a candidate, his/her representative in the Central Election Commission, the main election commission on the respective elections, or the proxy when such action or inaction is aimed at violating the procedure for nominating the candidate and pre-election campaigning established by the Code as well as at infringing their rights and legally protected interests or the citizens' electoral rights.
- 2. A voter may lodge a complaint against action or inaction of a candidate, his/her representative in the Central Election Commission, the main election commission on local elections, or the proxy when such action or inaction violates his/her electoral rights and legally protected interests related to participation in the election process.
- 3. A complaint against action or inaction of a candidate, his/her representative or the proxy is submitted to the Central Election Commission, the main election commission on the respective local elections.

# Article 280. Specific Features of Lodging Complaint against Action or Inaction of Election Commissions and Commission Members

- 1. A subject of the election process has the right to lodge a complaint against a decision, action or inaction of an election commission or a commission member.
- 2. A complaint against a decision, action or inaction of a Precinct Election Commission or a member of a Precinct Election Commission is submitted to a respective District (Territorial) Election Commission.
- 3. A complaint against action or inaction of a member of a Precinct Election Commission during the voting may be submitted to a respective Precinct Election Commission.
- 4. A complaint against a decision, action or inaction of a District Election Commission, a member of a District Election Commission is submitted to the Central Election Commission.
- 5. A complaint against a decision, action or inaction of a Territorial Election Commission acting as a District Election Commission during the local elections is submitted to the main election commission on the respective local elections.

# Section XXIII. LODGING COMPLAINTS AGAINST DECISION, ACTION OR INACTION OF BODIES OF STATE VOTER REGISTER OUTSIDE ELECTION PROCESS

# Article 281. Special Feature of Lodging Administrative Complaint against Decision, Action or Inaction of Bodies of State Voter Register outside Election Process

- 1. A person who, outside the period of the election process of the referendum process, appealed to a Register maintenance body asking to include him/her or other persons in the Register, to amend the personal data of the Register or to receive a response to his/her request may lodge a complaint to a respective regional Register administering body against a decision, action or inaction of the Register maintenance body concerning his/her appeal.
- 2. A political party that, outside the period of the election process of the referendum process, appealed to a Register maintenance body pursuant to the procedure provided for in Article 152 of this Code may lodge a complaint to a respective regional Register administering body against a decision, action or inaction of the Register maintenance body concerning its appeal.

- 3. A regional Register administering body has to carry out the repeat examination of the data contained in the complaint provided for in parts one or two of this Article involving respective bodies, institutions, organizations and companies provided for in Article 150 of this Code. Based on the results of such examination, the regional Register administering body forwards the established data about the voter (voters) to the respective Register maintenance body or, in the event when the grounds for a rejection were confirmed, sends a written response to the person or the party that submitted the complaint stating the exhaustive list of the grounds for such rejection.
- 4. A complaint against action or inaction of a regional Register administering body committed outside the period of the election process or the referendum process that violate the requirements of this Law may be submitted to the Register Administrator pursuant to the procedure provided for by law.

# Article 282. General Procedure for Taking Legal Action against Decision, Action or Inaction of Bodies of State Voter Register outside Election Process

- 1. A person who, outside the period of the election process of the referendum process, appealed to a Register maintenance body asking to include him/her or other persons in the Register, to amend the personal data of the Register or to receive a response to his/her request may take legal action against a decision, action or inaction of the respective Register body pursuant to the general procedure provided for in the Code of Administrative Court Proceedings.
- 2. A political party that, outside the period of the election process of the referendum process, appealed to a Register maintenance body or a Register administering body pursuant to the procedure provided for in Article 152 of this Code may take legal action against a decision, action or inaction of the respective Register body pursuant to the general procedure provided for in the Code of Administrative Court Proceedings.

#### **BOOK TWO. NATIONWIDE ELECTIONS**

#### CHAPTER VIII. ELECTIONS OF THE PRESIDENT OF UKRAINE

### SECTION XXIV.GENERAL PROVISIONS ON ELECTIONS OF THE PRESIDENT OF UKRAINE

### Article 283. Right to Be a Candidate for the Post of the President of Ukraine

- 1. A candidate in the presidential elections must be a citizen of Ukraine who meets the requirements of parts one and two of Article 12 of this Code, has attained the age of thirty-five as of the date of elections, has the right to vote, has command of the state language and has resided in Ukraine for the past ten years prior to the day of elections in accordance with parts four to six of Article 12 of this Code.
- 2. One and the same person shall not be nominated as a candidate for the President of Ukraine for more than two consecutive terms.
- 3. The person whose presidential authority has been terminated early on the grounds prescribed by the Constitution of Ukraine may not be nominated for the post of the President of Ukraine at the extraordinary elections to be called in connection with the above-mentioned termination of office.
- 4. The candidates for the post of the President of Ukraine who have been nominated and registered under the procedure established by this Code shall enjoy such rights and guarantees of their activities in the election process as provided by this Code.

### Article 284. Right to Nominate a Candidate for the Post of the President of Ukraine

The right to nominate a candidate for the post of the President of Ukraine shall belong to Ukrainian citizens who have the right to vote. They shall exercise this right through political parties (the "parties") as well as by self-nomination, according to the procedure established by this Code.

### **Article 285. Ordinary Elections of the President of Ukraine**

- 1. Ordinary elections of the President of Ukraine shall be conducted on the last Sunday of the last month of the fifth year of the term of office of the President of Ukraine
- 2. The Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine shall adopt a resolution on calling regular elections of the President of Ukraine no later than one hundred days prior to the day of elections.
- 3. The Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine shall forthwith ensure the official publication of the resolution to call regular elections of the President of Ukraine in mass media.
- 4. The election process of regular elections of the President of Ukraine shall commence ninety days prior to the day of elections.

### Article 286. Extraordinary Elections of the President of Ukraine

- 1. Extraordinary elections of the President of Ukraine shall be held in connection with the early termination of authority of the President of Ukraine in the cases provided by the Constitution of Ukraine.
- 2. Extraordinary elections of the President of Ukraine shall take place on the last Sunday of the ninety-day term from the day of:
- 1) a personal statement by the President of Ukraine about his/her resignation at a session of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine;
- 2) the official publication of a decision of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine confirming the inability of the President of Ukraine to perform his/her duties due to the state of health;
- 3) official publication of a decision of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine on removal of the President of Ukraine from office through impeachment;
- 4) adoption by the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine of a resolution on calling extraordinary elections of the President of Ukraine in connection with the death of the President of Ukraine.
- 3. The resolution of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine on calling extraordinary elections of the President of Ukraine in the cases envisaged by clauses 1 to 3 of part three of this

article shall be adopted on the day when the President of Ukraine makes the statement specified in clause 1 of part three of this article, or on the day of taking the decisions envisaged in clauses 2 and 3 of part three of this article, respectively.

- 4. The election process of extraordinary elections of the President of Ukraine shall begin on the day following the day specified in clauses 1 to 4 of part three of this article.
- 5. The extraordinary elections of the President of Ukraine shall be prepared and held under the procedure and within the period provided by this Code.

### Article 287. Repeat Elections of the President of Ukraine

- 1. Repeat elections of the President of Ukraine shall be held if:
- 1) no more than two candidates for the post of the President of Ukraine were included in the ballot for voting and neither of them has been elected; and
- 2) all candidates for the post of President of Ukraine who were included in the ballot have resigned prior to the day of elections or prior to the day of repeat voting;
- 3) if a court issues its decision under the procedure provided by the Code of Administrative Proceedings of Ukraine whereby it declares that it is impossible to determine valid results of will expression by the citizens of Ukraine at the elections of the President of Ukraine.
- 2. The Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine shall adopt its resolution on calling repeat elections of the President of Ukraine on the basis of a submission filed by the Central Election Commission (in the cases envisaged by clauses 1 and 2 of part one of this article) or a court decision (in the case envisaged by clause 3 of part one of this article).
- 3. The resolution of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine on calling repeat elections shall be adopted no later than the fifteenth day after the Central Election Commission makes a respective submission to the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine (in the cases envisaged by clauses 1 and 2 of part one of this Article) or after a respective court decision is made (in the case envisaged by clause 3 of part one of this article).
- 4. The repeat elections of the President of Ukraine shall take place on the last Sunday of the ninety-day term from the day the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine officially publishes its resolution on calling the repeat elections.
- 5. The election process of repeat elections of the President of Ukraine shall be a separate election process, which shall not depend on the election process that has ended in connection with the calling of repeat elections. The election process of repeat elections of the President of Ukraine shall begin on the day following the day when the Verkhovna Rada officially publishes its resolution to call the repeat elections.
- 6. The repeat elections of the President of Ukraine shall be prepared and held under the procedure and within the period provided by this Code.

### Article 288. Nomination of Candidates to Election Commissions

- 1. The subjects of the nomination process for membership in district election commissions and precinct election commissions as indicated in part one of Article 87 shall be the candidates for the post of the President of Ukraine who have been registered in accordance with this Code.
- 2. The document nominating a candidate to the district election commission as stated in Article 87 of this Code and to the precinct election commissions of out-of-country election precincts as stated in Article 98 of this Code shall be signed by the candidate for the President of Ukraine or on his/her behalf by one of his/her proxies in the nationwide election district. The signature of the person filing the nomination document shall be notarized.
- 3. The document nominating a candidate to the precinct election commissions of the ordinary and special election precincts as specified in Article 95 of this Code shall be signed by one of the proxies of the candidate for the President of Ukraine in the nationwide or respective territorial election district. The signature of the person filing the nomination document shall be notarized.

### SECTION XXV.NOMINATION AND REGISTRATION OF CANDIDATES FOR THE POST OF THE PRESIDENT OF UKRAINE

#### Article 289. General Procedure for Nomination of Candidates

- 1. The nomination of candidates for the post of President of Ukraine by parties and self-nomination at regular elections shall begin eighty-nine days and end seventy-four days prior to the day of elections.
- 2. A candidate for the post of the President of Ukraine shall acquire the status of the subject of the election process on the date of nomination of such candidate and under the procedure provided by this Code.

#### Article 290. Procedure for Nomination of Candidates by Parties

- 1. A political party may nominate only one candidate for the post of the President of Ukraine.
- 2. A party may nominate as a candidate for the post of the President of Ukraine a person who is a member of that party or a non-party citizen who, according to Article 284 of this Code, has the right to be a candidate for the post of the President of Ukraine.
- 3. A person may be nominated as a candidate for the post of President of Ukraine only by one party and with the consent of the candidate.
- 4. A party shall nominate a candidate at its congress (meeting, conference) to be convened and held under the procedure provided by the Charter of such party. At least 250 delegates shall attend the congress (meeting, conference) at which a candidate for the post of the President of Ukraine is nominated.
- 5. The leader of the party shall, no later than five days prior to the date of the congress (meeting, conference), notify in writing the Central Election Commission about the time and venue of the congress (meeting, conference) of the party which is convened to nominate a candidate for the post of the President of Ukraine. The Central Election Commission shall forthwith place information on the time and place of this event on its official website. A member of the Central Election Commission may attend such congress (meeting, conference) on the instructions of the Head of the Central Election Commission.
- 6. The congress (meeting, conference) of the party for nomination of a candidate for the post of the President of Ukraine shall be held openly. The procedure for accrediting mass media representatives to such a congress (meeting, conference) shall be determined by organizers of the event. At least twenty percent of seats in the respective premises shall be allocated to the mass media representatives which shall attend the above-mentioned event of the party.
- 7. The congress (meeting, conference) of the party that is held to nominate a candidate for the post of the President of Ukraine shall create conditions for a free and all-round discussion of the candidate(s) offered as nominee(s) and election programs of the candidates.
- 8. The minutes of the congress (meeting, conference) of the party shall specify the date, agenda of the congress (meeting, conference), total number of the elected and present delegates, voting results (number of votes for, against, or abstained) in respect of the decision to nominate a candidate for the post of the President of Ukraine and information about the candidate nominated for the post of the President of Ukraine:
  - 1) full name;
  - 2) day, month and year of birth;
  - 3) citizenship:
  - 4) party affiliation;
  - 5) education;
  - 6) information about command of the state language;
  - 7) the candidate's place of employment (occupation), position;
  - 8) position occupied by the candidate in public associations;
  - 9) availability of a representative mandate; and
  - 10) place of residence.

9. The minutes shall be signed by the leader of the party and sealed with the party's seal.

#### Article 291. Procedure for Self-Nomination

- 1. A citizen of Ukraine who, according to Article 283 of this Code, has the right to be a candidate for the post of the President of Ukraine and did not consent to the nomination by any party shall personally submit to the Central Election Commission a statement of self-nomination to the post of the President of Ukraine, with the signature appearing on such statement to be notarized.
- 2. The statement of self-nomination to the post of the President of Ukraine shall contain:
  - 1) expression of wish to be nominated for the post of the President of Ukraine;
  - 2) information set forth in clauses 1 to 10 of part eight of Article 290 of this Code,
  - 3) a letter of consent to publish his/her biographical data and income statement;
- 4) a letter of obligation, in case he/she is elected, to discontinue his/her activities or lay down a representative mandate, which according to the Constitution and laws of Ukraine are inconsistent with the post of the President of Ukraine
- 5) a letter of obligation, in case he/she is elected, to transfer, according to the procedure established by law, within one month after the results of the elections are officially announced, the enterprises and corporate rights owned by him/her into management of another person; and
  - 6) official contact details of the candidate.
- 3. The documents envisaged by part one of Article 294 of this Code shall be attached to the statement.

#### Article 292. Monetary Deposit

- 1. A monetary deposit shall be made by a candidate for the post of the President of Ukraine by bank transfer to a special account of the Central Election Commission in the amount of five hundred thousand hryvnias.
- 2. The account number for transferring the monetary deposit shall be published by the Central Election Commission in the newspapers Holos Ukrayiny and Uriadovyi Courier no later than the fifth day after the beginning of the election process and shall be posted on an official website of the Central Election Commission on the same day.
- 3. If the Central Election Commission decides to deny a candidate registration, the monetary deposit shall be transferred to the account of the person that is a nominee to the post of President of Ukraine, within five days after the respective decision is made.
- 4. If the Central Election Commission cancels its decision to register a candidate for the post of President of Ukraine, the monetary deposit shall be transferred to the State Budget of Ukraine within five days after the respective decision is made. If the Central Election Commission cancels its decision to register a candidate for the post of President of Ukraine on the basis of his/her own application submitted no later than thirty days prior to the day of the elections, the monetary deposit shall be transferred to the account from which money was transferred to a special account of the Central Election Commission.
- 5. The monetary deposit shall be returned to the candidate for the post of President of Ukraine if the candidate for the post of President of Ukraine received at least seven percent of valid votes of the voters. If the candidate for the post of President of Ukraine received less than seven percent of valid votes of the voters, the monetary deposit shall be transferred to the State Budget of Ukraine.

# Article 293. Property and Income Statement of the Candidate for the Post of the President of Ukraine

1. The property and income statement of a candidate for the post of President of Ukraine and of members of his/her family for the year preceding the year when the election process begins shall be filled in by the candidate himself/herself in the form of the property and income statement of a civil servant of the first category approved by the Ministry of Finance of Ukraine as of January 1 of the election year.

- 2. The authenticity of the data provided in the statement shall be verified by the State Tax Administration of Ukraine upon instruction of the Central Election Commission.
- 3. Mistakes and inaccuracies discovered in the statement shall be subject to correction and shall not be the grounds for denying or canceling the registration of the candidate for the post of President of Ukraine.
- 4. The Central Election Commission shall post the property and income statements of each candidate for the post of President of Ukraine within three days after registration of the candidate on the official website of the Central Election Commission and publish them in the newspapers Holos Ukrainy and Uriadovyi Courier.

# Article 294. Terms and Conditions of Registration of Candidates for the Post of the President of Ukraine

- 1. In order to be registered by the Central Election Commission, a self-nominee for the post of the President of Ukraine shall, in addition to the statement specified in Article 291 of this Code, personally submit the following documents to the Central Election Commission:
- 1) an application to be personally filled in by the candidate for the post of the President of Ukraine in the form established by the Central Election Commission;
- 2) an autobiography of the person nominated as a candidate of a length less than or equal to two thousand five hundred printed characters, which must contain the following information in a free and concise form:
  - a) full name;
  - b) day, month, year and place of birth;
  - c) citizenship;
  - d) education;
  - e) employment history (including part-time employment);
  - f) social activities (including those in elective offices);
  - g) place of employment, position (occupation) at the time of nomination as a candidate;
  - h) party affiliation, year of joining the party;
  - i) family composition;
- j) address of the place of residence and voter address, including the amount of time the candidate has resided in Ukraine.
  - k) cases of and grounds for criminal liability or liability for corrupt practices:
  - i) information on any convictions;
- 3) the candidate's election program to be composed in the state language of a length less than or equal to twelve thousand printed characters;
- 4) a document certifying that a monetary deposit has been made in accordance with Article 292 of this Code;
  - 5) a property and income statement according to Article 293 of this Code:
- 6) photos of the candidate of the size and amount established by the Central Election Commission no later that the third day of the election process.
- 2. For the registration of a person nominated by a party as a candidate for the post of President of Ukraine, apart from the documents referred to in clauses 1 to 6 of part one of this article, the following documents shall be submitted:
- 1) an application of the party for registration of the candidate, which shall be signed by the leader of the party and sealed with the party's seal;
- 2) copies of a registration certificate of the party and its charter (the copies must be certified by the Ministry of Justice of Ukraine free of charge after the beginning of the election process, but no later than the seventh day after an application is filed thereto);
- 3) minutes of the congress (meeting, conference) of the party as specified in part eight of Article 290 of this Code:
- 4) a statement of the person who has been nominated as a candidate regarding his/her consent to be a candidate for the post of the President of Ukraine from that party which shall also specify information referred to in clauses 3 and 4 of part two of Article 291 hereof, and official contact details of the candidate.
- 3. The documents required for registration of a person nominated by the party as a candidate for the post of the President of Ukraine, which are stated in part two of this article,

shall be submitted to the Central Election Commission by the person nominated as a candidate.

- 4. The Central Election Commission shall issue a certificate of receipt of the documents specified in parts one and three of this article to the person who submitted them. The certificate of receipt shall contain the list of documents received, the day, month and year, as well as the time of their receipt, and the position and surname of the person who received the documents.
- 5. The submission of documents to the Central Election Commission for the purpose of candidate registration shall be terminated sixty-seven days prior to the day of elections.

### Article 295. Procedure for Registration of Candidates for the Post of the President of Ukraine

- 1. The Central Election Commission shall register candidates for the post of the President of Ukraine subject to the receipt of the documents specified in part one and (for the candidates nominated by parties) part two of Article 294 of this Code.
- 2. The nominee for the post of President of Ukraine shall have the right to withdraw his/her statement of self-nomination or his/her statement of consent to stand as a candidate for the post of the President of Ukraine from the respective party, prior to the day he/she is registered as a candidate. A repeat statement of the person on his/her self-nomination, or on his/her consent to run as a candidate in the elections of the President of Ukraine from any party, shall not be accepted.
- 3. The Central Election Commission shall decide on the registration or the denial of registration of the candidate for the post of the President of Ukraine no later than the fifth day after the receipt of the documents envisaged by parts one and two of Article 294 of this Code.
- 4. If the candidate has been registered, a copy of the resolution about the registration shall be issued to the authorized representative of the candidate in the Central Election Commission no later than the next day. Within the same term, an identification document of a candidate for the post of the post of the President of Ukraine shall be issued to the candidate for the post of the President of Ukraine in the form established by the Central Election Commission.
- 5. A decision on registration or denial of registration of the candidate for the post of the President of Ukraine shall be published in the newspapers Holos Ukrainy and Uriadovyi Courier no later than the third day from the day such decision has been adopted.
- 6. The Central Election Commission shall terminate the registration of candidates for the post of the President of Ukraine no later than sixty-four days prior to the day of the elections.
- 7. The list of candidates for the post of the President of Ukraine as registered by the Central Election Commission, indicating the information set forth in clauses 1 to 10 of part eight of Article 288 of this Code, and the nominating entity, shall be published by the Central Election Commission in the newspapers Holos Ukrainy and Uriadovyi Courier within five days after the registration of candidates has been completed.
- 8. The registered candidates for the post of the President of Ukraine shall have equal rights irrespective of the way and time of their nomination and time of their registration.

# Article 296. Denial of Registration of a Candidate for the Post of the President of Ukraine

- 1. The Central Election Commission shall deny the registration of a candidate for the post of the President of Ukraine in the following cases:
  - 1) violation of the candidate nomination procedure established by law:
- 2) if the Central Election Commission discovers that the candidate's election program contains provisions aimed at the liquidation of the independence of Ukraine, a violent change of the constitutional order, a violation of the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the state, a disruption of its security, an unlawful seizure of state power, propaganda of war, violence, the unleashing of ethnic, racial, and religious hostility, an encroachment on human rights and freedoms or on the health of the population;
- 3) if any of the documents specified in parts one and (for candidates nominated by parties) two of Article 294 of this Code are missing or are executed in an undue manner;

- 4) if the Ukrainian citizenship of the nominee for the post of President of Ukraine is terminated or his/her of citizenship of another country is not terminated;
- 5) if the nominee leaves Ukraine for the purpose of permanent residence or political asylum elsewhere;
  - 6) if the nominee is deemed incapable;
- 7) if a court conviction regarding a premeditated offence comes into legal force against the nominee:
- 8) if the Central Election Commission discovers any other circumstances which disqualify the nominee from being a candidate for the post of the President of Ukraine in accordance with Article 283 of this Code.
- 2. The decision of the Central Election Commission to deny a candidate registration must contain exhaustive reasons for such denial.
- 3. A copy of the decision to deny registration of the candidate shall be issued to the candidate or authorized representative of the candidate in the Central Election Commission no later than the next day after the decision has been adopted.
- 4. The denial of registration of a candidate on the grounds set forth in clause 3 of part one of this article shall not preclude the possibility of additional submission of any certain or corrected documents no later than sixty days prior to the day of the elections. In this case, the decision on candidate registration shall be taken within the period specified in part six of Article 295 of this Code.
- 5. In the case of denial of registration of the candidate for the post of the President of Ukraine, such person shall lose the status of the subject of the election process upon expiration of the period for lodging complaints against the decision of the Central Election Commission. If the foregoing decision is appealed in court, the status of the subject of the election process shall continue until a court decision enters into force.

# Article 297. Signatures in Support of Registration of a Candidate for the Post of the President of Ukraine

- 1. Registration of a candidate for the post of the President of Ukraine can be supported with the signatures of the persons who have a representative mandate Members of Parliament of Ukraine, Members of Parliament of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, deputies of oblast, raion, village, settlement, city (the cities of Kyiv, Sevastopol, cities of regional and republican (in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea) importance), city raion councils in Kyiv and Sevastopol, mayors (of the city of Kyiv, cities of regional, republican (in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea) importance).
- 2. No less than three hundred signatures of the persons specified in part one of this article, including no less than fifteen applications in each of two-thirds of the regions indicated in part two of Article 133 of the Constitution of Ukraine shall be collected in support of registration of a candidate for the post of President of Ukraine.
- 3. Signature sheets including statements in support of registration of a candidate for the post of the President of Ukraine shall be submitted to the Central Election Commission no later than forty days prior to the day of the elections.

#### **Article 298. Signature Sheet**

- 1. The signature sheet is a form of the statement by a person who has a representative mandate in support of the registration of a candidate for the post of the President of Ukraine. The form of the signature sheet shall be approved by the Central Election Commission no later than the fifth day from the day the election process begins.
- 2. A candidate may produce any quantity of signature sheets whatsoever by printing, Xeroxing or otherwise while strictly adhering to the established form of the signature sheet and using the candidate's own electoral funds.
- 3. The signature sheet in support of the registration of a candidate for the post of the President of Ukraine shall contain:
  - 1) full name of the candidate:
  - 2) method and subject of nomination of the candidate;
  - 3) information about the proxy of the candidate who collects statements;
  - 4) place for information about the person who supports registration of the candidate:

- a) full name of the person;
- b) date of birth of the person;
- c) voter address of the person;
- d) the council where the person has a representative mandate or indication of the position of the city mayor.
  - 5) place for the text of the statement;
  - 6) place for personal signature of the voter and signing date of the statement; and
  - 7) place for the signature of the proxy who collects the statements.

### Article 299. Procedure for Collecting Signatures in Support of Registration of a Candidate for the Post of the President of Ukraine

- 1. The signatures in support of the registration of a candidate for the post of the President of Ukraine shall be collected by proxies of the candidate for the post of the President of Ukraine who were registered in accordance with part four of Article 307 of this Code.
- 2. A person specified in part one of Article 297 of this Code shall fill in and sign the signature sheet with his own hand, put his/her signature and indicate the signing date. The statement to be provided by the proxy in an arbitrary form shall express and provide the reasons for the support of registration of the respective candidate for the post of the President of Ukraine.
- 3. All entries in the signature sheet shall be made in pen (not pencil) and without abbreviations.
- 4. No error may be made in the signature sheet in respect of the information contained in clauses 1 to 4, 6 and 7 of part three of Article 298 of this Code.
- 5. Nobody shall have the right to force a person that has a representative mandate to support the registration of a candidate for the post of the President of Ukraine. Such person may support the registration of no more than one candidate for the post of the President of Ukraine.
- 6. It is prohibited to pay with money, goods or services for the support of registration of a candidate or to offer other incentive to the person that has a representative mandate for providing such support and to prevent the person that has a representative mandate from supporting the registration of candidates.
- 7. It shall be prohibited to impose restrictions on the procedure for collecting statements of the persons who have representative mandates that are not envisaged by this article.

# Article 300. Procedure for Verifying and Counting the Signatures in Support of Registration of a Candidate for the Post of the President of Ukraine

- 1. The signature sheets including statements of the persons who have representative mandates shall be transferred by an authorized representative of the candidate for the post of the President of Ukraine to the Central Election Commission within the period specified in part three of Article 297 of this Code. The requirements for execution of the signature sheets shall be established by the Central Election Commission no later than ninety days prior to the day of the elections.
- 2. On the day of receipt of the signature sheets, the Central Election Commission shall issue a certificate regarding the number of received signature sheets to an authorized representative of the candidate for the post of the President of Ukraine. The certificate shall contain the list of received signature sheets, including the number of statements from the persons that have representative mandates which were collected in each of the regions specified in part two of Article 133 of the Constitution of Ukraine, as well as the day, month and year and time of their receipt, position and surname of the person who received such documents.
- 3. The Central Election Commission shall ensure control over the compliance with the requirements of this Code regarding the collection of statements from the persons who have representative mandates through verification of signature sheets by members of the Central Election Commission involving staff members of the Secretariat of the Central Election Commission. The information of the State Voter Register shall be used for verification

purposes. The Central Election Commission may apply to the person who put his/her signature in support of a candidate for the post of the President of Ukraine to verify this fact.

- 4. When determining the number of persons who have supported a candidate for the post of President of Ukraine with their statements, the following signature sheets shall not be taken into account:
  - 1) signature sheets in an unapproved form or forged signature sheets;
- 2) if the signature sheet does not contain all or certain data on the person who has a representative mandate and supports the candidate for the post of the President of Ukraine with his/her statement which data are envisaged by the form of the signature sheet or if specified data are not true:
- 3) if the person who completed the signature sheet had no representative mandate as of the date of completion thereof;
- 4) if the statement of the person who has a representative mandate contains no expression of support of registration of the candidate;
- 5) if the entry of data on the signature sheet has been done in violation of parts three and four of Article 299 of this Code;
  - 6) if the signature sheet has not been signed by a proxy of the candidate;
  - 7) if the signature sheet is found to have been completed by coercion, bribery or fraud.
- 5. If the person who has a representative mandate signed several statements in support of the same candidate for the post of the President of Ukraine, all of such signature sheets shall not be counted.
- 6. The Central Election Commission shall draw up a protocol on the results of collection of signatures of the persons who have representative mandates in support of registration of a candidate. This protocol shall specify:
  - 1) a full name of a candidate for the post of the President of Ukraine;
- 2) the date the signature sheets along with statements of the persons who have representative mandates in support of the registration of a candidate were filed to the Central Election Commission:
- 3) a total number of counted signatures of the persons who have representative mandates in support of registration of the candidate;
- 4) a number of counted signatures of the persons who have representative mandates in support of registration of the candidate, which signatures were collected in each region specified in part two of Article 133 of the Constitution of Ukraine;
- 7. The protocol referred to in part six of this article shall be drawn up in two copies. Each copy shall be signed by all members of the Central Election Commission who are present at the meeting and sealed with the Commission's seal. A candidate for the post of the President of Ukraine who received signatures in support of his/her registration from the persons who have representative mandates or his/her authorized representative in the Central Election Commission shall have the right to sign both copies of the protocol. One copy of the protocol shall, no later than next day, be given to the candidate or the candidate's authorized representative in the Central Election Commission.
- 8. The Central Election Commission shall take a decision what signature sheets including statements of the persons who have representative mandates in support of a candidate shall be disregarded and specify in its decision what quantity of signature sheets is disregarded on each of the grounds stated in clauses 1 to 7 of part four of this article. A copy of the decision shall, no later than next day, be given to the candidate or the candidate's authorized representative in the Central Election Commission.

## Article 301. Cancellation of the Decision on Registration of a Candidate for the Post of the President of Ukraine

- 1. The Central Election Commission shall cancel its decision on registration of a candidate for the post of the President of Ukraine if:
- 1) the candidate for the post of President of Ukraine, at any time after his registration but no later than ten days prior to the day of the elections (the day of repeat voting), files a written notice of withdrawal of his/her candidacy;
- 2) the candidate for the post of President of Ukraine fails to submit the quantity of statements (as specified in part one of Article 297 of this Code) of the persons who have

representative mandates in support of registration of such candidate for the post of the President of Ukraine within forty days prior to the day of the elections;

- 3) the quantity of signatures of the persons who have representative mandates in support of registration of the candidate for the post of the President of Ukraine (which signatures were counted in accordance with Article 298 of this Code) is less than required by part two of Article 297 of this Code;
- 4) the Ukrainian citizenship of the candidate is terminated or the candidate is found to have the citizenship of any other country;
- 5) the candidate leaves Ukraine for the purpose of permanent residence or political asylum elsewhere;
  - 6) the candidate is deemed incapable;
- 7) a court conviction regarding a premeditated offence comes into legal force against the candidate:
- 8) the Central Election Commission discovers any other circumstances which disqualify the person registered as a candidate from being a candidate for the post of the President of Ukraine in accordance with Article 283 of this Code.
- 2. The Central Election Commission shall consider the issue of cancellation of the registration of a candidate for the post of the President of Ukraine no later than the third day after receiving an application referred to in clauses 1 and 2, occurrence or discovery of the circumstances referred to in clauses 3 to 9 of part two of this article, in the presence of the candidate for the post of the President of Ukraine or his/her authorized representative, and a representative of the party which nominated such candidate. The aforementioned persons shall be notified of the time this issue will be considered no later than the day preceding the day of such consideration. If the foregoing persons who were duly notified of the meeting for consideration of this issue are absent, the Central Election Commission shall consider the issue in the absence of the aforementioned persons.
- 3. In the case of cancellation of the decision on registration of the candidate for the post of the President of Ukraine, such person shall lose the status of a subject of the election process upon expiration of the period for lodging complaints against the respective decision of the Central Election Commission. If the foregoing decision is appealed in court, the status of the subject of the election process shall continue until a court decision enters into force.
- 4. If the candidate for the post of President of Ukraine dies or is declared missing, the Central Election Commission shall announce the invalidation of the decision on registration of such candidate.
- 5. The decision specified in part three of this article shall be published in mass media no later than next day after the day the decision enters into force. The decision specified in part four of this article shall be published in mass media no later than next day after the day the decision was taken, but no later than one day prior to the day of the elections.

### Article 302. Announcement of a Warning for Violation of the Election Legislation

- 1. The Central Election Commission shall announce a warning to a candidate for the post of the President of Ukraine if:
- 1) a court established at the trial of the election dispute according to the procedure established by law:
- a) the fact of bribery of voters or members of election commissions committed by a candidate, his/her proxy, an authorized representative of the candidate in the Central Election Commission, as well as by any other person acting upon request of the candidate or on the instructions of the candidate;
- b) the fact that, during the election process, voters, institutions, establishments, organizations or members of election commissions were given any money or any goods (other than those stated in part two of Article 205 of this Code), works, services, securities, loans, lotteries, other tangible assets, free of charge or on preferential terms, by an organization of which the candidate, his/her proxy, authorized representative in the Central Election Commission is a founder, owner or member of its managing body (indirect bribery);
- c) the fact of use of other funds than the candidate's electoral funds in financing his/her election campaign;

- d) the candidate, who occupies a post, including multiple posts at the same time, in state authorities and bodies of local self-governance, in state or municipal enterprises, in institutions, establishments or organizations, in military formations established according to the laws of Ukraine, has involved or used for the purpose of his/her election campaign his/her subordinates, office transport, communication, equipment, premises, or other objects and resources at his/her place of work (abuse of office); and
- 2) the candidate, his/her proxy or other person acting on the instructions of the candidate violates any election campaign restrictions, including campaigning during the election process beyond the timeframes provided by Article 201 of this Code.
- 2. The Central Election Commission shall consider the issue regarding announcement of a warning to the candidate according to the procedure prescribed by part two of Article 301 of this Code. The decision to announce a warning may be taken no later than the day before the day of the elections.
- 3. The Central Election Commission shall notify the candidate for the post of the President of Ukraine about announcement of a warning no later than next day after the day such decision was taken and shall provide a copy of such decision to an authorized representative of the candidate for the post of the President of Ukraine within the same period. If the aforementioned decision was taken on the day before the day of the elections, a copy of such decision shall be promptly issued to an authorized representative of the candidate.
- 4. The decision of the Central Election Commission to announce a warning to a candidate for the post of President of Ukraine shall be published in the state-owned mass media no later than the third day after the day it was taken and shall be promptly posted on an official website of the Central Election Commission.

### Article 303. Guarantees of the Activities of Candidates for the Post of the President of Ukraine

- 1. A candidate for the post of President of Ukraine may not be denied to be released from carrying out his/her work or service duties at his/her place of work and to obtain unpaid leave during the period of the election campaign.
- 2. From the moment the candidate is registered and until the end of the election process, the candidate may not be dismissed from his/her work (office, service) on the initiative of the owner of the enterprise, institution, establishment, organization or of a body authorized thereby, or of the commander of a military unit (command). A candidate may not be transferred to another job (office), sent on a business trip or called up for a military or alternative (non-military) service, training (testing) and special drills of conscripts without his/her consent.
- 3. The State shall provide security to the candidates for the post of President of Ukraine during the election process in accordance with the Law of Ukraine "On the Security of State Bodies and Officials Provided by the State".
- 4. A candidate for the post of President of Ukraine shall have the right to delegate one authorized representative to the Central Election Commission who shall represent his/her interests at the Central Election Commission during the election process and have the right of an advisory vote.
- 5. A candidate for the post of the President of Ukraine may have no more than five proxies in a single nationwide election district and no more than two proxies in each territorial district. The powers of the proxies of a candidate in the nationwide election district shall apply to an out-of-country election district.

# Article 304. Requirements for an Authorized Representative and Proxies of a Candidate for the Post of the President of Ukraine

- 1. A citizen of Ukraine who has the right to vote may be the authorized representative of a candidate for the post of President of Ukraine in the Central Election Commission (the "authorized representative"), or the proxy of the candidate.
- 2. The following persons may not be the authorized representative, or the proxy of a candidate:
  - 1) a member of any election commission;

- 2) an official of any executive body or authority of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea or body of local self-governance
  - 3) officials of any court or law-enforcement bodies; and
  - 4) a military serviceman or a person who undergoes alternative (non-military) service.

### Article 305. Procedure for Registration of an Authorized Representative of a Candidate for the Post of the President of Ukraine

- 1. An application for registering a person as an authorized representative of a candidate for the post of President of Ukraine, which should bear a duly certified signature of the person nominated as a candidate, shall be submitted to the Central Election Commission along with the application (party's submission) for registration of the candidate for the post of President of Ukraine in accordance with Article 294 of this Code.
- 2. The application for registration of the authorized representative shall provide the following information about the person concerned:
  - 1) full name;
  - 2) citizenship;
  - 3) date of birth;
  - 4) place of employment, position (occupation); and
  - 5) voter's address, contact phone number.
- 3. A written consent of this person to represent the interests of the candidate for the post of President of Ukraine in the Central Election Commission shall be attached to the application specified in part one of this article.
- 4. The Central Election Commission shall, no later than the third day after the receipt of the documents indicated in parts one and three of this article, register the authorized representative of the candidate for the post of President of Ukraine in the Central Election Commission who shall have the right of an advisory vote. The candidacy of the authorized representative may be rejected only if the requirements of Article 304 of this Code and parts one to three of this article are violated.
- 5. Once the authorized representative is registered, an identity document/certificate in the form established by the Central Election Commission shall be issued thereto.
- 6. If the registration of the candidate for the post of President of Ukraine is denied or cancelled, the powers of the authorized representative of the candidate shall be considered terminated from the moment the candidate loses the status of the subject of the election process.

# Article 306. Rights of the Authorized Representative of a Candidate for the Post of the President of Ukraine

- 1. The authorized representative shall have the right:
- 1) to be present at all meetings of the Central Election Commission during discussions of the issues related to the elections of the President of Ukraine and to participate in the discussion with the right of an advisory vote: to receive, before the beginning of the meeting, the draft agenda and materials related to the items on the agenda, which are made available to the members of the Central Election Commission, to ask questions to the speaker, to participate in the discussion of the items on the agenda, to make proposals in respect of the decisions of the Central Election Commission;
- 2) to familiarize him/herself with the content of the minutes of the meetings of the Central Election Commission and its decisions, to receive copies of these decisions; and to familiarize him/herself with the documents based on which these decisions were taken if he/she did not attend the meeting:
- 3) to immediately familiarize him/herself with the protocols, telephone messages, facsimile messages and other official notices which arrive to the Central Election Commission from the district and out-of-country precinct election commissions about the results of voting in the respective territorial election district, as well as with the protocols of the respective district election commissions about vote counting in certain election precincts;
- 4) to promptly receive, upon request, copies of the documents referred to in clause 3 of this part;

- 5) to exercise other rights envisaged by this Code for the authorized representative of a candidate for the post of the President of Ukraine in the Central Election Commission.
- 2. The authorized representative of a candidate for the post of President of Ukraine shall have the right from the day he/she is registered by the Central Election Commission and until the termination of his/her service or official duties or the completion of the election process to be released from his/her work or service duties without preservation of salary with the consent of the owner of the enterprise, establishment, institution, organization or a body authorized thereby.

## Article 307. Registration of Proxies of a Candidate for the Post of the President of Ukraine

- 1. The application for registering a person as a proxy of a candidate, which application shall bear a duly certified signature of the candidate, shall be submitted to the Central Election Commission at any time after the registration of the candidate.
- 2. The application for registration of proxies shall provide information envisaged by clauses 1 to 5 of part two of Article 302 of this Code and specify the election district to which the powers of each proxy shall apply.
- 3. Letters of consent of these persons to represent the interests of the candidate in the respective election district shall be attached to the application specified in part one of this article.
- 4. The Central Election Commission shall, no later than the third day after the receipt of the documents indicated in parts one and three of this article, but no later than the day before the day of the elections, register the proxies of the candidate and issue their identification documents/certificates in the form established by the Central Election Commission.
- 5. If the registration of the candidate for the post of President of Ukraine is cancelled, the powers of a proxy of the candidate shall be considered terminated from the moment the candidate loses the status of the subject of the election process.

### Article 308. Powers of Proxies of a Candidate for the Post of the President of Ukraine

- 1. The proxy of the candidate for the post of President of Ukraine shall conduct the campaign for his/her election as a President of Ukraine, assist the candidate in the election process, and represent the candidate in the election process without any power of attorney.
  - 2. The proxy of the candidate shall:
- 1) represent the candidate in relations with voters, election commissions, other subjects of the election process, courts, executive bodies, authorities of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, bodies of local self-governance, mass media, enterprises, establishments, institutions, and organizations in the territory of the respective election district;
- 2) have the right to attend the sessions of the district and precinct election commissions in the territory of the respective election district and to cast an advisory vote;
- 3) have the right to stay at the election precinct during the voting and to be present at the meeting of the Precinct Election Commission during the vote counting, subject to the restrictions provided by clause 3 of part two of Article 114 of this Code;
- 4) have other rights of an official observer from a candidate as provided by part one of Article 215 of this Code; and
  - 5) have other powers envisaged by this Code for a proxy of the candidate.
- 3. The proxy of a candidate in the nationwide election district shall have the right to attend the meetings of the Central Election Commission.
- 4. The proxy of a candidate shall be subject to other restrictions provided by part two of Article 215 of this Code.
- 5. The proxy of a candidate for the post of President of Ukraine shall have the right from the day he/she is registered by the Central Election Commission and until the termination of his/her powers or the completion of the election process to be released from

his/her work or service duties without preservation of salary with the consent of the owner of the enterprise, establishment, institution, organization or a body authorized thereby.

#### Article 309. Change of the Authorized Representative or Proxy of a Candidate

- 1. An authorized representative or proxy of a candidate shall have the right, at any time prior to the day of the elections, apply to the Central Election Commission for termination of his/her powers.
- 2. A candidate for the post of President of Ukraine may, at any time prior to the day of the elections, file an application to the Central Election Commission to recall his/her authorized representative or proxy and to nominate any other person instead of the recalled one. The relevant application together with a letter of consent of the nominee shall be submitted to the Central Election Commission in accordance with the procedure established in part one of Article 302 or part one of Article 304 of this Code, respectively.
- 3. Based on an application submitted in accordance with parts one or two of this article, the Central Election Commission shall no later that the third day after its receipt and no later than the day prior to the day of the elections, or if submitted on the day of elections immediately, take a decision to cancel the registration of the authorized representative or proxy of the candidate and (if the respective application was filed) the registration of any other person as an authorized representative or proxy of the candidate in the respective election district. A copy of the decision shall be issued to the authorized representative of the candidate or sent to the candidate's official contact address.
- 4. The identification document/certificate of the authorized representative or proxy of the candidate, whose powers have been terminated prior to the end of the election process, shall be deemed invalid.

### Article 310. Right of a Candidate for the Post of the President of Ukraine to Have Official Observers

- 1. A candidate for the post of the President of Ukraine shall have the right to have official observers in accordance with part one of Article 214 of this Code.
- 2. The official observers from a candidate for the post of the President of Ukraine in accordance with part two of Article 217 of this Code shall be nominated by the proxies of a candidate.

### SECTION XXVI. PECULIARITIES OF THE INFORMATION SUPPORT AND ELECTION CAMPAIGN AT THE ELECTIONS OF THE PRESIDENT OF UKRAINE

# Article 311. Peculiarities of Opening, Forming and Using Electoral Funds of the Candidates for the Post of the President of Ukraine

- 1. A candidate for the post of the President of Ukraine shall form its electoral fund under the procedure provided by Articles 185 to 189 of this Code subject to the peculiarities envisaged by this article.
- 2. The electoral fund's accumulation account of a candidate shall be opened no later than the fifth day after the Central Election Commission decides to register the candidate for the post of the President of Ukraine.
- 3. The spending of funds on the current accounts of electoral funds of the candidates for the post of the President of Ukraine who are included in the ballot for repeat voting shall be resumed beginning from the day following the day the decision is taken by the Central Election Commission in accordance with part eight of Article 186 of this Code.
- 4. A voluntary contribution from an individual to the electoral fund of one candidate for the post of the President of Ukraine may not exceed four hundred times the minimum salary as of the day of the beginning of the election process.

# Article 312. Information Posters of the Candidates for the Post of the President of Ukraine

1. An information poster of a candidate for the post of the President of Ukraine as specified in Article 194 of this Code shall contain the election program of the candidate which was submitted thereby to the Central Election Commission in connection with the registration of the candidate and a photo of the candidate, with an indication of the

information provided by clauses 1, 2, 4, 7, and 10 of part eight of Article 290 of this Code, and the subject (manner) of the nomination.

- 2. Information booklets shall not be produced at the elections of the President of Ukraine.
- 3. The information posters shall be produced in the quantity of at least four copies of each information poster for each election precinct no later than thirty-five days prior to the day of the elections.
- 4. The produced information posters of the candidates in the quantity of three copies of each poster for each election precinct shall, according to the procedure established by the Central Election Commission, be delivered to the respective election commissions and the remaining part to the candidate or to his/her authorized representative. The information posters shall be delivered to the election precincts immediately after the precinct election commissions have been formed.
- 5. If the repeat voting is called at the elections of the President of Ukraine, the Central Election Commission may, if necessary, take a decision to produce additional information posters of the candidates included in the ballot paper for repeat voting in the quantity of no more than two copies of each information poster for each election precinct. Once produced, the foregoing posters shall be immediately transferred to the precinct election commissions.

### Article 313. Balanced Dissemination of Information about Candidates for the Post of the President of Ukraine

- 1. The requirements for the balanced dissemination of information as prescribed by part two of Article 196 of this Code shall apply to the dissemination of information about the candidates for the post of the President of Ukraine regardless of the manner and subjects of their nomination.
- 2. The air time of broadcasts (series of broadcasts) specified in Article 197 of this Code, which is allocated to the parties that nominated candidates for the post of the President of Ukraine, shall be included in the air time allocated to respective candidates.

### Article 314. Conduct of Election Campaign at the Elections of the President of Ukraine Using the Funds of the State Budget of Ukraine

- 1. The Central Election Commission shall, no later than three days after the district election commissions have been formed, designate one district election commission within each region specified in part two of Article 133 of the Constitution of Ukraine, which shall be authorized to enter into agreements with state-owned and municipal TV and radio organizations for the conduct of election campaigns using the funds of the State Budget of Ukraine, which have been allocated for the preparation and conduct the elections of the President of Ukraine.
- 2. TV and radio organizations shall provide the candidate for the post of President of Ukraine who was registered by the Central Election Commission total time for his/her election campaign purposes out of and within the amount of funds allocated from the State Budget of Ukraine for the preparation and conduct of the elections, of no less than 30 minutes on a nationwide TV channel and 30 minutes on a nationwide radio channel, as well as no less than 20 minutes on regional TV channels and 20 minutes on regional radio channels in each of the regions of Ukraine specified in part two of Article 133 of the Constitution of Ukraine. This time shall be provided to the candidate three times on each of the aforementioned nationwide channels and twice on each of the aforementioned regional channels in equal shares of the total time. The Central Election Commission shall determine the amount and procedure for using the air time allocated using the funds of the State Budget of Ukraine, which are allocated for the preparation and conduct of the elections, ensuring equal conditions for the candidates.
- 3. A preliminary air time schedule for broadcasting the election campaign TV and radio programs in accordance with part two of this article specifying the date and time they are aired (without indication of exact participants of such programs) shall be prepared by the respective nationwide and regional state-owned and municipal TV and radio organizations with which the agreements for distribution of election campaign materials have been executed, out of and within the amount of the funds allocated from the State Budget of Ukraine for the preparation and conduct of the elections, during the election process. Such

schedule shall be sent to the Central Election Commission or to the district election commission referred to in part one of this article, respectively, no later than fifty-five days prior to the day of the elections.

- 4. The distribution of air time among the candidates for the post of the President of Ukraine at TV and radio programs within the schedule specified in part three of this article shall be made no later than fifty-three days prior to the day of the elections based on the results of lots drawn by the Central Election Commission, one of the district election commissions specified in part one of this article, with the participation of the respective authorized representatives of the candidates in the Central Election Commission or their proxies in the respective territorial election district. If the aforementioned persons who were duly notified of the time and place of drawing lots are absent, lots shall be drawn in their absence.
- 5. The results of drawing lots in accordance with part four of this article and the air time schedule prepared on the basis of such results and specifying election campaign TV and radio programs, exact date and time they are aired using the funds allocated from the State Budget of Ukraine for the preparation and conduct of elections, shall be published in the newspapers Holos Ukrayiny and Uriadovyi Courier and in local print media within three days from the day the Central Election Commission or the respective district election commission has approved them and shall be posted on the website of the Central Election Commission.

#### **Article 315. Election TV Debates**

- 1. A TV organization may organize election debates (TV debates) between the candidates for the post of the President of Ukraine as a broadcast (series of broadcasts) in accordance with Article 212 of this Code. Such TV debates may be broadcast live only.
- 2. The TV debates referred to in part one of this article shall be conducted within the term envisaged by Article 201 of this Code for conducting the election campaign and between 7:00 p.m. and 10:00 p.m.
- 3. No more than two candidates for the post of the President of Ukraine may simultaneously participate in one and the same broadcast of a relevant series. Candidates shall participate in the TV debates personally.
- 4. The schedule of broadcasts of a relevant series and the results of drawing lots for the purpose of scheduling TV debates shall be published by the respective TV organization in the newspapers Holos Ukrayiny and Uriadovyi Courier within three days after they were approved, but no later than one day prior to the start of a series of broadcasts.
- 5. The number of broadcasts in one series of TV debates shall be such as to provide each of the candidates with the possibility to participate in them not more than once, provided that they express their wish to participate.
- 6. The duration of the TV debate with the participation of one group of candidates may not be less than sixty minutes of uninterrupted broadcast time. It is prohibited to interrupt TV debates in order to broadcast a commercial advertisement.
- 7. If a decision to conduct repeat voting has been adopted, TV debates between the candidates for the post of President of Ukraine included in the ballot for the repeat voting shall be organized by the Central Election Commission in conjunction with the National Television Company of Ukraine within five days prior to the day of the repeat voting using the funds allocated from the State Budget of Ukraine for the preparation and conduct of the elections. The aforementioned TV debates shall be broadcast live between 7:00 p.m. and 10:00 p.m. and have the duration of no less than one hundred minutes. These TV debates must be broadcast by the National Radio Company of Ukraine and may be broadcast free of charge by other TV and radio channels
- 8. If one of the candidates for the post of President of Ukraine refuses or is unable to participate in the TV debates referred to in part seven of this article, the time allocated for such TV debates shall be granted to the other candidate for the post of President of Ukraine for the purpose of conducting his/her election campaign.

# SECTION XXVII. PECULIARITIES OF THE PREPARATION AND CONDUCT OF THE VOTING AND DETERMINATION OF THE RESULTS OF ELECTIONS OF THE PRESIDENT OF UKRAINE

### Article 316. Requirements for the Ballot Paper at the Elections of the President of Ukraine

- 1. The Central Election Commission shall, no later than forty days prior to the day of the elections, approve the text of the ballot paper for the election of the President of Ukraine.
- 2. The ballot must contain the following information about registered candidates for the post of the President of Ukraine in alphabetical order (by surnames of the candidates): their names, patronymics, surnames, year of birth, and subject of the nomination process. An empty square box shall be placed between the name, patronymic and surname of each candidate and other information about the candidate.

#### Article 317. Peculiarities of Preparation of Voting Premises

- 1. In addition to the information posters referred to in part four of Article 192 of this Code, information posters of the candidates for the post of the President of Ukraine as specified in Article 312 of this Code must be placed directly in front of the voting premises.
- 2. The information posters of the candidates for the post of the President of Ukraine shall be placed in the order the candidates appear on the ballot.
- 3. The head of the precinct election commission shall ensure that information posters of all the candidates for the post of the President of Ukraine are available for the duration of the voting process.

#### Article 318. Procedure for Filling in a Ballot Paper in the Voting Process

- 1. When voting, the voter shall place a mark "plus" ("+") on the ballot for voting or another mark that indicates his/her will expression in the square box next to the surname of the candidate for the post of President of Ukraine for whom he/she is voting.
- 2. When filling in the ballot, the voter may only vote for one candidate for the post of President of Ukraine.

#### **Article 319. Peculiarities of Voting Counting at the Election Precinct**

- 1. In order to determine the total number of votes cast by the voters for each candidate for the post of the President of Ukraine, ballots to be counted shall be placed under the procedure established by part one of Article 244 of this Code in the places marked with separate plates bearing the surnames and initials of the candidates on both sides or bearing the inscription "void."
- 2. The following ballots shall be deemed void in accordance with clause 3 of part three of Article 244 of this Code:
- 1) if the ballot has been marked with more than one mark specified in part one of Article 318 of this Code opposite the surnames of different candidates:
  - 2) if the ballot contains no mark opposite the surname of any candidate at all.
- 3. The precinct election commission shall count the ballots under the procedure established by part three of Article 226 of this Code and determine the number of votes cast by the voters for each of the candidates for the post of the President of Ukraine. During the vote counting process, each member of the election commission shall have the right to check or to recount the respective ballots.
- 4. If members of the election commission have any doubts regarding the will expressed by the voter in the ballot, the matter shall be resolved by the precinct election commission by taking a vote. A relevant protocol decision shall be registered in the minutes of the meeting of the precinct election commission. Before voting, each member of the election commission shall have the right to examine the ballot personally. The counting of other ballots shall be stopped for the duration of the examination of the ballot and the voting. A relevant protocol decision and voting results shall be registered in the minutes of the meeting of the precinct election commission.
- 5. The results of the counting of the votes cast by voters in the election precinct for each of the candidates shall be announced by the head of the commission and entered into

the protocols on the count of the votes of voters in the election precinct by the secretary of the commission.

- 6. When counting the votes in the election precinct, the precinct election commission shall be obliged to check if the number of voters who participated in the voting in the election precinct specified in part twelve of Article 243 of this Code is equal to the sum of the number of void ballots and the number of the ballots containing the votes cast by the voters for each candidate. If there is a discrepancy between these data, the precinct election commission may recount the ballots. If the aforementioned discrepancy is confirmed, the precinct election commission shall complete a report in the form and under the procedure provided by part ten of Article 115 of this Code indicating the reason for such discrepancy, which was identified by the decision of the precinct election commission.
- 7. The ballots containing votes of voters cast for each candidate for the post of President of Ukraine shall be packaged separately according to the procedure provided by part eight of Article 240 of this Code. The package shall be marked with the relevant surname and initials of the candidate.

### Article 320. Information of a Special Part of the Summary Protocols of the Precinct and District Election Commissions

- 1. A special part of the protocol of the Precinct Election Commission regarding the count of the votes of the voters at the election precinct provided by part five of Article 246 of this Code, the protocol of the District Election Commission regarding the vote recounting at the election precinct provided by part three of Article 252 of this Code, protocol of the District Election Commission regarding the tabulation of the voting results in the territorial election district according to part four of Article 255 of this Code and protocol of the Central Election Commission regarding the tabulation of the voting results in the out-of-country election district according to part three of Article 259 of this Code shall contain the following information:
- 1) the total number of votes cast by the voters within the election precinct or the territorial election district;
  - 2) the number of votes cast by the voters for each candidate;
- 3) the percentage of votes cast by the voters for each candidate in relation to the total number of valid votes of the voters (if the ballot contained only one candidate the percentage of votes cast for such candidate in relation to the number of the voters who participated in the voting).
- 2. The total number of valid votes of the voters shall be determined as the sum of the number of votes cast by the voters for each candidate.

### Article 321. Protocol on the Voting Results at the Elections of the President of Ukraine

- 1. At its session, the Central Election Commission shall, on the basis of the protocols of district election commissions on voting results in respective territorial election districts, including the protocols marked with "Corrected" and the protocol of the Central Election Commission on the voting results in the out-of-country election district, no later than the eighth day from the day of the elections, determine the voting results at the elections of the President of Ukraine and draw up a protocol to that effect.
- 2. The following information shall be entered into the general part of the protocol on voting results at the elections of the President of Ukraine:
  - 1) the number of ballots produced upon request of the Central Election Commission;
  - 2) the number of unused ballots cancelled by the Central Election Commission;
  - 3) the number of ballots received by district election commissions;
  - 4) the number of unused ballots cancelled by district election commissions;
- 5) the number of ballots received by precinct election commissions in out-of-country election precincts;
- 6) the number of ballots received by precinct election commissions in all election precincts;
  - 7) the number of ballots produced by precinct election commissions:
  - 8) the number of unused ballots cancelled by precinct election commissions;
  - 9) the total number of unused ballots;

- 10) the total number of spoiled ballots;
- 11) the number of issued forms of absentee voting certificates;
- 12) the number of the forms of absentee voting certificates transferred to the State Voter Register maintenance bodies;
  - 13) the number of voters who received absentee voting certificates;
  - 14) the number of unused and cancelled forms of absentee voting certificates;
  - 15) the number of voters included in the voter lists in election precincts:
- 16) the number of voters included in the excerpts from the voter list in the election precincts for mobile voting;
- 17) the number of voters included in the voter list for voting with absentee voting certificates;
  - 18) the number of voters who received ballots in the voting premises;
  - 19) the number of voters who received ballots at their place of stay;
- 20) the number of voters who received ballots on the basis of absentee voting certificates:
  - 21) the total number of voters who received ballots;
  - 22) the number of voters who voted in the voting premises;
  - 23) the number of voters who voted at their place of stay;
  - 24) the number of ballots not to be counted which were found at the election precincts;
  - 25) the total number of voters who participated in voting;
  - 26) the number of voided ballots; and
- 27) the percentage of voided ballots in relation to the number of voters who participated in the voting;
- 3. The following information shall be entered in words and figures into a special part of the protocol on voting results at the elections of the President of Ukraine:
  - 1) the total number of valid votes of the voters;
  - 2) the number of votes cast by voters for each candidate; and
- 3) the percentage of votes cast by the voters for each candidate in relation the total number of valid votes of the voters (if the ballot contained only one candidate the percentage of votes cast for such candidate in relation to the number of the voters who participated in the voting).
- 4. Information on the voting results shall be entered in figures and words in the protocol of the Central Election Commission on the voting results at the elections of the President of Ukraine. The information referred to in clauses 2 to 10, 15 to 27 of part two and clauses 1 to 3 of part three of this article shall be entered both in respect of each territorial election district and in aggregate in respect of the nationwide district.
- 5. The protocol of the Central Election Commission on the voting results at the elections of the President of Ukraine shall be drawn up in two copies. The protocol shall be signed by the head, deputy heads, secretary and other members of the Central Election Commission who are present at the meeting of the Central Election Commission and sealed with the seal of the Central Election Commission. The protocol shall specify the date and time (in hours and minutes) of its being signed by the members of the Central Election Commission.
- 6. Each member of the Central Election Commission who is present at the meeting shall be required to sign the protocol on the voting results at the elections of the President of Ukraine. If a member of the Central Election Commission disagrees with the voting results registered in the protocol of the Central Election Commission, he/she shall sign the protocol with the note "Dissenting opinion." A written statement of the dissenting opinion shall be attached to the protocol on the voting results at the elections of the President of Ukraine. Where the signature of a member of the Central Election Commission is missing in the protocol, the reason for which such member of the Central Election Commission is absent at its meeting shall be indicated opposite his/her surname.
- 7. Candidates for the post of the President of Ukraine, their authorized representatives in the Central Election Commission, proxies in the nationwide election district who were present at the tabulation of election results at the elections of the President of Ukraine shall have the right to sign the first copy of the protocol.
- 8. The contents of the protocol shall be promptly posted on the official website of the Central Election Commission.

### Article 322. Decision of the Central Election Commission on the Basis of Voting Results at the Elections of the President of Ukraine

- 1. On the basis of the information recorded in the protocol on the voting results at the elections of the President of Ukraine, the Central Election Commission shall promptly take one of the following decisions after signing the protocol:
  - 1) to declare the President of Ukraine elected;
  - 2) to call repeat voting at the elections of the President of Ukraine; or
- 3) to file a request to the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine to call repeat elections of the President of Ukraine.
- 2. Based on the voting results at the elections of the President of Ukraine, the following candidate shall be declared elected as the President of Ukraine:
- 1) the candidate who received more than a half of valid votes of the voters, provided that two or more candidates for the post of the President of Ukraine were included on the ballot for the election of the President of Ukraine:
- 2) a single candidate running for the President of Ukraine who was included on the ballot, provided that he/she received more than a half of the votes of voters who participated in the voting.
- 3. The Central Election Commission shall take a decision to conduct the repeat voting if more than two candidates for the post of the President of Ukraine were included in the ballot for voting at the elections of the President of Ukraine and, based on the voting results, neither candidate was elected according to part two of this article.
- 4. The Central Election Commission shall take a decision to file a request to the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine to call repeat elections of the President of Ukraine:
- 1) if a single candidate running for the President of Ukraine was included in the ballot for voting at the elections of the President of Ukraine and, based on voting results, he/she received less than a half of the votes of voters who participated in voting.
- 2) if a court decision which entered into force declared it impossible to reliably determine the voting results at the elections of the President of Ukraine.
- 5. The Central Election Commission shall officially publish the voting results at the elections of the President of Ukraine and its decision taken in accordance with parts two to four of this article in the newspapers Holos Ukrayiny and Uriadovyi Courier no earlier than the third day and no later than the fifth day after signing the protocol on voting results at the elections of the President of Ukraine.

#### Article 323. Day of Repeat Voting

- 1. The Central Election Commission shall call repeat voting to take place on the third Sunday after the day of the elections.
- 2. The preparation and conduct of the repeat voting, vote counting and tabulation of the election results shall be made according to the procedure established by this Code subject to the peculiarities provided by Articles 324 to 330 of this Code.

#### Article 324. Candidates to Be Included in the Ballot for Repeat Voting

- 1. Two candidates for the post of President of Ukraine who as a result of voting at the elections of the President of Ukraine received the largest number of votes disregarding those candidates who withdrew their candidacies after the day of the elections shall be included in the ballot for repeat voting.
- 2. If one of the candidates included in the ballot for repeat voting, no later than ten days prior to the day of the repeat voting, has withdrawn his/her candidacy according to clause 1 of part two of Article 301 of this Code or if a decision has been taken according to Article 301 of this Code to cancel the registration of the candidate included in the ballot for repeat voting or in the event of death of such candidate, the Central Election Commission shall immediately take a decision to include such candidate in the ballot who received the second largest number of votes on the day of the elections.
- 3. If the circumstances referred to in part two of this article occurred later than ten days prior to the day of the repeat voting or if there for some other reason is no candidate who could be included in the ballot for repeat voting instead of the one who has withdrawn his/her

candidacy, the repeat voting shall be conducted in respect of a single candidate for the post of the President of Ukraine.

- 4. The candidates for the post of the President of Ukraine who were not included in the ballot for repeat voting shall lose the status of the subject of the election process on the day of official publication of the notice indicated in part five of Article 322 of this Code.
- 5. In the case of part two of this article, the status of the subject of the election process for the candidate who was included in the ballot instead of the withdrawn one shall be restored on the day the decision is taken to include such candidate in the ballot for repeat voting.

### Article 325. Form of the Ballot for Repeat Voting

The form of a ballot for repeat voting and the degree of its protection shall be approved by the Central Election Commission simultaneously with the determination of the day for repeat voting in accordance with Article 316 of this Code.

# Article 326. Change of the Composition of Election Commissions for the Preparation and Conduct of Repeat Voting

- 1. In order to prepare and conduct repeat voting, a new composition of the district and precinct election commissions shall be formed as nominated by the candidates who have been included in the ballot for repeat voting.
- 2. The powers of the previous composition of the election commission shall be terminated on the day the decision is taken to approve a new composition of the election commission.
- 3. The persons who meet the requirements of Article 86 of this Code may be included in the nomination document for membership in the district and precinct election commissions. The nomination document may include those persons who were previous members of the commission and whose powers have not been terminated ahead of time on the grounds stated in part five of Article 104 and part one of Article 106 of this Code.
- 4. The position of a deputy head of the commission shall not be available in the new membership of the election commissions.
- 5. The head and the secretary of the election commission may not be the representatives of one and the same candidate for the post of the President of Ukraine.

### Article 327. Procedure for Changing the Composition of District Election Commissions

- 1. No later than the third day after the decision is taken to call the repeat voting (in the case of part two of Article 324 of this Code after the day the aforementioned decision is taken), the candidates for the post of the President of Ukraine who have been included in the ballot for repeat voting, according to part three of Article 90 of this Code, shall file a nomination document to the Central Election Commission under the procedure provided by Article 87 of this Code indicating six persons nominated as members of each district election commission from each candidate.
- 2. No later than ten days prior to the day of the repeat voting, the Central Election Commission shall approve the new composition of the district election commissions on the basis of the nomination documents referred to in part one of this article. The nominees to the district election commission in accordance with this Code may only be rejected if they do not meet the requirements for members of the election commissions as provided by Article 86 of this Code.
- 3. If the number of nominees proposed by a candidate for membership in the district election commission is less than six persons, the respective district election commission shall be formed with the number of members equal to the number of proposed nominees.
- 4. When distributing executive positions in district election commissions, the Central Election Commission shall allocate an equal number of positions of the Head and Secretary of the District Election Commission to each candidate who has been included in the ballot for repeat voting (the departure of no more than one position of the head or secretary of the commission, respectively, from the equal number of positions is allowed). In this regard, the uniformity of territorial distribution of positions received by the representatives of each candidate should be observed.

### Article 328. Procedure for Changing the Composition of Precinct Election Commissions

- 1. No later than eight days prior to the day of the repeat voting, the candidates for the post of the President of Ukraine who have been included in the ballot for repeat voting shall file a nomination document to the respective district election commission, under the procedure established by parts three and four of Article 95 of this Code indicating such number of nominees to each precinct commission as provided by part two of this article.
- 2. Each candidate shall nominate the following number of persons to the precinct election commission:
  - 1) for large precincts ten persons;
  - 2) for medium precincts eight persons;
  - 3) for small precincts six persons; and
  - 4) for especially small precincts three persons.
- 3. If the number of nominees proposed by a candidate for membership in the respective precinct election commission is less than the number specified in part two of this article, the respective precinct election commission shall be formed with the number of members equal to the number of proposed nominees.
- 4. When distributing executive positions in the precinct election commissions of the respective territorial election district, the district election commission shall allocate an equal number of positions of the Head and Secretary of the Precinct Election Commission in each category of election precincts within the territorial election district to each candidate who has been included in the ballot for repeat voting (the departure of no more than one position of the head or secretary of the commission, respectively, from the equal number of positions is allowed).

#### Article 329. Voter Lists for Repeat Voting

- 1. The voter lists for repeat voting at election precincts specified in part one of Article 158 of this Code shall be produced by the Register maintenance bodies in three copies on the basis of the voter lists for voting at these precincts which were produced according to Article 168 of this Code. The results of the handling of claims related to the voter lists which claims were received after the day of the elections shall be taken into consideration when producing the voter lists.
- 2. The voter lists for repeat voting shall include the citizens of Ukraine who attained eighteen years of age after the day of the elections, but prior to the day of the repeat voting.
- 3. The voter lists for repeat voting which were produced by the Register maintenance bodies shall be transferred to the district and precinct election commissions according to the procedure provided by Article 169 of this Code.
- 4. The voter lists for repeat voting at special election precincts specified in part one of Article 163 of this Code shall be compiled and updated according to the procedure and within the time period provided by Articles 163 and 170 of this Code.
- 5. The Register maintenance body at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine shall produce the voter lists for repeat voting at out-of-country election precincts on the basis of the voter lists for voting at these precincts in three copies no later than three days prior to the day of the repeat voting. The voter lists shall be produced with due account for the results of updating the voter lists according to the procedure provided by Article 171 of this Code.
- 6. The voter lists for repeat voting shall be transferred to the precinct election commissions of out-of-country election precincts according to the procedure provided by part ten of Article 171 of this Code.

#### Article 330. Absentee Voting Certificates for Repeat Voting

- 1. The Central Election Commission shall establish the form of absentee voting certificates for repeat voting no later than next day after the decision is taken to call the repeat voting according to part three of Article 322 of this Code and subject to the requirements of parts two and three of Article 173 of this Code.
- 2. The form of the absentee voting certificate for repeat voting and security techniques shall be different from those used for voting at the elections of the President of Ukraine.

- 3. The production, transfer to the Register maintenance bodies, accounting for and reporting of the use of the forms of absentee voting certificates for repeat voting shall be effected according to the procedure provided by Articles 174 and 176 of this Code. The forms of absentee voting certificates for repeat voting shall be transferred to the Register maintenance bodies no later than ten days prior to the day of repeat voting.
- 4. The voter may apply to the Register maintenance body for an absentee voting certificate according to the procedure provided by Article 172 of this Code from the day the Register maintenance body received the forms of absentee voting certificates.
- 5. The preparation for and conduct of voting with absentee voting certificates for repeat voting shall be effected according to the procedure provided by Articles 177 and 178 of this Code at regular election precincts determined according to part one of Article 177 of this Code for voting at the elections of the President of Ukraine.

#### Article 331. Official Observers in the Process of Repeat Voting

- 1. Official observes from candidates for the post of the President of Ukraine and from public organizations who were registered according to Article 217 of this Code prior to the day of voting, official observers from foreign states and international organizations who received accreditation at the elections of the President of Ukraine according to Article 219 of this Code shall continue to exercise their authority in the process of preparation, conduct and tabulation of the results of repeat voting without any re-registration (re-accreditation).
- 2. The registration of additional official observers from the candidates for the post of the President of Ukraine who were included in the ballot for repeat voting and from public organizations that meet the requirements of Article 216 of this Code, the replacement of official observers according to part three of Article 215 of this Code shall be effected according to the procedure provided by Article 217 of this Code. Respective nominations may be made no later than five days prior to the day of repeat voting.
- 3. Accreditation of the additional official observers from foreign states and international organizations shall be renewed next day after the day the decision is taken by the Central Election Commission to call the repeat voting. Respective proposals referred to in part one of Article 219 of this Code may be made no later than five days prior to the day of repeat voting.

# Article 332. Official Announcement of the Results of Elections of the President of Ukraine

- 1. The Central Election Commission shall, no earlier than the third day and no later than the fifth day after the tabulation of the election results, officially announce the results of the elections of the President of Ukraine by publishing an official notice about the results of the elections of the President of Ukraine in the newspapers Holos Ukrayiny and Uriadovyi Courier indicating a full name of the President of Ukraine, the subject of the nomination process and information about him/her as specified in clauses 1 to 10 of part eight of Article 290 of this Code.
- 2. The official announcement by the Central Election Commission of the results of the elections of the President of Ukraine according to the procedure provided by part one of this article shall be the grounds for dismissal from job (office), which is inconsistent with the post of the President of Ukraine, and taking a decision about termination of a representative mandate of the person elected as a President of Ukraine.

#### Article 333. Assumption of the Office of the President of Ukraine

- 1. The newly elected President of Ukraine shall assume office no later than thirty days after the official announcement of the results of the elections.
- 2. The assumption of the office of the President by the newly elected President of Ukraine shall take effect as of the date he/she takes the oath before the people of Ukraine at a solemn session of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine.
- 3. The Central Election Commission shall issue the newly elected President of Ukraine the certificate of the President of Ukraine after the oath has been taken.

### SECTION XXVIII. GENERAL PROVISIONS ON ELECTIONS OF MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT OF UKRAINE

#### Article 334. Basic Principles of Elections of Members of Parliament of Ukraine

- 1. Members of Parliament of Ukraine (hereinafter referred to as "MPs") shall be elected by citizens of Ukraine on the basis of universal, equal and direct suffrage by secret voting.
- 2. MP elections shall be held on the basis of a proportional election system according to electoral lists of MP candidates (hereinafter referred to as "electoral lists") from political parties (hereinafter referred to as "parties").
- 3. Ukrainian citizens with the right to vote shall have the right to nominate MP candidates. They shall exercise this right through political parties in the manner prescribed by this Code.
- 4. MP mandates shall be distributed according to the electoral lists of candidates voted for by at least three percent of the valid votes cast in an MP election in the nationwide election district.

#### Article 335. The Right to Be a Candidate for Member of Parliament

- 1. Any voter, who meets the requirements set out in part one and part two of Article 12 of this Code, who has attained the age of 21 by the MP election voting day and who has been residing in Ukraine for the last five years, shall have the right to be an MP candidate.
- 2. MP candidates, who have been nominated and registered in the manner prescribed by this Code, shall enjoy such rights and guarantees relating to their activities during the election process as defined in this Code.

#### Article 336. Regular Elections of Members of Parliament of Ukraine

- 1. No special resolution shall be required to be passed for calling a regular MP election.
- 1. The regular MP election voting day shall be scheduled for the last Sunday of the last month of the fifth year of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine of each convocation.
  - 2. The regular MP election process shall begin 90 days before the voting day.
- 3. The Central Election Commission shall announce the beginning of the election process at least 100 days before the voting day.

#### Article 337. Extraordinary (Early) Elections of Members of Parliament of Ukraine

- 1. An extraordinary (early) MP election shall be held on the last Sunday of the 60-day period following the publication date of the decree of the President of Ukraine on calling an extraordinary (early) election of Members of Parliament of Ukraine, issued on the basis of the Constitution of Ukraine.
- 2. The extraordinary (early) MP election process shall begin on the day immediately following the publication date of the decree of the President of Ukraine referred to in part two of this Article.
- 3. Extraordinary (early) MP elections shall be prepared and conducted in the manner and within the period prescribed by this Code, subject to the specific requirements set out in Articles 384-387 of this Code.

# Article 338. Territorial Organization of Elections of Members of Parliament of Ukraine

- 1. The system of territorial organization of elections of Members of Parliament of Ukraine shall consist of the territorial election units defined in part one of Article 26 of this Code, as well as of regional election districts.
- 2. For the purposes of forming lists of MP candidates, the nationwide election district shall be subdivided into 30 regional election districts:
- 1) Regional Election District No. 1: Golosiyivskyi raion, Darnytskyi raion, Desnyanskyi raion, Dniprovskyi raion and Pecherskyi raion in Kyiv;
- 2) Regional Election District No. 2: Obolonskyi raion, Podilskyi raion, Svyatoshinskyi raion, Solomyanskyi raion and Shevchenkivskyi raion in Kyiv, and the Out-of-country Election District;

- 3) Regional Election District No. 3: Autonomous Republic of Crimea;
- 4) Regional Election District No. 4: Vinnytsya oblast;
- 5) Regional Election District No. 5: Volyn oblast;
- 6) Regional Election District No. 6: the cities of Dnipropetrovsk, Novomoskovsk, Pavlograd, Synelnykove and Ternivka; Vasylkivskyi raion, Dnipropetrovskyi raion, Mezhivskyi raion, Novomoskovskyi raion, Pavlogradskyi raion, Petropavlivskyi raion, Pokrovskyi raion, Synelnykivskyi raion and Yuryivskyi raion in Dnipropetrovsk oblast;
- 7) Regional Election District No. 7: the cities of Vilnogirsk, Dniprodzerzhynsk, Zhovti Vody, Kryvyi Rig, Marganets, Nikopol and Ordzhonikidze; Apostolivskyi raion, Verkhnyodniprovskyi raion, Kryvorizkyi raion, Krynychanskyi raion, Magdalynivskyi raion, Nikopolskyi raion, Petrykivskyi raion, Pyatykhatskyi raion, Solonyanskyi raion, Sofiyivskyi raion, Tomakivskyi raion, Tsarychanskyi raion and Shyrokivskyi raion in Dnipropetrovsk oblast;
- 8) Regional Election District No. 8: the cities of Artemivsk, Gorlivka, Debaltseve, Dzerzhynsk, Dymytrov, Dobropillya, Druzhkivka, Yenakiyeve, Zhdanivka, Kirovske, Kostyantynivka, Kramatorsk, Krasnyi Lyman, Makiyivka, Slovyansk, Snizhne and Shakhtarsk; Artemivskyi raion, Dobropilskyi raion, Kostyantynivskyi raion, Krasnolymanskyi raion, Oleksandriyskyi raion, Slovyanskyi raion and Shakhtarskyi raion in Donetsk oblast;
- 9) Regional Election District No. 9: the cities of Avdiyivka, Vugledar, Dokuchayevsk, Donetsk, Krasnoarmiysk, Mariupol, Novogrodivka, Selydove, Torez, Khartsyzk and Yasynuvata; Amvrosiyivskyi raion, Velykonovosilkivskyi raion, Volnovaskyi raion, Volodarskyi raion, Krasnoarmiyskyi raion, Maryinskyi raion, Novoazovskyi raion, Pershotravnevyi raion, Starobeshivskyi raion, Telmanivskyi raion and Yasynuvatskyi raion in Donetsk oblast:
  - 10) Regional Election District No. 10: Zhytomyr oblast;
  - 11) Regional Election District No. 11: Zakarpattya oblast;
  - 12) Regional Election District No. 12: Zaporizhya oblast;
  - 13) Regional Election District No. 13: Ivano-Frankivsk oblast;
  - 14) Regional Election District No. 14: Kyiv oblast;
  - 15) Regional Election District No. 15: Kirovograd oblast;
  - 16) Regional Election District No. 16: Lugansk oblast;
  - 17) Regional Election District No. 17: Lviv oblast;
  - 18) Regional Election District No. 18: Mykolayiv oblast;
  - 19) Regional Election District No. 19: Odesa oblast;
  - 20) Regional Election District No. 20: Poltava oblast;
  - 21) Regional Election District No. 21: Rivne oblast;
  - 22) Regional Election District No. 22: Sumy oblast;
  - 23) Regional Election District No. 23: Ternopil oblast:
  - 24) Regional Election District No. 24: Kharkiv oblast:
  - 25) Regional Election District No. 25: Kherson oblast;
  - 26) Regional Election District No. 26: Khmelnytskyi oblast;
  - 27) Regional Election District No. 27: Cherkasy oblast;
  - 28) Regional Election District No. 28: Chernivtsi oblast;
  - 29) Regional Election District No. 29: Chernigiv oblast; and
  - 30) Regional Election District No. 30: the city of Sevastopol.

### Article 339. Election Commissions on Elections of Members of Parliament of Ukraine

- 1. The system of election commissions in charge of the administration of preparation and conduct of elections of Members of Parliament of Ukraine shall consist of the election commissions listed in part one of Article 49 of this Code.
- 2. No election commissions shall be set up in the regional election districts listed in part two of Article 338 of this Code.
- 3. The subjects of the nomination process for members of the District Election Commissions and the Precinct Election Commissions, which are referred to in part one of Article 87, shall be the parties acting as subjects of the election process, which are not represented by factions in the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine of the current convocation.

- 4. The nomination documents for members of District Election Commissions, as submitted in accordance with Article 87 of this Code, as well as for members of the Precinct Election Commissions of out-of-country election precincts, as submitted in accordance with Article 98 of this Code, shall be signed by the party leader. The nomination documents shall be sealed with the party's seal.
- 5. The nomination documents for members of the Precinct Election Commissions of regular and special election precincts, as submitted in accordance with Article 95 of this Code, shall be signed by the party's authorized person in the nationwide election district or in the respective territorial election district. The authenticity of the signature of the person, who is submitting the nomination documents, shall be certified by a notary.

# SECTION XXIX. NOMINATION AND REGISTRATION OF CANDIDATES FOR MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT OF UKRAINE

### Article 340. General Procedure for Nominating Candidates for Members of Parliament

- 1. A citizen of Ukraine, who has the right to be an MP candidate in accordance with part one of Article 335 of this Code, may give his consent to be nominated as a candidate from one political party only.
- 2. A party may nominate a person, who is a member of such party, or a person, who is not a member of any political party but who has the right to be an MP candidate in accordance with part one of Article 335 of this Code. A person may be included on the electoral list of only one political party.
- 3. A party shall nominate its MP candidates and shall form its electoral lists of candidates at its congress (meeting, conference) convened and conducted in the manner prescribed by such party's charter.
- 4. The nomination of MP candidates shall begin 89 days before the voting day and shall end 67 days before the voting day.
- 5. The party, which has nominated its MP candidates in the manner prescribed by this Code, shall acquire the status of a subject of the election process from the day when a resolution is passed on their nomination.

#### Article 341. Electoral Lists of Candidates for Members of Parliament

- 1. MP candidates shall be nominated on the basis of regional electoral lists and the nationwide electoral list of MP candidates from a party.
- 2. A party shall nominate a separate regional electoral list of MP candidates for each regional election district listed in part two of Article 338 of this Code. A person nominated as a candidate may be included in only one regional electoral list of MP candidates from a party.
- 3. The regional electoral list shall include at least five MP candidates. The maximum number of candidates, who may be included in the regional electoral list in each regional election district, shall be determined by the Central Election Commission prior to the beginning of the election process, based on the estimated number of voters in the respective regional election district.
- 4. A party shall form its nationwide electoral list of MP candidates, which must include at least 50 MP candidates selected from among those MP candidates, who are included in its regional electoral lists of candidates.
- 5. The order (numbers) of candidates included in a party's regional electoral lists and its nationwide electoral list of MP candidates shall be determined at such party's congress (meeting, conference) at the time when the MP candidates are nominated and the respective list is formed.
- 6. When forming its regional electoral lists of candidates and its nationwide electoral list of candidates, a party shall ensure that every five candidates (listed as numbers one to five, six to ten, and so on) included in each electoral list contain both male and female candidates.

- 7. The forms of a party's regional electoral list of MP candidates and its nationwide electoral list of MP candidates shall be approved by the Central Election Commission at least 100 days before the voting day.
- 8. In each of its regional electoral lists of candidates, a party shall specify the following information about each of its candidates:
  - 1) full name;
  - 2) day, month and year of birth;
  - 3) citizenship;
  - 4) party membership;
  - 5) educational background;
  - 6) place of work (occupation), position;
  - 7) availability of a representative mandate as at the time of nomination; and
  - 8) place of residence and voter address.
- 9. With respect to each of the candidates included on its nationwide electoral list of candidates, a party shall specify the information referred to in clauses 1-8 of part eight of this Article, as well as the regional election district, in which such candidate is nominated, and his number in the respective regional electoral list.

## Article 342. Procedure for Holding a Party's Congress (Meeting, Conference) to Nominate MP Candidates

- 1. At least 250 delegates must be present at a party's congress (meeting, conference) where MP candidates are nominated.
- 2. The party leader shall notify the Central Election Commission in writing of the time and venue of its congress (meeting, conference), where its MP candidates will be nominated, at least five days before the date of such congress (meeting, conference). The Central Election Commission shall promptly post such information about the party's event on its official website. On the instruction of the Head of the Central Election Commission, a member of the Central Election Commission may be present at such congress (meeting, conference).
- 3. The party's congress (meeting, conference), where its MP candidates are to be nominated, shall be held openly. Procedures for the accreditation of mass media representatives wishing to attend such congress (meeting, conference) shall be determined by the organizers of the event. To provide places for the mass media representatives who are going to attend the said event, at least 20 percent of seats in the respective premises must be allocated.
- 4. Procedures for making nominations to the party's electoral lists shall be determined by the party itself. At the party's congress (meeting, conference) held to nominate MP candidates, proper conditions shall be created for a free and thorough discussion of the candidates nominated to the party's electoral lists and of the party's election campaign.
- 5. Resolutions on the nomination of the party's MP candidates passed at its congress (meeting, conference) shall be passed by approval of each of its regional electoral lists of MP candidates nominated by the party for the respective regional election districts listed in part two of Article 338 of this Code, and of its nationwide electoral list of MP candidates, such lists to be drawn up in the form specified in parts six and seven of Article 341 of this Code. Resolutions on the nomination of MP candidates passed at the party's congress (meeting, conference) shall be signed by the party leader, whose signatures shall be accompanied by the party's seal.
- 6. The minutes of the party's congress (meeting, conference) shall contain its date, its agenda, the number of the elected and present delegates, information about the persons nominated as MPs, as required by clauses 1-8 of part eight of Article 341 of this Code, vote results for every regional electoral list of MP candidates and the nationwide electoral list of MP candidates, as well as for individual candidates (if such votes are held). The minutes of the congress (meeting, conference) shall be signed by the party leader and sealed with the party's seal.

# Article 343. Requirements for the Registration of Candidates for Members of Parliament

- 1. The party, which has nominated its MP candidates, shall submit the following documents to the Central Election Commission:
- 1) the party's application for the registration of its MP candidates, signed by the party leader and sealed with the party's seal, with the indication of the party's legal address;
- 2) a copy of the party's certificate of registration and a copy of the party's charter, such copies to be certified free of charge by the Ministry of Justice of Ukraine after the election process begins, but in any event not later than on the seventh day after the respective application is filed;
- 3) the minutes of the party's congress (meeting, conference) held to nominate MP candidates from the party (bloc), as drawn up in accordance with part five of Article 342 of this Code;
- 4) resolutions on nomination of the party's MP candidates passed at the party's congress (meeting, conference) in accordance with part four of Article 342 of this Code;
- 5) applications of each of the persons included in the party's regional electoral list, such applications to contain the following information:
  - a) their consent to be nominated as MP candidates from this party;
- b) their consent to have their biographical information and income statements made public in connection with their participation in the election;
- c) their undertaking, if elected, either to stop their activities or lay down their representative mandates, if they are incompatible with the mandate of a Member of Parliament of Ukraine, or refuse from the mandate of a Member of Parliament of Ukraine;
- d) their undertaking, if elected, to transfer their owned business companies and corporate rights to another person in the manner prescribed by law within one month of the public declaration of the election results;
- 6) brief autobiographies of the persons included in the party's electoral lists, limited to 2,000 printed characters and necessarily containing the following information:
  - a) full name;
  - b) day, month and year of birth;
  - c) citizenship;
  - d) educational background;
  - e) employment record (including part-time jobs);
  - f) public service record (including electoral offices (posts));
- g) place of work (occupation), position as at the time of their nomination as MP candidates:
  - h) party membership, the year they joined the party;
  - i) family composition;
- j) place of residence and voter address, with indication of the period of residence in Ukraine;
- k) criminal or corruption records, with the indication of the grounds for respective liability; and
  - I) availability or unavailability of previous convictions;
- 7) the party's election program, as adopted at the party's congress (meeting, conference), laid down in the official state language and containing a maximum of 7,800 printed characters;
- 8) property and income statements of each of the MP candidates prepared in accordance with Article 345 of this Code:
- 9) a document confirming that a monetary deposit has been made by the party in accordance with Article 344 of this Code; and
- 10) photographs of the persons included on the party's electoral lists, the sizes and the number of copies of such photographs to be determined by the Central Election Commission together with approval of the forms of electoral lists of MP candidates.
- 2. The documents, which are mentioned in part one of this Article, shall be submitted to the Central Election Commission by the party leader or by another person specifically authorized for this purpose by resolution of the party's central governing body.
- 3. The Central Election Commission shall provide the person, who submits the documents in accordance with part two of this Article, with a certificate confirming the acceptance of such documents. The certificate shall contain a list of the accepted

documents, the day, month and year of their acceptance, and the full name and position of the person who accepts these documents.

4. The period for submitting the documents to the Central Election Commission for the purposes of registering MP candidates shall end 67 days before the voting day.

#### **Article 344. Monetary Deposit**

- 1. A party, which has nominated MP candidates, shall pay a monetary deposit of UAH 500,000 by wire transfer to the Central Election Commission's special account.
- 2. The Central Election Commission shall publish its account details for paying monetary deposits in the newspapers Holos Ukrainy and Uriadovyi Courier not later than on the fifth day after the election process begins and shall post them within the same time limits on its official website.
- 3. If the Central Election Commission decides to deny registration to all of the MP candidates nominated by the party, the monetary deposit shall be transferred to such party's account within a five-day period after the respective resolution is passed.
- 4. Monetary deposits shall be returned to the parties, which take part in the distribution of MP mandates.
- 5. The monetary deposit paid by the party, which does not take part in the distribution of MP mandates, shall be transferred to the State Budget of Ukraine within eight days after the official public declaration of the election results.

### Article 345. Property and Income Statements of Candidates for Members of Parliament

- 1. An MP candidate shall himself fill in his property and income statement for the last year, the reporting period for which has ended by the day when the election process begins, such declaration to be in the form of the property and income declaration approved for civil servants of the first category by the Ministry of Finance of Ukraine as at January 1 in the year when the election process begins.
- 2. The Central Election Commission may request that the State Tax Administration verify the information contained in the MP candidate's property and income statement.
- 3. Any errors or inaccurate information revealed in the property and income statement shall be corrected and shall not serve as grounds for denying or canceling the MP's declaration.
- 4. Property and income statements of the MP candidates registered in the manner prescribed by this Code shall be posted on the Central Election Commission's official website.

### Article 346. Procedure for the Registration of Candidates for Members of Parliament

- 1. The Central Election Commission shall register the MP candidates included in the party's electoral lists upon submission of the documents required in part one of Article 343 of this Code.
- 2. The person, who has been included by the party in its electoral lists of MP candidates but who has not submitted an application, as required by clause 5 of part one of Article 343 of this Code, as at the day when the party submits an application for the registration of its MP candidates to the Central Election Commission, shall be struck off its electoral lists by resolution of the Central Election Commission from the day when the party files the said application. The statement, which contains such person's consent to be nominated and which is submitted after the party files its application for the registration of its MP candidates, shall not be accepted.
- 3. The person, who is included by the party in its electoral lists of MP candidates, may withdraw his or her statement of consent to be nominated as an MP candidate prior to the registration date. The Central Election Commission shall inform the party of such withdrawal in writing not later than on the day immediately following the day when the application is received. A new declaration of such person's consent to be nominated by any party shall not be accepted.

- 4. The person, who has been included in the electoral lists of two or more parties according to his or her statement of consent to be nominated as an MP candidate from such parties, shall be struck off the electoral lists of all the parties, in which such person has been included, by resolution of the Central Election Commission.
- 5. Not later than on the fifth day of the acceptance of the documents listed in part one of Article 343 of this Code, the Central Election Commission shall pass a resolution to either register the respective party's MP candidates or deny such registration.
- 6. Neither the list and the order of MP candidates included by the party in its nationwide electoral list, nor the list of the candidates included in each of its regional electoral lists may be changed after their registration by the Central Election Commission, except that certain candidates may be struck off the electoral list in cases specified by this Code. The order of the MP candidates included in a regional electoral list may be changed based on the voting results in the manner prescribed by part two of Article 377 of this Code.
- 7. Upon registration of the MP candidates nominated by a certain party, MP candidates' identification documents shall be issued to the party's representative in the Central Election Commission, together with a copy of the resolution on the registration of its MP candidates, within three days after such resolution is passed, such identification documents to be drawn in the form approved by the Central Election Commission.
- 8. An MP candidate shall acquire the status of a subject of the election process from the day when a resolution is passed to register him.
- 9. The party's nationwide electoral list and its regional electoral lists of MP candidates, together with the resolution on their registration, shall be published in the newspapers Holos Ukrainy and Uriadovyi Courier not later than on the third day after such resolution is passed. Each of party's regional electoral lists of MP candidates shall be published in the regional mass media in the respective oblast, in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, in Kyiv or in Sevastopol, not later than on the seventh day after the MP candidates are registered.
- 10. If the Central Election Commission finds that the documents submitted by the party contains elements of violations of the requirements set out in part one of Article 37 of the Constitution of Ukraine, it shall file a request with the Ministry of Justice of Ukraine seeking to submit a petition for a court injunction banning the activities of the respective party. The consideration of the issue of registering such party's MP candidates shall be postponed until a response is received from the Ministry of Justice of Ukraine or, if a petition has been filed with a court, until the relevant court decision enters into force.

### Article 347. Denial of Registration to a Candidate (Candidates) for Member of Parliament

- 1. The Central Election Commission shall deny registration to all of the MP candidates nominated by a party, if:
- 1) the provisions of this Code or other Ukrainian laws have been violated in the process of nominating such MP candidates; or
- 2) the documents, which are listed in clauses 1-4, 7, and 9 of part one of Article 343 of this Code, have not been provided or have been improperly executed.
- 2. The Central Election Commission shall deny registration to an individual MP candidate, if:
- 1) the candidate fails to submit an application as required by clause 5 of part one of Article 343 of this Code;
- 2) the candidate withdraws his statement of consent to be nominated as a candidate in line with part three of Article 346 of this Code:
- 3) any of the circumstances mentioned in part four of Article 346 of this Code are revealed;
- 4) at least one of the documents concerning the candidate, as listed in clauses 6 or 8 of part one of Article 343 of this Code, is not provided or is improperly executed;
  - 5) the MP candidate ceases to be a citizen of Ukraine;
- 6) the person, who has been nominated as an MP candidate, leaves Ukraine to live or seek political asylum abroad:
  - 7) a court declares the person nominated as an MP candidate to be incompetent;

- 8) a guilty verdict enters into effect against the person nominated as an MP candidate for an intentional crime: and
- 9) the Central Election Commission reveals other circumstances depriving the person nominated as an MP candidate of the right to be an MP candidate in accordance with part one of Article 335 of this Code.
- 3. The resolution to deny registration to an MP candidate (candidates) shall state exhaustive reasons for such denial. A copy of such resolution shall be handed over to the party's representative in the Central Election Commission not later than on the day immediately following the resolution date.
- 4. Denial of registration to all of the MP candidates nominated by the party due to improperly executed documents submitted by the party as required by clauses 1-4, 7, and 9 of part one of Article 343 of this Code shall not prevent the party from submitting a new application for the registration of MP candidates included on its electoral lists. This application, together with the documents corrected in accordance with the requirements of this Code, shall be submitted to the Central Election Commission not later than 64 days before the voting day.
- 5. Denial of registration to an MP candidate on the grounds mentioned in clause 4 of part two of this Article shall not prevent the submission of relevant or corrected documents, which must be made not later than 64 days before the voting day.
- 6. In the events mentioned in parts four and five of this Article, the Central Election Commission shall pass its final resolution on the registration of an MP candidate (candidates) included in the party's electoral list not later than 60 days before the voting day.
- 7. If all of the MP candidates nominated by the party are denied registration, such party shall lose its status of a subject of the election process after the expiry of the period prescribed for appealing such resolution of the Central Election Commission. If the party appeals the said resolution to court, the party shall retain its status of a subject of the election process until the respective court decision enters into legal force.

### Article 348. Cancellation of the Registration of a Candidate for Member of Parliament

- 1. The Central Election Commission shall pass a resolution to cancel the registration of an individual MP candidate included in the party's electoral list and strike him off the respective electoral list, if:
- 1) at any time after his or her registration, but in any event not later than seven days before the voting day, such MP candidate submits an irrevocable written statement of refusal to be nominated as a candidate;
- 2) not later than 15 days before the voting day, the party applies for the cancellation of the resolution on the registration of such MP candidate following a resolution adopted in the manner prescribed by the party's charter;
- 3) such MP candidate ceases to be a citizen of Ukraine or is found to be a citizen of another country;
  - 4) such MP candidate leaves Ukraine to live or seek political asylum abroad;
  - 5) such MP candidate is declared to be incompetent;
  - 6) a guilty verdict enters into effect against such MP candidate for an intentional crime;
- 7) such MP candidate is included in the electoral lists of two or mote parties, provided that his written statements of consent to be nominated as an MP candidate from these parties are available:
- 8) the Central Election Commission reveals other circumstances depriving such MP candidate of the right to be an MP candidate in accordance with part one of Article 335 of this Code; or
- 9) such MP candidate repeats his action, in connection with which a warning has been issued to him or her in accordance with part one of Article 349 of this Code.
- 2. The Central Election Commission shall consider the issue of canceling the MP candidate's registration in the presence of such MP candidate and the party's representative in the Central Election Commission. The said persons shall be notified of the time scheduled for the consideration of this issue not later than on the day immediately preceding the day of consideration. If the said persons, who have been properly notified of the meeting scheduled

for the consideration of this issue, fail to appear, the Central Election Commission shall consider this issue in the absence of the said persons.

- 3. The Central Election Commission shall notify the party and the MP candidate of its resolution to cancel the MP candidate's registration not later than on the day immediately following the resolution date and shall provide the party's representative in the Central Election Commission or the respective MP candidate with a copy of such resolution within the same time limits.
- 4. If the MP candidate dies, the Central Election Commission shall declare the resolution on his or her registration invalid.
- 5. The candidate, whose registration has been cancelled and who has dropped out of the election process, shall be struck off the respective party's electoral lists. Meanwhile, the order of other candidates (their numbers on the respective electoral list) shall not change.
- 6. The resolution, adopted in accordance with parts three or four of this Article, shall be published in the mass media not later than on the third day after the resolution date, but in any event not later than one day before the voting day.

### Article 349. Warning Against Violations of Election Laws

- 1. The Central Election Commission shall issue a warning to the party acting as a subject of the election process or to an individual MP candidate, if:
- 1) when considering an election dispute in the manner prescribed by law, a court finds that:
- a) voters or members of the election commission have been bribed by the MP candidate, the party, its official, the party's representative in the Central Election Commission, the party's authorized person, or any other person acting on the instruction of the party or the candidate;
- b) during the election process, the organization, of which the MP candidate, the party, its official, the party's representative in the Central Election Commission or the party's authorized person is the founder, the owner or a member of the governing body, has provided the voters, the agencies, the institutions, the organizations or the members of election commissions with money or with goods (other than those mentioned in part two of Article 205 of this Code), works, services, securities, credits, lotteries or other things of value on a free-of-charge basis or on beneficial terms (indirect bribery);
- c) the party or the MP candidate have used funds, other than resources of the electoral funds, to finance their election campaign; or
- d) the MP candidate, who has a position, including a part-time position, in executive bodies, bodies of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea or bodies of local self-governance, state enterprises or public utilities, agencies, institutions, organizations or military commands set up in line with Ukrainian laws, has engaged or used his subordinates, corporate vehicles, communications, equipment, premises, other facilities and resources available at his or her place of work to carry out his or her election campaign (abuse of office);
- 2) the party acting as a subject of the election process or the MP candidate has violated the limitations imposed on election campaigns, including by carrying out an election campaign during the election process in violation of the time limits set forth by Article 201 of this Code.
- 2. The Central Election Commission shall consider the issue of issuing a warning to the party or to the MP candidate in accordance with part two of Article 348 of this Code. The resolution to issue a warning may not be passed later than on the day immediately preceding the voting day.
- 3. The Central Election Commission shall inform the party acting as a subject of the election process or the MP candidate of its resolution to issue a warning not later than on the day immediately following the resolution date and shall provide the presidential candidate's authorized representative with a copy of such resolution within the same time limits. If the said resolution is passed on the eve of the voting day, a copy of this resolution shall be promptly delivered to the authorized representative.
- 4. The Central Election Commission's resolution to issue a warning to the party or to the MP candidate shall be published in state-run mass media not later than on the third day after

the resolution date and shall be immediately posted on the Central Election Commission's official website.

### Article 350. Official List of Parties Acting as Subjects of the Election Process

- 1. Not later than 56 days before the voting day, the Central Election Commission shall approve an official list of parties acting as subjects of the election process.
- 2. The names of the parties included in the official list of parties acting as subjects of the election process shall be put in the order of their numbers determined by drawing of lots to be held by the Central Election Commission with the participation of the parties' representatives in the Central Election Commission promptly after completion of the registration of MP candidates.
- 3. The party's number on the official list of parties acting as subjects of the election process, as determined in the manner prescribed by part two of this Article, may not be changed throughout the election process.
- 4. The Central Election Commission shall, at the expense of the funds allocated from the State Budget of Ukraine for the preparation and conduct of the MP election, arrange for the official list of parties acting as subjects of the election process to be printed, at least 25 copies for each large election precinct, at least 20 copies for each medium election precinct and at least 15 copies for each small election precinct. The necessary quantities of copies of the official list of parties acting as subjects of the election process shall be handed over to the respective Precinct Election Commissions according to the procedure to be determined by the Central Election Commission, together with the parties' information posters.
- 5. The official list of parties acting as subjects of the election process shall be used to provide information for the voters in the polling booths on the voting day in accordance with Article 367 of this Code.

### Article 351. Guarantees Relating to the Activities of Candidates for Members of Parliament

- 1. Unless an MP candidate is the President of Ukraine or a Member of Parliament of Ukraine, he or she may not be denied at their places of work to be relieved of their professional or official duties for the period of the election campaign, with the granting of an unpaid leave.
- 2. From his registration to the end of the election process, no MP candidate may be dismissed from work (office, service) at the initiative of the owner of the respective company, agency, institution, organization or a body authorized by the owner, or by the commander of the respective military unit (command). Without his consent, no MP candidate may be transferred to another job (position), sent on a business trip, called up for military or alternative (non-military) service or summoned to training (check) or special meetings of persons liable for military service.
- 3. The MP candidate shall have the rights of the party's authorized person, as prescribed by clauses 3 and 4 of part three of Article 357 of this Code, and shall exercise such rights in territorial election districts forming part of the regional election district, in the party's electoral list in which he is included as a candidate.

# Article 352. Guarantees Relating to the Activities of Parties Acting as Subjects of the Election Process

- 1. The party, which has nominated an MP candidate, may delegate one representative to the Central Election Commission, such representative to have an advisory vote and to be authorized to represent the party's interests in the Central Election Commission throughout the election process.
- 2. The party acting as a subject of the election process may have a maximum of five authorized persons in the nationwide election district and a maximum of two authorized persons in each territorial district. Powers of the party's authorized persons in the nationwide election district shall also extend to the Out-of-country Election District.
- 3. The candidacies of the party's representative in the Central Election Commission and the party's authorized persons shall be approved by the party's central governing body.

#### Article 353. Requirements for the Party's Representative and Authorized Persons

- 1. A citizen of Ukraine with the right to vote may be appointed as the party's representative in the Central Election Commission (hereinafter referred to as the "party's representative") or the party's authorized person.
- 2. The following persons may not be appointed as the party's representative or authorized person:
  - 1) a member of any election commission;
- 2) an official of an executive body, a body of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea or a body of local self-governance;
  - 3) an official of court or law enforcement bodies: and
  - 4) a servicemen or a person undergoing alternative (non-military) service.

# Article 354. Registration Procedure for the Party's Representative in the Central Election Commission

- 1. An application for registration of the party's representative, which must be signed by the party leader and sealed with the party's seal, and a resolution of the party's central governing body on approval of the candidacy of the party's representative in the Central Election Commission shall be submitted to the Central Election Commission simultaneously with an application for registration of the party's MP candidates in accordance with clause 1 of part one of Article 343 of this Code.
- 2. The application for registration of the party's representative shall state the following information on the respective person:
  - 1) full name;
  - 2) citizenship;
  - 3) date of birth;
  - 4) place of work, position (occupation); and
  - 5) voter address, contact phone number.
- 3. The application mentioned in part one of this Article shall be accompanied by the person's written statement of consent to represent the party's interests in the Central Election Commission.
- 4. Not later than on the third day after delivery of the documents mentioned in parts one and three of this Article, the Central Election Commission shall register the party's representative in the Central Election Commission with the right of an advisory vote. The candidacy of the party's representative may be rejected only for violations of the requirements of Article 353 of this Code or parts one to three of this Article.
- 5. Upon registration of the party's representative, the Central Election Commission shall issue a respective identification document for him. The form of such identification document shall be approved by the Central Election Commission.
- 6. If registration is denied to all of the MP candidates nominated by the party in accordance with part one of Article 347 of this Code, the powers of the party's representatives shall be deemed terminated as from the time when the party loses its status of a subject of the election process.

### Article 355. Rights of the Party's Representative in the Central Election Commission

- 1. The party's representative shall have the right:
- 1) to attend all meetings of the Central Election Commission, where matters relating to the MP election are discussed, with the right of an advisory vote: to receive, prior to the beginning of the meeting, the agenda and the materials relating to items on the agenda, to ask questions to the speaker, to make statements during discussions of items on the agenda, and to put forward proposals regarding the resolution to be passed by the Central Election Commission;
- 2) to review minutes of the Central Election Commission's meetings and its resolutions and to receive copies of such resolutions; when failing to attend a meeting, to inspect the documents, on the basis of which resolutions were passed at such meeting;
- 3) to promptly review the minutes, phonograms, facsimiles and other official communications received by the Central Election Commission from District Election

Commissions and Out-of-country Precinct Election Commissions regarding the voting results for the respective territorial election district, as well as the precinct vote counting protocols from respective Precinct Election Commissions and the repeat vote counting protocols for individual election precincts from District Election Commissions;

- 4) at his respective request, to promptly receive copies of the documents listed in clause 3 of this part; and
- 5) to exercise other rights provided by this Code for the party's representative in the Central Election Commission.
- 2. From the day of his registration by the Central Election Commission to the termination of his powers or the completion of the election process, the party's representative shall have the right to be relieved of his professional or official duties, without the retention of his salary, upon coordination with the owner of his company, agency, institution or organization or with a body authorized by the owner.

### Article 356. Registration of the Party's Authorized Persons

- 1. An application for registration of the party's authorized persons, signed by the party leader and sealed with the party's seal, shall be submitted to the Central Election Commission at any time after registration of the MP candidates included in the party's electoral lists.
- 2. The application for registration of the party's authorized persons shall contain such information about each authorized person as required by part two of Article 354 of this Code, as well as respective election districts, to which the powers of each authorized person shall extend.
- 3. The application shall be accompanied by a resolution of the party's central governing body on approval of the candidacies of the party's authorized persons, such resolution to be signed by the party leader and sealed with the party's seal, and by written consents of such persons to represent the party's interests in the respective election district.
- 4. Not later than on the third day of the delivery of the documents mentioned in parts one and three of this Article, but in any event not later than on the day immediately preceding the voting day, the Central Election Commission shall register the party's authorized persons and give their identification documents to the party's representative in the Central Election Commission, such identification documents to be drawn up in the form approved by the Central Election Commission.

#### Article 357. Powers of the Party's Authorized Persons

- 1. The party's authorized person shall facilitate the party's participation in the election process, including the election campaign, and shall represent the respective party acting as a subject of the election process without power of attorney.
- 2. The party's authorized person shall not have the status of an independent subject of the election process.
  - 3. The party's authorized person shall:
- 1) represent the party's interests throughout the election process in its relations with voters, election commissions and other subjects of the election process, courts, executive bodies, bodies of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, bodies of local self-governance, mass media, enterprises, agencies, institutions and organizations operating within the territory of the respective election district;
- 2) have the right to attend, with the right to an advisory vote, meetings of election commissions operating within the territory of the respective election district;
- 3) have the right to be present at the election precinct during the voting and at the meeting of the Precinct Election Commission during the vote counting, subject to the restrictions set out in clause 3 of part two of Article 114 of this Code;
- 4) have the rights of the party's official observer, as provided in part one of Article 215 of this Code; and
  - 5) exercise other powers provided by this Code for the party's authorized person.
- 4. The party's authorized person in the nationwide election district shall have the right to be present at the meeting of the Central Election Meeting.

- 5. The party's authorized person shall be subject to the restrictions set out in part two of Article 215 of this Code.
- 6. From the date of his registration by the Central Election Commission to the termination of his powers or the completion of the election process, the party's authorized person shall have the right to be relieved of his professional or official duties, without the retention of his salary, upon coordination with the owner of his company, agency, institution or organization or with a body authorized by the owner.

#### Article 358. Replacement of the Party's Representative or Authorized Person

- 1. The party's representative in the Central Election Commission and the party's authorized person shall have the right to apply to the Central Election Commission seeking to lay down their powers at any time before the voting day.
- 2. The party's governing body, which passed a resolution to approve the party's representative in the Central Election Commission or nominate the party's authorized person for registration, may, at any time before the voting day, inclusive, pass a resolution to recall the party's representative or the party's authorized person and approve another candidacy to replace the recalled one. The respective application, together with the resolution and other documents, shall be submitted to the Central Election Commission according to the procedure set out in part one of Article 354 or part one of Article 356 of this Code.
- 3. On the basis of the request submitted in accordance with part one or part two of this Article, and not later than on the third day after its delivery, but in any event not later than on the day immediately preceding the voting day, or promptly if on the voting day, the Central Election Commission shall pass a resolution to cancel the registration of the party's representative or the party's authorized person and (upon the respective request) to register another person as the party's representative or authorized person, respectively. A copy of the resolution shall be promptly given to the party's representative in the Central Election Commission or sent to the party's legal address.
- 4. The identification documents of the party's representative in the Central Election Commission or the party's authorized person, whose power are terminated before the completion of the election process, shall be deemed invalid.

#### Article 359. The Party's Right to Have Official Observers

- 1. The party acting as a subject of the election process may have official observers in accordance with part one of Article 214 of this Code.
- 2. Official observers from the party acting as a subject of the election process shall be nominated in accordance with 217 of this Code by the party's authorized persons in the respective territorial or nationwide election district.

# SECTION XXX. SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS FOR INFORMATION SUPPORT AND ELECTION CAMPAIGNING DURING ELECTIONS OF MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT OF UKRAINE

# Article 360. Specific Requirements for Opening, Forming and Using Electoral Funds of the Party Acting as Subjects of the Election Process

- 1. To finance its election campaign, the party, whose MP candidates have been registered by the Central Election Commission, shall form its electoral fund according to the procedure set out in Articles 185-189 of this Code, subject to the specific requirements set out in this Article.
- 2. No electoral funds shall be created for MP candidates. The candidates shall make their contributions to the respective party's electoral fund according to the procedure prescribed for individuals.
- 3. The accumulation account of the party's electoral fund shall be opened not later than on the fifth day after the Central Election Commission passes a resolution to register the MP candidates included in such party's electoral lists.
- 4. A voluntary contribution to one party's electoral fund may not exceed 400 minimum wages established as at the first day of the election process. The party's own funds

transferred to the accumulation account shall not be subject to any limitations as to the amount or number of transfers.

#### Article 361. The Parties' Information Booklets

- 1. At the expense of the funds allocated from the State Budget of Ukraine for the preparation and conduct of the MP election, the Central Election Commission shall arrange for information booklets to be produced for each party acting as a subject of the election process in accordance with Article 194 of this Code.
- 2. The party's information booklet shall contain the party's election program, which was submitted by the party during the registration of its MP candidates, as well as the party's nationwide electoral list and all its regional electoral lists, with the photographs of all the candidates included in the regional electoral lists.
- 3. The regional electoral lists of MP candidates, which are included in the party's information booklet, shall contain such information about each MP candidate as required by clauses 1-4 and 6 of part seven of Article 341 of this Code, as well as their places of residence.
- 4. The nationwide electoral list included in the party's information booklet, which is included in the party's information booklet, shall specify the candidate's number on the nationwide electoral list, his full name, as well as the regional election district, in the regional list in which the candidate's name is included, and the candidate's number on such list.
- 5. The Central Election Commission shall arrange for an equal number of copies of the party's information booklets to be produced, at least 15 copies of each booklet for every large election precinct, at least 12 copies for every medium election precinct and at least 10 copies for every small election precinct, as well as five copies for every District Election Commission. The information booklets thus produced shall be delivered to the Precinct Election Commissions, promptly after their creation, according to the procedure approved by the Central Election Commission. The party's representative in the Central Election Commission shall receive five copies of the booklet.
- 6. Precinct Election Commissions shall make the information booklets available for inspection by voters at the offices of such election commissions or, if on the voting day, at the premises where the voting takes place. The Precinct Election Commission shall make sure that an equal number of the information booklets of each party acting as a subject of the election process is available at the premises where voters inspect such information booklets.
- 7. If an MP candidate's registration is cancelled or if he is declared to have withdrawn from the election process in accordance with Article 348 of this Code on the basis of the respective resolution passed by the Central Election Commission, the Precinct Election Commissions shall reflect such changes in the respective party's information booklets.

#### **Article 362. The Parties' Information Posters**

- 1. The Central Election Commission shall cause information posters of the parties acting as subjects of the election process to be produced, as described in Article 194 of this Code, not later than 15 days before the voting day.
- 2. The party's information posters shall be produced for each regional election district. The party's information poster for a respective regional election district shall contain such information as specified in clauses 1-4 and 6 of part seven of Article 341 of this Code, as well as the photographs of all MP candidates included in the respective regional electoral list.
- 3. The Central Election Commission shall cause an equal number of information posters of all parties acting as subjects of the election process to be produced for each regional election district, at least 25 copies of each information poster for every large election precinct, at least 20 copies for every medium election precinct, and at least 15 copies for every small election precinct.
- 4. The information posters thus produced shall be delivered in the manner prescribed by the Central Election Commission to the respective Precinct Election Commissions not later than seven days before the voting day.

5. The information posters of the parties acting as subjects of the election process shall be used to provide information to voters on the voting day in polling booths as prescribed by Article 367 of this Code or, in case of mobile voting, as prescribed by part six of Article 238 of this Code.

### **Article 363. Making Changes to the Parties' Information Posters**

- 1. If a candidate's registration is cancelled or if he has withdrawn from the election process in accordance with Article 315 of this Code on the basis of the respective resolution of the Central Election Commission, the Precinct Election Commissions of the regional election district, in the regional electoral lists of candidates in which such candidate was included, shall make relevant changes to the respective party's information posters using the stamp "Withdrawn", as prescribed by part one of Article 225 of this Code.
- 2. It shall be forbidden to make any changes to the party's information poster without the Central Election Commission's resolution to cancel the candidate's registration or announce that he has withdrawn from the election process.
- 3. The Precinct Election Commission shall make relevant changes information posters at its meeting. The member of the commission designated by the commission shall stamp each of the respective party's information posters with the stamp "Withdrawn" opposite the number and the name of the respective candidate. The stamp shall be affixed horizontally and shall not stray to the poster's field containing the number and the name of another candidate. The head of the commission shall put his signature to the left of the name of the respective candidate. The secretary of the commission shall add the commission's seal to the signature of the head of the commission.
- 4. Every voter shall be informed of the changes made to the information poster further to the Central Election Commission's resolution during the voting at the time when a ballot paper is issued to him.
- 5. If any changes are made to the party's information posters without the resolution mentioned in part two of this Article or contrary to such resolution, the Precinct Election Commission shall remove and destroy such posters and shall draw up the respective act about that at its meeting, in two copies, in the form and in the manner prescribed by part ten of Article 115 of this Code. The act shall contain the information about the number of information posters received from the respective party, the number of the removed and destroyed information posters, and the names of the guilty persons. One copy of such act shall be promptly delivered to the District Election Commission, while the other copy shall be kept at the Precinct Election Commission.
- 6. The District Election Commission shall ensure that the necessary number of copies of the respective party's information posters is available at the election precinct. If necessary, the District Election Commission may apply to the Central Election Commission seeking to have an additional number of the respective party's information posters to be produced in the regional election district.
- 7. It shall be forbidden to use on the voting day the information posters, to which relevant changes have not been made in accordance with the resolution mentioned in part two of this Article or to which changes have been made in the absence of such resolution or contrary to such resolution.

# Article 364. Parity in Disseminating Information About Parties Acting as Subjects of the Election Process and About Candidates for Members of Parliament

- 1. The requirements for the parity in disseminating information, as set out in part two of Article 196 of this Code, shall apply to the dissemination of information about political parties acting as subjects of the election process.
- 2. The air time devoted to the parties (the party's chapters) acting as subjects of the election process in the broadcasts (series of broadcasts), mentioned in part two of this Article, shall include the air time devoted to the candidates nominated by the respective party (the party's chapter).
- 3. The air time allocated for the parties acting as subjects of the election process, which are represented in the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine of the current convocation, or for the MP candidates, who already have the status of Members of Parliament of Ukraine of the current

convocation as representing the respective party, may be increased by a maximum of 30 percent of the total air time specified in part two of Article 196 of this Code.

# Article 365. Election Campaigning During Elections of Members of Parliament at the Expense of the State Budget

- 1. Not later than three days after District Election Commissions are set up, the Central Election Commission shall designate one District Election Commission in each of the regions listed in part two of Article 133 of the Constitution of Ukraine, or in a part of such region within the respective regional election district, to be authorized to sign agreements with state-run and municipal TV and radio broadcasting companies for election campaigning using the funds allocated from the State Budget of Ukraine for the preparation and conduct of MP elections.
- 2. The TV and radio broadcasting companies shall provide each party acting as a subject of the election process with the air time for election campaigning at the expense and to the extent of the funds allocated from the State Budget of Ukraine for the preparation and conduct of the election on the basis of the agreements mentioned in part four of Article 210 of this Code as follows: a total minimum of 30 min on the nationwide TV channel and a minimum of 30 min on the nationwide radio channel, as well as a minimum of 20 min on the regional TV channels and a minimum of 20 min on the regional radio channels on the regional radio channels in each of the regional election districts. This air time shall be allocated to the party on each of the said channels in two equal portions of the total allocated time.
- 3. The preliminary schedule of the air time allocated for broadcasts of election campaign-related TV and radio programs in accordance with part two of this Article, with the indication of the broadcast day and time (without indication of the names of the program participants), shall be drawn up by the state-run and municipal nationwide and regional TV and radio broadcasting organizations, with which agreements have been signed for the distribution of the party's election campaign-related materials at the expense and to the extent of the funds allocated from the State Budget of Ukraine for the preparation and conduct of the election. Such schedule shall be sent, respectively, to the Central Election Commission or to the District Election Commission mentioned in part one of this Article, not later than 55 days before the voting day.
- 4. The order, in which the parties acting as subjects of the election process shall be provided with the TV and radio air time according to the schedule mentioned in part five of this Article, shall be determined not later than 53 days before the voting day by drawing of lots to be carried out, respectively, by the Central Election Commission or by one of the District Election Commissions mentioned in part one of this Article, with the participation of, respectively, the parties' representatives in the Central Election Commission or the parties' authorized persons in the respective territorial election district. The absence of the said persons, who have been properly notified of the time and venue of the drawing of lots, shall not prevent such drawing of lots from being held.
- 5. The results of the drawing of lots, held in accordance with part four of this Article, and the air time schedule drawn up according to such results, with the indication of the election campaign-related TV and radio broadcasts, as well as the days and times when they will be broadcast at the expense of the funds allocated from the State Budget of Ukraine for the preparation and conduct of the election, shall be published, respectively, in the newspapers Holos Ukrainy and Uriadovyi Courier or in local print media within three days of their approval by the Central Election Commission or by the respective District Election Commission and shall be posted on the Central Election Commission's website.

# SECTION XXXI. SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS FOR THE PREPARATION AND CONDUCT OF THE VOTING AND FOR THE CALCULATION OF RESULTS OF AN ELECTION OF MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT OF UKRAINE

Article 366. Requirements for the Contents of Ballot Papers Used During an Election of Members of Parliament of Ukraine

The ballot paper shall contain the following text consisting of two sentences: "I vote for political party's electoral list No."; "I vote for this political party's candidate for Member of Parliament of Ukraine listed as No.". Each of these sentences shall begin on a new line. Each sentence shall end with two blank fields for insertion of the party's number on the official list of parties acting as subjects of the election process, as approved by the Central Election Commission in accordance with Article 350 of this Code, and the MP candidate's number on the respective regional electoral list of such political party.

#### Article 367. Requirements for the Preparation of Polling Booths

- 1. Each of the polling booths set up in the voting premises of the election precinct shall be equipped with a properly protected stand, where the official list of political parties acting as subjects of the election process, as mentioned in Article 350 of this Code, and the information posters of each of the parties acting as subjects of the election process, as mentioned in Article 362 of this Code, shall be available throughout the voting. The said materials shall be displayed on the stand in such manner as to make them available for inspection by each voter filling in their ballot papers in the polling booth.
- 2. Requirements for the size and the material to be used to produce the stands mentioned in part one of this Article shall be determined by the Central Election Commission. The District Election Commission shall cause the stands to be produced for each election precinct of the respective territorial election district, the number of such stands to exceed the number of the cabins for secret voting to be set up at the respective precinct, as specified in part one of Article 230 of this Code, by two.
- 3. If any of the materials displayed on the stand in a polling booth in accordance with part one of this Article are found to be damaged, the head of the Precinct Election Commission or another member of this commission designated by him shall replace the damaged materials with their copies provided to the Precinct Election Commission in accordance with part three and part four of Article 362 of this Code.
- 4. If a stand set up in accordance with part one of this Article is destroyed or seriously damaged, the head of the Precinct Election Commission shall arrange for such stand to be promptly replaced.
- 5. If any of the violations mentioned in part four and part five of this Article are revealed, the respective booth shall not be used until such violations are completely removed.

#### Article 368. Procedures for Filling in Ballot Papers During the Voting Process

- 1. A voter shall fill in the ballot paper by inserting two figures in the blank fields at the end of the sentence "I vote for political party's electoral list No.", such figures to be the number of the party, for whose MP candidate (candidates) the voter votes, as listed on the official list of political parties acting as subjects of the election process. If the number is below 10, the figure "0" shall be inserted in the first blank field.
- 2. A voter may insert two figures in the blank fields available in the ballot paper at the end of the sentence "I vote for this political party's candidate for Member of Parliament of Ukraine listed as No.", such figures to be the number of the MP candidate, for whom the voter votes, as listed on the electoral list of the party, for which he votes in accordance with part one of this Article. If the candidate's number is below 10, the figure "0" shall be inserted in the first blank field.
- 3. If the voter fails to use his right as provided by part two of this Article or if the figures, which have been inserted in the blank fields near the sentence "I vote for this political party's candidate for Member of Parliament of Ukraine listed as No.", represent the non-existent MP candidate's number, it shall be deemed that the voter has voted for the entire regional list of MP candidates from the respective party, but has not voted for any specific candidate included in this list.

### Article 369. Counting of Votes Cast by Voters at an Election Precinct for Parties' Regional Electoral Lists

1. To calculate the votes cast for parties' electoral lists, the ballots to be counted shall be put in the manner set out in part one of Article 244 of this Code on places marked by

special plates, both side of such plates to contain the parties' numbers according to the official list of political parties acting as subjects of the election process mentioned in Article 350 of this Code, as well as the sign "Void".

- 2. In accordance with clause 3 of part three of Article 244 of this Code, a ballot shall be deemed void, if:
- 1) the party's number is not inserted in the blank field at the end of the sentence "I vote for political party's electoral list No."; or
- 2) the number inserted in the blank field at the end of the sentence "I vote for political party's electoral list No." does not belong to any of the parties included in the official list of political parties acting as subjects of the election process.
- 3. The Precinct Election Commission shall count the number of votes cast for the political parties' regional electoral lists according to the procedure set out in part three of Article 226 of this Code. During the vote counting, any member of the election commission may check or re-count respective ballots.
- 4. During the counting of votes in accordance with part three of this Article, a ballot shall be deemed to have been cast for a party's regional electoral list, if the number of such party is inserted by the voter in the blank field at the end of the sentence "I vote for political party's electoral list No.", as it appears on the official list of political parties acting as subjects of the election process, regardless of whether any number and which number is inserted in the blank field at the end of the sentence "I vote for this political party's candidate for Member of Parliament of Ukraine listed as No.".
- 5. If members of the election commission have any doubts as to the voter's will expressed in a ballot, the matter shall be resolved by vote of the Precinct Election Commission. The respective protocol decision shall be recorded in the protocol of the meeting of the Precinct Election Commission. Before the vote, each member of the election commission shall have the right to personally inspect the ballot. The counting of other ballots shall be stopped for the period of the inspection of such ballot and the respective vote. The respective protocol decision and voting results shall be recorded in the protocol of the meeting of the Precinct Election Commission.
- 6. The results of the counting of votes cast by the voters at an election precinct for each party's regional electoral lists shall be announced by the head of the commission and shall be recorded by the secretary of the commission in the vote counting protocol for their election precinct.
- 7. When counting the votes at an election precinct, the Precinct Election Commission shall verify whether the number of the voters, who have voted at such election precinct, as determined in accordance with part twelve of Article 243 of this Code, coincides with the total number of void ballots and ballots cast for the regional electoral lists of each political party. If there are any discrepancies, the Precinct Election Commission may re-count the ballots again. If the discrepancy remains, the Precinct Election Commission shall draw up a respective act of discrepancies in the form and in the manner prescribed by part ten of Article 115 of this Code, with the indication of the reason behind such discrepancy as determined by the commission.

# Article 370. Counting of Votes Cast by Voters at an Election Precinct for Individual Candidates Included in Regional Electoral Lists

- 1. The Precinct Election Commission shall process ballots cast by the voters for each political party's regional electoral list to determine the number of votes cast for each of the MP candidates included in such electoral list. To this end, the ballots cast by the voters for each political party's electoral list shall be put, in several rounds, on places marked by separate plates, both side of such plates to contain the candidates' numbers as they appear on the party's regional list of candidates, as well as the sign "votes cast for the party's entire electoral list". The ballots shall be distributed in several rounds as set out in part one of Article 244 of this Code in places marked by separate plates according to the candidates' numbers as they appear on the respective regional electoral list.
- 2. According to the procedure set out in part three of Article 226 of this Code, the Precinct Election Commission shall count the votes cast for each of the MP candidates included in the respective party's regional electoral list, as well as the number of votes cast

for the respective party's entire regional list of candidates without supporting any individual candidate from this list. During the vote counting process, any member of the election commission may check or re-count respective ballots.

- 3. During the vote counting in accordance with part two of this Article, a ballot shall be deemed to have been cast for the candidate, whose name appears opposite the number inserted by the voter in the ballot in the blank field at the end of the sentence "I vote for this political party's candidate for Member of Parliament of Ukraine listed as No." on the electoral list of the party, whose number is inserted by the voter in the ballot in the blank field at the end of the sentence "I vote for political party's electoral list No.".
- 4. If members of the election commission have any doubts as to the voter's will expressed in a ballot, the matter shall be resolved by vote of the Precinct Election Commission. The respective protocol decision shall be recorded in the protocol of the meeting of the Precinct Election Commission. Before the vote, each member of the election commission shall have the right to personally inspect the ballot. The counting of other ballots shall be stopped for the period of the inspection of such ballot and the respective vote. The respective protocol decision and voting results shall be recorded in the protocol of the meeting of the Precinct Election Commission.
- 5. The results of the counting of the votes cast shall be announced by the head of the commission and shall be recorded by the secretary of the commission in the vote counting protocol for their election precinct.
- 6. Upon completion of the processing of ballots cast for the respective political party's regional electoral list, the Precinct Election Commission shall verify whether the total number of votes cast for the party's regional electoral list coincides with the total number of votes cast for each MP candidate included in the party's electoral list and votes cast for the party's entire regional electoral list. If there are any discrepancies, the Precinct Election Commission may re-count the ballots again. If the discrepancy remains, the Precinct Election Commission shall draw up a respective act of discrepancies in the form and in the manner prescribed by part ten of Article 115 of this Code, with the indication of the reason behind such discrepancy as determined by the commission.
- 7. Ballots with votes cast for each of the MP candidates included in each party's regional electoral list shall be put into envelopes as prescribed by part eight of Article 240 of this Code. The envelope shall bear the party's name and its number on the official list of political parties acting as subjects of the election process, the candidate's name and his number on the party's regional electoral list.
- 8. Ballots with votes cast for the party's entire regional electoral list shall be put into envelopes as prescribed by part eight of Article 240 of this Code. The envelope shall bear the party's name and its number on the official list of political parties acting as subjects of the election process.
- 9. The envelopes with the ballots cast for each party's regional electoral list, as prepared in accordance with part eight and part nine of this Article, shall be put into one paper bag as prescribed by part eight of Article 240 of this Code. Each bag shall bear the respective party's name and its number on the official list of political parties acting as subjects of the election process.

# Article 371. Information Included in Special Sections of Final Protocols of Precinct Election Commissions and District Election Commissions

- 1. The following information shall be included in special sections of vote counting protocols to be drawn up by Precinct Election Commissions, as provided by part five of Article 246 of this Code, vote re-counting protocols to be drawn up by District Election Commissions, as provided by part twelve of Article 252 of this Code, tabulation protocols to be drawn up by District Election Commissions for their respective territorial election districts in accordance with part four of Article 255 of this Code, and the Central Election Commission's tabulation protocol for the Out-of-country Election District to be drawn up in accordance with part two of 259 of this Code:
- 1) the total number of valid votes cast within the election precinct or the territorial election district;
  - 2) the number of votes cast for each party's regional electoral lists of MP candidates;

- 3) the number of votes cast for each of the MP candidates included in each party's regional electoral list of MP candidates: and
  - 4) the number of votes cast for each party's entire regional list of MP candidates.
- 2. The total number of valid votes cast by the voters shall be determined as the total number of votes cast for each party's regional electoral list of MP candidates.

### Article 372. Protocol on the Results of an Election of Members of Parliament of Ukraine

- 1. The Central Election Commission shall determine the results of an MP election at its meeting on the basis of tabulation protocols to be drawn up by District Election Commissions for their respective territorial election districts, including those marked as "Corrected" protocols, and the Central Election Commission's tabulation protocol for the Out-of-country Election District not later than on the 15<sup>th</sup> day after the voting day and shall draw up the respective protocol.
- 2. The protocol on the results of an election of Members of Parliament of Ukraine shall contain such information as specified in Article 373 of this Code.
- 3. The Central Election Commission's protocol on the MP election results shall be drawn up in two copies. The protocol shall be signed by the Head, the Deputy Heads, the secretary and other members of the Central Election Commission, who are present at the Central Election Commission's meeting, and shall be sealed with the Central Election Commission's seal. The protocol shall state the day and the time (hours and minutes) when it is signed by members of the Central Election Commission.
- 4. Members of the Central Election Commission, who are present at the meeting, shall be bound to sign the MP election results protocol. If a member of the Central Election Commissions disagrees with the determined election results, as recorded in the protocol drawn up by the Central Election Commission, such member shall sign this protocol with the note "Separate Opinion". The written statement of such separate opinion shall be added to the MP election results protocol. If the signature of a member of the Central Election Commission is missing, the reason behind his failure to attend the meeting shall be stated opposite his name.
- 4. The following persons shall have the right to sign the first copy of the protocol: MP candidates, the parties' representatives in the Central Election Commission and the parties' authorized persons in the nationwide election district, who are present at the time when the results of the election of Members of Parliament of Ukraine are determined.
- 5. The contents of the protocol shall be promptly posted on the Central Election Commission's official website.

# Article 373. Information Included in the Protocol on the Results of an Election of Members of Parliament of Ukraine

- 1. The general section of the MP election results protocol to be drawn up by the Central Election Commission in accordance with Article 372 of this Code shall contain the following information:
- 1) the number of ballot papers produced according to the order placed by the Central Election Commission;
  - 2) the number of unused ballot papers invalidated by the Central Election Commission;
  - 3) the number of ballot papers received by District Election Commissions:
  - 4) the number of unused ballot papers invalidated by District Election Commissions;
- 5) the number of ballot papers received by Precinct Election Commissions set up in out-of-country election precincts:
- 6) the number of ballot papers received by Precinct Election Commissions set up in all election precincts;
- 7) the number of ballot papers produced [received???] by Precinct Election Commissions:
  - 8) the number of unused ballots torn halfway by Precinct Election Commissions;
  - 9) the total number of unused ballots;
  - 10) the number of produced absentee voting certificates;

- 11) the number of absentee voting certificates transferred to the bodies of the State Voter Register:
  - 12) the number of voters who received absentee voting certificates;
  - 13) the number of unused and invalidated absentee voting certificates;
- 14) the number of voters included in voter lists for the purposes of voting at election precincts;
- 15) the number of voters included in excerpts from the voter lists for the purposes of mobile voting at election precincts;
  - 16) the number of voters included in voter lists for the purposes of absentee voting;
  - 17) the number of voters who received ballot papers in the voting premises;
  - 18) the number of voters who received ballot papers in the mobile voting process;
- 19) the number of voters who received ballot papers on the basis of absentee voting certificates;
  - 20) the total number of voters who received ballot papers;
  - 21) the number of voters who voted in the voting premises;
  - 22) the number of voters who voted according to the mobile voting procedure;
- 23) the number of ballots, which have been found at election precincts and which are not to be counted;
  - 24) the number of voters who voted in each regional election district;
  - 25) the total number of voters who voted:
  - 26) the number of ballots recognized as void in each regional election district;
- 27) the percentage of ballots recognized as void in each regional election district as compared to the number of voters who voted in such regional election district;
  - 28) the total number of ballots recognized as void; and
- 29) the percentage of the total number of ballots recognized as void as compared to the total number of voters who voted.
- 2. The following information, in figures and in words, shall be included in the special section of the MP election results protocol on a priority basis:
  - 1) the number of valid votes for each regional election district;
  - 2) the total number of valid votes;
- 3) the number of votes cast for each party's regional electoral lists of MP candidates in each regional election district;
- 4) the percentage of votes cast for each party's regional electoral lists of MP candidates in each regional election district as compared to the number of valid votes cast in such regional election district;
- 5) the number of votes cast for each MP candidate included in each party's regional electoral list of MP candidates in each regional election district;
- 6) the number of votes cast for each MP candidate included in the each party's regional electoral list of MP candidates in each regional election district as compared to the number of valid votes cast in such regional election district;
- 7) the number of votes cast for each party's entire regional electoral list of MP candidates in each regional election district;
- 8) the total number of votes cast for each party's regional electoral lists of MP candidates; and
- 9) the percentage of the total number of votes cast for each party's regional electoral lists of MP candidates as compared to the total number of valid votes cast by the voters.
- 3. The information about voting results, which is indicated in clauses 1, 2, 10, 25, 28 and 29 of part one and clauses 2, 8 and 9 of part two of this Article, shall be stated in the election results protocol to be drawn up by the Central Election Commission's, in figures and in words, for the nationwide election district. The information, which is indicated in clauses 3-9 and 11-23 of part one of this Article, shall be stated, in figures and in words, for each territorial election district (including the Out-of-country Election District) and in total for the nationwide election district. The information, which is indicated in clauses 24, 26 and 27 of part one and clauses 3-5 and 7 of part two of this Article, shall be stated in figures for each territorial election district (including the Out-of-country Election District) and in total, in figures and in words, for each regional election district listed in part two of Article 338 of this Code.

- 4. The information, which is indicated in clause 6 of part two of this Article, shall be rounded off to the nearest whole number by chopping off the decimal part. The information, which is indicated in 27 and 29 of part one and clauses 4 and 9 of part two of this Article, shall be rounded off to the nearest hundredth.
- 5. Other information shall be included in the special section of the MP election results protocol in accordance with Article 374-378 of this Code.
- 6. The results of an election of Members of Parliament of Ukraine shall be determined as the number of MP mandates received by the party's electoral lists of MP candidates and the names of the persons elected as MPs from such parties.

### Article 374. Parties With the Right to Take Part in the Distribution of MP Mandates

- 1. The parties, for whose regional lists of candidates three or more percent of the valid votes have been cast in the nationwide election district, shall have the right to take part in the distribution of MP mandates.
- 2. On the basis of the information specified in clause 9 of part two of Article 373 of this Code, the Central Election Commission shall determine which parties have the right to take part in the distribution of MP mandates. The names of such parties shall be included in the special section of the MP election results protocol.
- 3. Those MP candidates included in the party's electoral lists, for which less than three percent of the valid votes have been cast in the nationwide election district, shall not have the right to take part in the distribution of MP mandates.

#### **Article 375. The Electoral Quotient**

- 1. The Central Election Commission shall determine the total number of votes cast for the regional lists of the parties with the rights to take part in the distribution of MP mandates in the context of each regional election district. This information shall be stated in the special section of the MP election results protocol, both in figures and in words, for each regional election district.
- 2. The Central Election Commission shall determine the total number of votes cast for the regional lists of the parties with the rights to take part in the distribution of MP mandates in the context of the nationwide election district. This number shall be stated in the special section of the MP election results protocol, both in figures and in words.
- 3. The Central Election Commission shall determine the number of votes qualifying for one MP mandate (hereinafter referred to as the "electoral quotient"). The electoral quotient shall be determined as the result of dividing the total number of votes cast for the regional lists of the parties with the right to take part in the distribution of MP mandates, as determined in accordance with part two of this Article, by the total number of MP mandates, which is equal to the number of Members of Parliament of Ukraine, as specified in the Constitution of Ukraine, such result to be rounded off to the nearest whole number.
- 4. The electoral quotient shall be stated, both in figures and in words, in the special section of the MP election results protocol.

### Article 376. Establishment of Number of Mandates Received by Regional Electoral Lists of MP Candidates

- 1. In each regional election district, MP mandates are divided between the regional electoral lists of MP candidates provided for in part one Article 374 of this Code proportionally to the number of votes cast in support of the respective regional electoral list, the amount of which determined as provided for in parts two four of this Article.
- 2. In order to determine the number of MP mandates received by a regional electoral list of MP candidates, the number of votes cast in the regional election district in support of the respective regional party electoral list is to be divided by an electoral quota determined as provided for in part three Article 375 of this Code. The whole part of the resulting figure means the number of MP mandates received by the MP candidates included in the respective regional electoral list of candidates nominated by the party.
- 3. The Central Election Commission establishes the number of votes cast in support of the regional electoral lists of MP candidates nominated by the respective party that remained

unused during the distribution of MP mandates in the regional territorial district (hereinafter referred to as the number of unused votes cast in the regional election district in support of the electoral list of MP candidates) by subtracting the resulting quota for the number of mandates received by MP candidates included in the respective regional electoral list of MP candidates nominated by this party from the number of votes cast in support of this electoral list.

- 4. The Central Election Commission summarizes the number of mandates received by the MP candidates included in the regional electoral lists of MP candidates nominated by all parties in the respective regional electoral district to establish the total number of mandates distributed in the respective regional election district.
- 5. The Central Election Commission summarizes the number of unused votes cast in the regional election district in support of the electoral list of MP candidates nominated by each party to establish the total number of unused votes cast in support of electoral lists of MP candidates nominated by parties participating in the distribution of mandates.
- 6. The Central Election Commission enters in the protocol on the tabulation of protocols for each regional election district the following data in figures and in words:
- 1) the number of MP mandates received by MP candidates included in the electoral lists of MP candidates nominated by each party provided for in part one Article 374 of this Code:
- 2) the total number of MP mandates distributed in the respective regional election district:
- 3) the number of unused votes cast in the regional election district in support of the electoral list of MP candidates nominated by each party provided for in part one Article 374 of this Code;
- 4) the total number of unused votes cast in support of the electoral lists of MP candidates nominated by all parties participating in the distribution of mandates.

### Article 377. Identification of Members of Parliament Elected in Regional Election District

- 1. The Central Election Commission determines the order of MP candidates in the regional electoral lists pf each party established on the basis of the results of voting in the respective regional election district pursuant to the procedure provided for in part two of this Article.
- 2. MP candidates are included in the regional electoral lists of MP candidates nominated by the respective party in the order of the descending percentage of votes cast in support of the respective candidate as provided for in clause 6 part two Article 373 of this Code. When the percentage of votes is equal, the higher place is to be taken by the candidate placed higher in the regional electoral list of MP candidates registered by the Central Election Commission pursuant to Article 344 of this Code. The candidates who did not receive support from any voter are placed last in the regional electoral list in the order determined by the party during the nomination of candidates.
- 3. The Central Election Commission enters in the protocol on the tabulation of protocols the regional electoral lists of MP candidates nominated by each party in each regional election district in the order of MP candidates determined as provided for in part two of this Article.
- 4. The elected MPs nominated by a party are the candidates whose number corresponds to the number of mandates received by MP candidates included in the regional electoral list of this party provided for in clause 1 part six Article 376 of this Code in the order, in which they are included in the regional electoral list of this party determined as provided for in part two of this Article.
- 5. The Central Election Commission is to mention in its protocol on the tabulation of protocols the following data about each MP elected in regional election districts:
  - 1) family name, first name and patronymic of the MP;
  - 2) regional election district, in which the MP was elected:
  - 3) name of party that nominated the MP:
- 4) place of work (employment), the position as of the moment of registration of the MP candidate;

- 5) place of residence;
- 6) party affiliation.

### Article 378. Establishment of Number of Mandates and Identification of MPs Elected in Nationwide Election District

- 1. Based on the data provided for in clause 2 part six Article 376 of this Code, the Central Election Commission establishes the total number of mandates distributed in all regional election districts.
- 2. By subtracting the number established as provided for in part one of this Article from the total number of MP mandates, which is equal to the number of seats in the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine provided for in the Constitution of Ukraine, the Central Election Commission establishes the number of mandates that are to be distributed in the nationwide election district.
- 3. Based on the data provided for in clause 3 part six Article 376 of this Code, the Central Election Commission establishes the total number of unused votes cast in the nationwide election district in support of the electoral list of MP candidates nominated by each party.
- 4. In order to determine the number of mandates received by the nationwide list of Mp candidates nominated by a party, the total number of votes cast in the nationwide election district in support of the electoral list of MP candidates nominated by the respective party established as provided for in part three of this Article is to be divided by an election quota established as provided for in part three Article 375 of this Code. The whole part of the resulting figure means the number of MP mandates received by MP candidates included in the respective nationwide electoral list of MP candidates nominated by this party. The fractional parts are taken into consideration during the distribution of the remaining MP mandates as provided for in part five of this Article.
- 5. The parties, nationwide electoral lists of which have higher fractional parts compared to others after the division provided for in part four of this Article, receive one additional MP mandate starting from the nationwide electoral list of MP candidates nominated by the party that ahs the highest fractional part. When fractional parts in two or more electoral lists of MP candidates nominated by parties are equal, the mandate is received by the party whose MP candidates received more votes in the nationwide election district as provided for in clause 8 part two Article 373 of this Code. The distribution of additional MP mandates ends after the all MP mandates have been distributed.
- 6. The elected MPs nominated by the party are the MP candidates included in the nationwide electoral list of MP candidates nominated by this party whose number corresponds to the number of mandates determined as provided for in parts four and five of this Article in the order, in which they are included in the nationwide electoral list of this party. The candidates elected in the respective regional election districts are excluded from the nationwide electoral list of MP candidates nominated by the party and are not taken into consideration during the distribution of mandates in the nationwide election district.
- 7. The Central Election Commission enters in the protocol on the tabulation pf protocols the following data in figures and in words:
  - 1) the number of mandates that are to be distributed in the nationwide election district;
- 2) the number of unused votes cast in the nationwide election district in support of the electoral list of MP candidates nominated by each party participating in the distribution of mandates:
- 3) the number of MP mandates received by MP candidates included in the nationwide electoral lists of MP candidates nominated by each party participating in the distribution of mandates.
- 8. The Central Election Commission enters in the protocol on the tabulation of protocols the data about each MP elected in the nationwide election district provided for in clauses 1, 3-6 of part five Article 377of this Code.

### Article 379. Official Declaration of Results of Elections of Members of Parliament of Ukraine

- 1. The Central Election Commission not later than on the fifth day after establishment of the elections results officially publishes the results of elections of Members of Parliament the *Holos Ukrainy* and *Uriadovyi Courier* newspapers. The list of elected MPs is to be published in alphabetical order stating the family name, first name and patronymic as well as the following data:
  - 1) year of birth;
  - 2) education;
  - 3 place of work (employment), position;
  - 4) place of residence;
  - 5) party affiliation;
  - 6) regional or nationwide election district, in which the MP was elected;
  - 7) party that nominated the MP.
- 2. Official publication of elections results by the Central Election Commission constitutes the grounds for dismissal of a person who was elected a Member of Parliament from his/her place of work (employment) that is incompatible with the MP mandate and for adoption of a decision on termination of another representative mandate held by this person.

# Article 380. Procedure for Reimbursement of Expenses of Party Related to Financing of Election Campaign

- 1. The parties whose electoral lists received three or more per cent of votes cast by the voters who took part in the voting are entitled to reimbursement of their expenses related to financing of their election campaigns from the State Budget of Ukraine in the amount equal to their actual expenses but not more than one hundred thousand minimum salaries established as of the start of the election process for each party.
- 2. The Central Election Commission, on the basis of a financial report on the income and use of resources of the party's electoral fund submitted pursuant to the procedure provided for in part seven Article 187 of this Code, not later than on the tenth day after the receipt of the aforementioned report is to adopt a decision on reimbursement of the party's expenses related to financing of its election campaign, or on a refusal to reimburse such expenses. When the Central Election Commission decides that part of the party's expenses fails to meet the requirements of this Code, the sum pf the party's expenses related to financing of its election campaign stated in the financial report is to be decreased by the amount of the protested sum.
- 3. The grounds for recognizing the party's expenses related to financing of its election campaign as incompliant with the provisions of this Code include the establishment by the Central Election Commission, during the examination of the data contained in the financial report on the income and use of resources of the party's electoral fund, of the facts that demonstrate violation of the requirements established by this Code for formation of the party's electoral fund or use of resources of the party's electoral fund for the needs not related to election campaigning.
- 4. A copy of this decision of the Central Election Commission on reimbursement of expenses of the party related to financing of its election campaign or on (partial) refusal to reimburse such expenses due to recognizing (part of) the party's expenses as incompliant with the provisions of this Code is handed out to the party which it concerns not later than on the day following the adoption of such decision.
- 5. A complaint against the decision of the Central Election Commission on refusal to reimburse the party's expenses related to financing of its election campaign may be lodged to a court.
- 6. The funds for reimbursement of expenses of the parties related to financing of their election campaigns are allocated from the State Budget of Ukraine for the year following the year, in which the elections of Members of Parliament of Ukraine were held. The principal administrator of the funds allocated for reimbursement of expenses of the parties related to financing of their election campaigns is the Central Election Commission.
- 7. The funds allocated for reimbursement of expenses of the parties related to financing of their election campaigns, on the basis of a respective decision of the Central Election Commission, are transferred by the Central Election Commission to the account of the respective party not later than on the thirtieth day after the Law on the State Budget of

Ukraine entered into legal force, which allocates funds for reimbursement of expenses of the parties related to financing of their election campaigns as provided for in part six of this Article.

### Article 381. Registration of Elected Members of Parliament of Ukraine

- 1. In order to be registered, a person who was elected a Member of Parliament of Ukraine is to submit to the Central Election Commission not later than on the twentieth day after the official declaration of the results of elections of Members of Parliament of Ukraine a document confirming his/her dismissal from the place of work (employment) incompatible with the MP mandate and (or) a copy of a registered statement on termination of the effect of another representative mandate submitted to the respective council.
- 2. When a person elected a member of Parliament of Ukraine appeals to the Central Election Commission stating the valid reasons that prevent such person from complying with the provisions of part one of this Article, the Central Election Commission may decide to recognize such reasons as valid and determine a different period for implementation of the aforementioned provisions, or to refuse to recognize such reasons as valid.
- 3. After the receipt of the documents provided for in part one of this Article, the Central Election Commission adopts a decision on registration of the elected person as a Member of Parliament of Ukraine.
- 4. When a person who was elected a Member of Parliament of Ukraine fails to comply with the provisions of part one within the period stipulated in parts one and two of this Article, the Central Election Commission adopts a decision on recognizing this person as having refused from the MP mandate and recognizes as an elected Member of Parliament the next MP candidate in the respective regional or nationwide electoral list of MP candidates nominated by the respective party, on which the person who refused from the MP mandate was elected.
- 5. When the respective regional electoral list of MP candidates has been exhausted, the order for receiving the mandate is transferred to the nationwide electoral list of this same party. When the nationwide electoral list was exhausted, the order for receiving the mandate is transferred to the unexhausted regional electoral list supported by the highest percentage of votes for the respective party in the respective regional election district.
- 6. Not later than on the seventh day from the day of registration of a person registered as a Member of Parliament of Ukraine, the Central Election Commission is to issue to such person a temporary ID of a Member of Parliament of Ukraine in the form it has determined.
- 7. The decision of the Central Election Commission on registration of a Member of Parliament of Ukraine and the temporary ID of a Member of Parliament of Ukraine constitute the grounds to taking an oath of the Member of Parliament of Ukraine by the respective person.

#### Article 382. ID and Lapel Badge of Member of Parliament of Ukraine

The Central Election Commission not later that on the seventh day after taking an oath by a Member of Parliament of Ukraine hands out to the respective person an ID of a Member of Parliament of Ukraine in the form it has determined.

### Article 383. Replacement of Members of Parliament Whose Powers Were Early Terminated

- 1. In the event of early termination of powers of a Member of Parliament of Ukraine on the grounds and pursuant to the procedure provided for in the Constitution of Ukraine and laws of Ukraine, the Central Election Commission adopts a decision on recognizing as the elected Member of Parliament the next MP candidate in the respective regional or nationwide electoral list of MP candidates nominated by this party pursuant to the procedure provided for in part five Article 381 of this Code.
- 2. A person provided for in part one of this Article is registered as a Member of Parliament of Ukraine and is issued a temporary ID of a member of Parliament of Ukraine by the Central Election Commission pursuant to the procedure provided for in Article 381 of this Code.

### SECTION XXXII. THE SPECIFIC FEATURES OF PREPARATION OF THE EXTRAORDINARY ELECTIONS OF MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT OF UKRAINE

### Article 384. The General Specific Features of Preparation and Conduct of the Extraordinary Elections of Members of Parliament

- 1. The extraordinary elections of Members of Parliament shall be prepared and conducted in accordance with the procedure and the time frames set by this Law and taking account of the special features set by this article and Articles 385-387 hereof.
- 2. When it comes to conducting the extraordinary elections of Members of Parliament, such forms of election documents as endorsed (set) by the Central Election Commission for the most recent regular elections of Members of Parliament, with amendments made thereto in respect of the date of the elections, shall be used.

### Article 385. The Specific Features of Setting up Election Commissions at the Extraordinary Elections of Members of Parliament

- 1. District election commissions shall be set up by the Central Election Commission no later than the twelfth day following the beginning of the election process.
- 2. Potential candidacies to district election commissions shall be nominated exclusively on behalf of such political parties as set forth in Part 1, Article 87 hereof no later than the eighth day following the beginning of the election process.
- 3. The number of candidates to the district election commission to be nominated by each one of such parties as set forth in Part 1, Article 87 hereof shall be determined by the Central Election Commission no later than the next day following the beginning of the election process, taking account of the limitations set in Part 1, Article 88 hereof in respect of the quantitative composition of the commissions and providing that conditions are created for each faction to enjoy equal representation.
- 4. If no candidates to district election commissions are nominated by such term as set by Part 2 of this article or if the number of nominated candidates to district election commissions is less than twenty, the Central Election Commission shall set up a district election commission of twelve members upon nomination by the head of the Central Election Commission while taking account of the candidates nominated by such parties as set forth in Part 1, Article 87 hereof.
- 5. The precinct election commissions that belong to regular and special election precincts shall be set up no later than fifteen days prior to the date of voting, upon nomination by such parties as set forth in Part 1, Article 87 hereof.
- 6. Potential candidacies to precinct election commissions shall be nominated no later than twenty days prior to the date of voting.
- 7. The number of candidates to the precinct election commission to be nominated by each one of such parties as set forth in Part 1, Article 87 hereof shall be determined by the Central Election Commission no later than forty days prior to the date of voting, taking account of the limitations set in Part 1, Article 91 hereof in respect of the quantitative composition of the commissions and providing that conditions are created for each faction to enjoy equal representation.
- 8. If no candidates to the precinct election commission are nominated by such term as set forth in Part 6 of this article or if the number of nominated candidates to the precinct election commission is less than the minimum number set forth in Part 3, Article 94 hereof, the district election commission shall set up the precinct election commission with the minimum number of members as set forth in Part 2, Article 94 hereof upon nomination by the head of the district election commission while taking account of the candidates nominated by such parties as set forth in Part 1, Article 87 hereof.
- 9. Along with such parties as set forth in Part 1, Article 87 hereof, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine shall nominate candidates to out-of-country election precincts while taking account of such requirements as set forth in Article 98 hereof.

Article 386. The Time Frames for Nomination and Registration of Candidates for Members of Parliament at the Extraordinary Elections of Members of Parliament

- 1. The nomination of MP candidates shall commence on the next day following the beginning of the election process and end forty days prior to the date of voting.
- 2. The documents necessary for MP candidates to be registered shall be submitted to the Central Election Commission no later than thirty-five days prior to the date of voting. The Central Election Commission shall decide on registering MP candidates no later than the third day following the date of receipt of the application for registering MP candidates and the documents accompanying it. In the event of a refusal to register MP candidates (a candidate) due to improper preparation of the documents submitted for registering, the corrected documents shall be submitted again in accordance with Part 4 and Part 5, Article 347 hereof no later than thirty days prior to the date of voting.
- 3. MP candidates shall be registered no later than twenty-seven days prior to the date of voting.

### Article 387. The Specific Features of Information Support and Conduct of Election Campaigning at the Extraordinary Elections of Members of Parliament

- 1. Parties' information booklets set forth in Article 361 hereof and parties' information posters for every election district of the region set forth in Article 362 hereof shall be produced no later than eighteen days prior to the date of voting.
- 2. No air time shall be provided on nationally operating television and radio channels for election campaigning at the expense of and within the amount of money earmarked in the State Budget of Ukraine for the preparation and conduct of elections.
- 3. The preliminary air-time schedule of election campaign television and radio broadcasts on regionally operating television and radio channels, which is provided for in Part 5, Article 365 hereof, shall be compiled by respective regional television and radio broadcasting companies of state and communal ownership and submitted to the Central Election Commission and the respective district election commissions set forth in Part 1, Article 365 hereof no later than thirty-five days prior to election day.
- 4. The sequence of providing television and radio air time to the parties that are subjects of the election process at the expense of and within the amount of money earmarked in the State Budget of Ukraine for the preparation and conduct of elections shall be determined no later than twenty-five days prior to the date of voting upon the results of drawing of lots conducted by such district election commissions as set forth in Part 1, Article 365 hereof with the participation of the parties' authorized persons in respective territorial election districts.
- 5. Starting twenty days prior to the date of voting, the Central Election Commission shall make sure that such clarification as set forth in Part 6, Article 202 hereof is posted.

#### **BOOK THREE. LOCAL ELECTIONS**

### CHAPTER X. THE ELECTIONS OF MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT OF THE AUTONOMOUS REPUBLIC OF CRIMEA

### SECTION XXXIII. GENERAL PROVISIONS REGARDING THE ELECTIONS OF MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT OF THE AUTONOMOUS REPUBLIC OF CRIMEA

# Article 388. The Basic Principles of Electing Members of Parliament of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea

- 1. Members of Parliament of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea (hereinafter referred to as "members of parliament") shall be elected on the basis of universal, equal and direct suffrage, by secret voting by citizens of Ukraine who reside in the territory of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea.
- 2. The quantitative composition and the term of office of the convocation of Parliament of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea shall be set forth by the Constitution of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea.
- 3. Members of parliament shall be elected on the basis of a proportional election system according to the electoral lists of MP candidates (hereinafter referred to as "lists of

candidates" representing regional (operating across the Autonomous Republic of Crimea) chapters of political parties (hereinafter referred to as "chapters of parties").

4. The chapters of parties whose electoral lists won at least three percent of valid votes in a single republican election district as a result of voting at the elections of Members of Parliament shall be allowed to participate in the distribution of MP mandates.

# Article 389. The Right to Vote at the Elections of Members of Parliament of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea

- 1. The right to vote at the elections of Members of Parliament of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea shall belong to the voters who have their voting address registered in the territory of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea.
- 2. The military service conscripts who do their service in the territory of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and who were called up to do active military service from the territory of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea shall enjoy the right to participate in electing Members of Parliament of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea on equal bases.
- 3. The persons who are staying at penitentiary institutions in the territory of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea shall have no right to vote at the elections of Members of Parliament of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea.

# Article 390. The Right to Be a Candidate at the Elections of Members of Parliament of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea

A citizen of Ukraine who is a voter and who has resided in Ukraine for a minimum of five years in accordance with Parts 4-6, Article 12 hereof may be a candidate for Member of Parliament of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea.

# Article 391. The Right to Nominate Candidates at the Elections of Members of Parliament of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea

- 1. The right to nominate MP candidates shall belong to Ukrainian citizens who enjoy the right to vote. They shall exercise such right though the chapters of parties set forth in Part 2 of this article in accordance with the procedure set forth by this Code.
- 2. The chapter of a party that operates across the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and meets such requirements as set forth in Part 4, Article 13 hereof may nominate MP candidates.
- 3. No later than the third day following the beginning of the election process the territorial body of the Ministry of Justice of Ukraine in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea shall publish a list of the chapters of parties that meet such requirements as set forth in Part 4, Article 13 hereof as at the beginning of the election process in regional print media.

# Article 392. The Time Frame for Conducting the Elections of Members of Parliament of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea

- 1. The election process of regular elections of Members of Parliament of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea shall commence ninety days prior to the date of voting at such elections.
- 2. Extraordinary elections of Members of Parliament of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea shall be conducted on the last Sunday of the ninety-day period following the adoption of the decision to call the extraordinary elections.
- 3. The election process of extraordinary elections shall commence on the next day following the publication of the decision set forth in Part 2 of this article.
- 4. When general local elections are called, the day of voting at such general local elections shall be the day of voting at the elections of Members of Parliament of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea.

# Article 393. The Territorial Arrangement of the Elections of Members of Parliament of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea

- 1. The system of territorial arrangement of the elections of Members of Parliament shall consist of:
  - 1) a single republican election district;
  - 2) regional election districts;
  - 3) territorial election districts:
- 4) regular election precincts and special election precincts in the territory of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, exclusive of those that are set forth in Part 5, Article 36 hereof.
- 2. The single republican election district shall cover the territory of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea.
- 3. For the purposes of nomination of MP candidates, the territory of the single republican election district shall be divided into 10 regional election districts while taking account of the limits of raions and cities of republican significance in the territory of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea.
- 4. A regional election district shall consist of one or several administrative and territorial units a rayon or a city of republican significance. The limits of a regional election district shall not transgress the limits of said administrative and territorial units. At least one regional election district shall include Crimean Tatar communities.
- 5. The limits of regional election districts shall be set by a statutory legal act of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, which shall be adopted by the Parliament of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea.
- 6. The limits of territorial election districts shall be the limits of raions and cities of republican significance in the territory of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea. Establishing territorial election districts shall require no decision to be adopted to this effect.
- 7. Regional and territorial election districts on elections of Members of Parliament of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea shall be permanent. Their limits may change exclusively if the limits of respective administrative and territorial units get changed.

# Article 394. The System of Election Commissions on the Elections of Members of Parliament of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea

- 1. The system of election commissions responsible for preparing and conducting the elections of Members of Parliament shall include:
  - 1) the Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea;
- 2) territorial election commissions, which exercise the authority of district election commissions;
  - 3) precinct election commissions.
- 2. Territorial election commissions, which exercise the authority of district election commissions on elections of Members of Parliament of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, (hereinafter referred to as "district election commissions") shall be respective raion and city (cities of republican significance in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea) election commissions.

# Article 395. The Authority of District Election Commissions on the Elections of Members of Parliament of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea

A district election commission on elections of Members of Parliament of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea:

1) shall arrange the preparation and conduct of the elections of Members of Parliament of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea within the limits of a respective territorial election district;

- 2) shall exercise the powers of control within the limits of a respective territorial election district to make sure that voters, precinct election commissions, MP candidates, the chapters of parties, their representatives and authorized persons, official observers, the authorities of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, local bodies of the executive and bodies of local self-government, their officials, enterprises, institutions, agencies and organizations (regardless of the form of ownership), and their officials adhere to this Code and apply it on equal bases with regard to elections of Members of Parliament of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea;
- 3) shall set up precinct election commissions within the limits of the territorial district, and make changes to the personnel of these commissions in accordance with this Code;
- 4) shall convoke meetings of precinct election commissions of the election precincts that belong to the territorial election district, whenever required and at its own discretion, to address issues pertaining to the preparation and conduct of the elections of Members of Parliament of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea:
- 5) shall control the activities of local bodies of the executive and bodies of local self-government aimed at furnishing precinct election commissions with premises, transport, means of communication, and equipment; shall address and consider other issues pertaining to the material and technical support of elections in the territory of a respective district within the limits of its authority;
- 6) shall receive and submit voter lists to precinct election commissions in election precincts of a respective territorial district in accordance with the procedure set forth by this Code; shall control the provision of voter lists for acquaintance in general;
- 7) shall submit election ballots and other documentation forms to precinct election commissions in accordance with this Code; shall make sure that the record-keeping of election ballots within the limits of the territorial election district is exercised under control;
- 8) shall settle issues pertaining to the use of the money earmarked in the budget of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea for the preparation and conduct of elections in accordance with the procedure set forth by the Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea;
- 9) shall consider appeals and complaints about the preparation and conduct of elections within the limits of the territorial election district and shall adopt decisions on them;
- 10) shall receive protocols on the results of vote counting in election precincts and other election-related documentation from precinct election commissions, shall conduct a repeat vote counting in election precincts in such instances as provided for by this Code;
- 11) shall tabulate vote counting protocols within the limits of the territorial district, shall compile a protocol on the results of vote counting within the limits of the district, shall submit the protocol and other election-related documentation set forth herein to the Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea;
- 12) shall recognize the results of voting in an election precinct invalid in such instances as provided for by this Code;
- 13) shall make sure that election-related documentation and other documentation is submitted to a responsible state records agency for storage in accordance with the procedure set forth by this Code;
  - 14) shall exercise other powers provided for by this Code and other laws of Ukraine.

#### **Article 396. Nominating Candidates to Precinct Election Commissions**

The chapters of parties that are subjects of the election process shall be such subjects of the process of nomination of candidates to precinct election commissions in regular and special election precincts as set forth in Part 4, Article 96 hereof. Respective nomination documents shall be signed by the authorized person of the chapter of a party and submitted on behalf such chapter.

### SECTION XXXIV. NOMINATING AND REGISTERING CANDIDATES FOR MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT OF THE AUTONOMOUS REPUBLIC OF CRIMEA

### Article 397. The General Procedure for Nominating Candidates for Members of Parliament

- 1. A citizen of Ukraine who has the right to be a candidate for Member of Parliament of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea in line with Article 390 hereof may consent to being nominated as an MP candidate exclusively on behalf of one chapter of a political party.
- 2. The chapter of a party may nominate as an MP candidate a person who is a member of such party, or a person without party membership who has the right to be elected a Member of Parliament in line with Article 390 hereof. Such person may be put on the list of candidates of only one chapter of a party.
- 3. The nomination of MP candidates by the chapter of a party and the formation of lists of candidates shall be done at its conference (meeting), which shall be convoked and held in accordance with such procedure as set forth by the charter of the party.
- 4. The nomination of MP candidates shall commence on the next day following the beginning of the election process and end fifty days prior to the date of voting.
- 5. The chapter of a party that nominated MP candidates in accordance with such procedure as set forth by this Code shall acquire the status of a subject of the election process as of the date of adoption of the decision on their nomination.

#### Article 398. Lists of Candidates for Members of Parliament

- 1. MP candidates shall be nominated by way of putting forth regional lists of MP candidates and a republican list of MP candidates on behalf of the chapter of a party.
- 2. The chapter of a party shall put forth a separate regional list of MP candidates in every regional election district set forth in Part 3, Article 393 hereof. A regional list of candidates shall include a minimum of five and a maximum of twelve MP candidates. One and the same person may be put on only one regional electoral list of MP candidates nominated by the chapter of a party.
- 3. Based on the MP candidates put on regional lists of candidates, the chapter of a party shall compile a republican list of MP candidates, on which a minimum of fifteen MP candidates shall be put.
- 4. The sequence (sequence numbers) of candidates on regional lists of candidates and the republican list of MP candidates shall be determined at a conference (meeting) of the chapter of a party while nominating MP candidates.
- 5. While compiling regional lists of candidates and the republican list of candidates, the chapter of a party shall make sure that both men and women are among every five candidates (positions from first to fifth, from sixth to tenth, and so forth) on every list of candidates.
- 6. The form of the list of MP candidates nominated on behalf of the chapter of a party shall be endorsed by the Central Election Commission no later than the next day following the beginning of the election process.
- 7. In every regional list of candidates, the following shall be specified in respect of every candidate:
  - 1) first, middle and last name of the candidate;
  - 2) day, month and year of birth;
  - 3) citizenship;
  - 4) party membership;
  - 5) education background;
  - 6) place of work (occupation), job title of the candidate;
  - 7) possession of a representative mandate as at the time of nomination;
  - 8) place of residence and voting address.
- 8. Such data as set forth by clauses 1-8, Part 7 of this Article, and the regional election district in which the candidate was nominated and his or her sequence number on a respective regional list of candidates shall be specified in respect of every candidate in the republican list of candidates nominated by a party.

### Article 399. The Procedure for Conducting a Candidate Nomination Conference (Meeting) by the Chapter of a Party

- 1. No less than 100 delegates shall attend a conference (meeting) during which MP candidates are nominated.
- 2. No later than five days prior to such conference (meeting), the head of the chapter of a party shall give the Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea a notice in writing specifying the date and venue of the conference (meeting). A member of the commission may attend such conference by order of the head of the Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea.
- 3. The conference convoked by the chapter of a party to nominate MP candidates shall be held in an open manner. The procedure for registering mass media representatives for participation in such conference (meeting) shall be determined by the organizers of the event.
- 4. The procedure for putting forth suggestions to the electoral lists of candidates of the chapter of a party shall be determined by the party. At the conference (meeting) convoked by the chapter of a party to nominate MP candidates, conditions shall be created to enable free and comprehensive discussion of the candidates suggested for putting on electoral lists of candidates, and the election program of such chapter of the party.
- 5. The decision of the conference (meeting) of the chapter of a party to nominate MP candidates on behalf of such chapter of a party shall endorse the regional electoral lists of MP candidates nominated by such chapter of a party in every regional election district set forth in Part 3, Article 393 hereof, and also the republican electoral list of MP candidates in accordance with such form as set forth in Part 6, Article 398 hereof. The decision of the conference (meeting) of the chapter of a party to nominate MP candidates shall be signed by the head of such chapter of a party, and the seal of the chapter of a party shall be affixed thereto.
- 6. The minutes of the conference (meeting) convoked by the chapter of a party shall specify: the date of the conference, its agenda, the number of elected and present delegates, the data on the persons nominated as MP candidates set forth in clauses 1-8, Part 7, Article 398 hereof, a voting summary on every regional electoral list and the republican electoral list of MP candidates. The minutes of the conference (meeting) shall be signed by the head of the chapter of a party. The seal of the chapter of a party shall be affixed to the signature of the head of the chapter of a party.

#### Article 400. The Terms of Registering Candidates for Members of Parliament

- 1. The chapter of a party that nominated MP candidates shall submit such documents as specified below to the Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea:
- 1) an application for registering MP candidates, which shall bear the signature of the head of the chapter of a party and the seal of the chapter of a party, and which shall specify the registered address of the chapter of a party;
- 2) a copy of the certificate of registration of the chapter of a party, which shall be certified free of charge by a respective territorial body of the Ministry of Justice of Ukraine after the beginning of the election process but no later than seven days after the application;
- 3) the minutes of the conference (meeting) of the chapter of a party on consideration of the issue of nomination of MP candidates on behalf of the chapter of a party as set forth in Part 6. Article 399 hereof:
- 4) the decision of the conference (meeting) of the chapter of a party on nomination of MP candidates on behalf of the chapter of a party as set forth in Part 5, Article 399 hereof;
- 5) applications of every person put on a regional electoral list on behalf of the chapter of a party, which shall specify:
- a) the person's consent to being nominated as a candidate on behalf of such chapter of a party;
- b) the person's consent to having his or her biographic data and income statement published in view of his or her running in the elections;
- c) the person's commitment to cease the activity or renounce his or her representative mandate that are incompatible with the mandate of a Member of Parliament of the

Autonomous Republic of Crimea under the Constitution of Ukraine, or renounce his or her mandate of a Member of Parliament of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, if such person is elected a Member of Parliament.

- 6) a brief autobiographic summary of the persons put on the electoral lists of candidates of the chapter of a party, which shall specify the following data in quite a concise manner:
  - a) first, middle and last name;
  - b) day, month and year of birth;
  - c) citizenship;
  - d) education background;
  - e) data on professional background (including combined jobs);
  - f) data on public activity (including while occupying elective posts);
- g) place of work, job title (occupation) as at the time of nomination for a Member of Parliament:
  - h) party membership, year of admission to party;
  - i) family members;
  - j) place of residence, with the period of residence in Ukraine specified;
- k) incidents of criminal prosecution or prosecution for corruption, and grounds for such prosecution;
  - I) data on previous convictions;
- 7) the election program of the chapter of a party adopted by the conference of the chapter of a party, which shall be written in the state language and shall not exceed three thousand printed characters;
  - 8) every MP candidate's property and income statement in line with Article 359 hereof;
  - 9) signature sheets with voter signatures in line with Article 360 hereof;
- 10) photos of the persons put on the electoral lists of candidates of the chapter of a party, which shall meet such size and quantity requirements as set forth by the Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, no later than the fifth day of the election process.
- 2. The documents set forth in Part 1 of this Article shall be submitted to the Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea by the head of the chapter of a party or another person authorized to do so on the basis of the decision of the governing body of the chapter of a party.
- 3. The head, deputy head, secretary or another member of the Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea shall be responsible for receiving the documents. The commission shall issue a certificate of receipt of the documents to the person who submitted them in accordance with Part 2 of this Article. The certificate shall contain a list of the documents and specify the day, month, year and time of their receipt, and the job title and last name of the person who received them.
- 4. No later than forty days prior to the date of voting, the documents shall be submitted to the Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea for the purposes of registering MP candidates.

#### Article 401. MP Candidates' Property and Income Statement

- 1. An MP candidate's property and income statement for the last year whose period of accountability expired as at the day of beginning of the election process shall be personally filled out by such MP candidate in accordance with the form of the property and income statement of a first-rank civil servant which the Ministry of Finance of Ukraine adopted as at January 1 of the year of beginning of the election process.
- 2. The Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea may request State Tax Administration bodies to check the data indicated in the MP candidate's property and income statement.
- 3. The mistakes and inaccuracies found in the property and income statement shall be corrected and shall not serve as grounds for refusal to register the MP candidate.

# Article 402. Collecting Signatures in Support of Registration of the Electoral Lists of Candidates of the Chapter of a Party

- 1. In a view to supporting the registration of candidates of the chapter of a party, the chapter of a party shall submit signature sheets to the Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, and such signature sheets shall contain the signatures of a minimum of five thousand voters who have the right to vote at the elections of Members of Parliament of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea.
- 2. The chapter of a party that nominated MP candidates shall submit a statement of intention to collect voter signatures in support of registration of candidates of the chapter of a party and of receipt of the signature sheet sample to the Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea. Bearing the signature of the head of the chapter of a party and the seal of the chapter of a party, the said statement shall be submitted prior to submission of such application of the chapter of a party on registering candidates as set forth in clause 1, Part 1, Article 400 hereof.
- 3. No later than two days after receiving such statement of receipt of the signature sheet sample as set forth in Part 2 of this Article, the Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea shall adopt a respective decision. The Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea shall issue the signature sheet sample to the authorized representative of the chapter of a party no later than the next day following the adoption of the said decision.
- 4. The form of the signature sheet shall be endorsed by the Central Election Commission. The signature sheet shall meet such requirements as set forth in Article 403 hereof.
- 5. The chapter of a party may produce any quantity of signature sheets meeting the established signature sheet form.

#### **Article 403. Signature Sheet**

- 1. The form of the signature sheet in support of registration of MP candidates of the chapter of a party shall be endorsed by the Central Election Commission no later than the fifth day following the beginning of the election process.
  - 2. The signature sheet shall contain:
  - 1) the title of the elections and the date of voting at the elections;
- 2) a complete name of the chapter of the party that nominated the candidates put on the electoral lists of the chapter of a party:
- 3) a regional electoral list of candidates of the chapter of a party, which shall be in line with the populated locality where signatures are being collected;
- 4) data on the person responsible for collecting voter signatures (first, middle and last name, date of birth, citizenship, place of residence, voting address, and if applicable telephone number):
- 5) a complete name of the populated locality (territorial community, city raion) in which signatures are being collected, and of the city and raion within the limits of which such populated locality is situated.
  - 3. The signature sheet shall contain boxes for inclusion such data as set forth below:
  - 1) the sequence number of the voter on the signature sheet;
  - 2) first, middle and last name of the voter;
  - 3) day, month and year of birth of the voter;
  - 4) citizenship of the voter:
  - 5) place of residence and voting address of the voter;
- 6) name, number and series of one of the identification documents of the voter set forth in clauses 1 or 2. Part 1, Article 10 hereof;
  - 7) date of signage by the voter;
  - 8) personal signature of the voter.

#### **Article 404. The Procedure for Collecting Voters' Signatures**

- 1. Voters' signatures in support of registration of MP candidates on behalf of the chapter of a party on written instructions from the head of the chapter of a party may be collected by citizens of Ukraine who, during the process of collecting signatures, have the right to vote at the elections for the Parliament of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea pursuant to Article 389 hereof.
- 2. The person who collects voters' signatures, prior to the process of collecting such signatures, shall enter his or her personal data into signature sheets with his or her own hand as set forth in clause 4, Part 2, Article 403 hereof.
- 3. The boxes of the signature sheet in respect of a voter shall be filled in by the voter with his own hand. Correctness of the voter's personal data entered into the signature sheet with his own hand shall be attested by the voter's signature.
- 4. All entries made in the signature sheet shall be made in pen (not pencil) legibly without abbreviations.
- 5. A mistake made on the signature sheet shall be corrected by the person who has made it in such a way that the **original entry** can still be **read** clearly. Any corrections shall be attested by the signature of the person who made such corrections.
- 6. The person who collected voters' signatures shall sign the completed signature sheet and show the number of collected voters' signatures on the signature sheet in figures and words.
- 7. It is not allowed to collect signatures at the state authorities, government bodies of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, nor shall it be allowed to collect them at the bodies of self-governance, enterprises, institutions, agencies and organizations.
- 8. No one shall have the right to make a voter support registration of MP candidates with his or her signature or otherwise induce him or her to support such registration. It shall not be allowed to pay for signatures in support of registration of MP candidates in cash, goods or services, nor shall it be allowed to prevent a voter from supporting MP candidates on behalf of a certain chapter of a party with his or her signature.
- 9. The participation of executive bodies, government bodies of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, bodies of local self-governance, their officials, owners of enterprises, institutions, organizations or bodies authorized by them to collect voters' signatures in support of registration of MP candidates shall not be allowed.
- 10. On a single signature sheet, only signatures of voters having a voting address in one populated locality shall be validated.
- 11. No restrictions in terms of the procedure for collecting signatures that are not stipulated by this clause shall be allowed.

### Article 405. The Procedure for Submission of Signature Sheets to the Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea

- 1. Upon completion of the process of collecting voters' signatures in support of registration of MP candidates nominated by the chapter of a party, such chapter of a party shall count the total number of voters' signatures collected in support of registration of MP candidates. A chapter of a party shall draw up a protocol on the results of collecting voters' signatures according to such form as set forth in Part 2 herein, which shall be signed by the head of the chapter of a party and which shall bear the seal of the chapter of a party.
- 2. The form of such protocol as specified in Part 1 herein shall be endorsed by the Central Election Commission concurrently with the approval of the form of the signature sheet.
- 3. Signature sheets shall be submitted by the authorized representative of the chapter of a party to the Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea along with the documents as specified in Part 1 of Article 400 hereof. The signature sheets that are submitted to the Election Commission shall be bound and numbered.
- 4. When accepting signature sheets, the Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea shall check the number of the submitted signature sheets specified in the protocol on the results of collecting voters' signatures and draw up a statement on delivery and acceptance of the signature sheets, in which the number of the accepted signature sheets and the number of voters' signatures, as well as the specified date and time of acceptance shall be

specified. The statement shall be drawn up in two copies according to the form as specified in Part 10 of Article 115 hereof and shall be signed by the authorized member of the Election Commission and the person who submitted such signature sheets. One copy of the statement shall be provided to the person who submitted signature sheets, and one copy of the statement shall be kept by the Election Commission.

#### Article 406. The Procedure for Validation of Voters' Signatures

- 1. The Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea shall ensure compliance of the provisions of this Code in respect of signature sheets by way of their verification by the members of the Election Commission. During the process of verification of signature sheets, the data of the State Voter Register may be used.
- 2. When validating the number of voters who supported registration of an MP candidate on behalf of the chapter of a party on the basis of the signature sheets, the following signature sheets shall not be validated:
- 1) signature sheets containing voters' signatures that were collected by the person who, on the date of collecting signatures, did not have the right to vote in the relevant elections;
- 2) signature sheets containing unreliable personal data in respect of the person who was involved in the process of collecting voters' signatures;
- 3) signature sheets which do not contain the personal data of the person who collected voters' signatures;
- 4) signature sheets which do not contain the signature of the person who collected voters' signatures;
- 5) signature sheets containing a signature of the person other than the person who collected voters' signatures;
  - 6) signature sheets that are not in compliance with the established form;
  - 7) forged signature sheets;
- 8) signature sheets containing the signatures collected using bribery or by means of deception;
  - 9) signature sheets containing erasures, corrections without a proviso;
- 10) signature sheets containing the signatures collected with the involvement of the executive bodies, government bodies of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, bodies of local self-governance, and their officials;
- 11) signature sheets containing the signatures collected at the state authorities, government bodies of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea or bodies of local self-governance, enterprises, agencies, institutions, and organizations.
- 3. When validating the number of voters who supported registration of MP candidates on behalf of the chapter of a party on the basis of signature sheets, the signatures of certain voters shall not be validated:
- 1) if a signature sheet does not contain all or some data in respect of the voter who supports registration of MP candidates with his or her signature as set forth in clauses 1-8 of Part 3 of Article 403 hereof;
- 2) if the provisions of Parts 4-7 of Article 404 hereof are violated while entering personal data in respect of the voter who supports registration of MP candidates with his or her signature:
  - 3) if a signature is made by the person other than the voter;
- 4) if a signature is made by the person who, on the date of signing, did not have the right to vote in the relevant elections;
- 5) if a signature sheet contains a voting address beyond the inhabited locality in which signatures have been collected;
- 6) if signatures are made by a voter multiple times in support of registration of MP candidates nominated by same chapter of a party;
- 7) if signatures are made by a voter prior to the date of delivery by the Election Commission of the sample of the signature sheet for collecting signatures in support of registration of MP candidates on behalf of the relevant chapter of a party.
- 4. The Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea shall draw up a protocol according to the procedure and according to the form set forth by Part 10 of Article 115 hereof on the results of collecting signatures in support of registration of MP candidates, in

which the number of voters' signatures in support of MP candidates of the relevant chapter of a party are subject to verification.

- 5. The Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea shall draw up a protocol on invalid signatures on signature sheets and/or signature sheets, on which the number of invalid voters' signatures shall be specified along with good reasons for their invalidity on an obligatory basis.
- 6. The Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea shall provide the authorized representative of the chapter of a party with a copy of the protocol and the decision within three days of its drawing up (acceptance).
- 7. Only members of the Election Commission shall have the right to familiarize themselves with the signature sheets submitted to the Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea. The authorized representative of the chapter of a party shall have the right to familiarize himself or herself with signature sheets upon drawing up the protocol and the decision as set forth in Part 4 and Part 5 herein respectively in the premises of the Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea.

### Article 407. The Procedure for Registration of Candidates for Members of Parliament

- 1. The Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea shall register MP candidates put on the electoral list of the chapter of a party, provided that the documents as specified in Part 1 of Article 400 hereof have been submitted.
- 2. A person put by the chapter of a party on one of the regional electoral lists of MP candidates who, on the date of application of the chapter of a party for registration of MP candidates, failed to submit the application as specified in clause 5 of Part of Article 400 hereof to the Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea shall be excluded from the electoral lists of the chapter of a party as of the date of submission of the said application of the chapter of a party. The application of such person containing his or her consent to be nominated submitted after the submission of the application for registration of MP candidates by the chapter of a party shall not be accepted.
- 3. A person put by the chapter of a party on one of the regional electoral lists of MP candidates shall have the right to withdraw his or her application containing his or her consent to be nominated an MP candidate, prior to the date of registration. The Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea shall notify the chapter of a party of withdrawal of such application in writing no later than one day following the date of receipt of such application. A repeat application of the person containing his or her consent to be nominated on behalf of any other chapter of a party shall not be accepted.
- 4. A person put on the electoral lists of two or more than two electoral lists of chapters of parties according to his or her written applications containing his or her consent to be nominated an MP candidate on behalf of such chapters of parties, by the decision of the Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, shall be excluded from the electoral lists of all chapters of parties on which he has been put.
- 5. No later than the seventh day following the date of receipt of the application for registration of MP candidates and other documents attached to it as set forth in Part 1 of Article 400 hereof, the Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea shall make a decision on registration of MP candidates or refusal to register MP candidates.
- 6. A list and the order of MP candidates in which their names appear on the republican electoral list, as well as the order of names of MP candidates on every regional electoral list defined by the chapter of a party shall not be changed upon their registration by the Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea except the exclusion of certain MP candidates from the electoral list as stipulated by this Code. The order in which the names of MP candidates appear on the regional electoral list may be changed on the basis of vote returns according to the procedure as set forth in Part 2 of Article 441 hereof.
- 7. If MP candidates nominated by the chapter of a party are registered, the representative of the chapter of a party who submitted MP candidate registration documents along with a copy of the decision to register MP candidates, within three days of the date of

such decision, shall be provided with an MP candidate certificate according to the form established by the Central Election Commission.

- 8. An MP candidate shall acquire the status of a subject of the election process on the date of adoption of the decision on his or her registration.
- 9. The republican and regional electoral lists of MP candidates on behalf of the chapter of a party along with the decision on their registration, no later than the third day following the date of adoption of the decision on their registration, shall be made public through regional and local print media.
- 10. If the Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, in the documents submitted by the chapter of a party, finds any violation of Part 1 of Article 37 of the Constitution of Ukraine, the Election Commission shall submit an application to the Ministry of Justice of Ukraine to have a petition lodged with a court requesting that the activities of the relevant party shall be prohibited. The process of consideration of registration of MP candidates on behalf of such chapter of a party shall be postponed until a response from the Ministry of Justice of Ukraine has been received or, in the event of recourse to the court, until the relevant court decision has come into legal force.

#### Article 408. Refusal to Register an MP Candidate (Candidates)

- 1. The Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea shall refuse the registration of all the MP candidates nominated by the chapter of a party if:
- 1) this Code and other laws of Ukraine, during the process of nomination of MP candidates, are violated;
- 2) the documents as set forth in clauses 1-4, 7, 9, Part 1, Article 400 hereof are not available or prepared improperly;
- 3) voters' signatures are not available or the number of voters' signatures in support of registration of the electoral lists of MP candidate on behalf of the chapter of a party is less than that provided for in Part 1 of Article 402 hereof as established in accordance with Part 4 of Article 406 hereof.
- 2. The Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea shall refuse the registration of a certain MP candidate if:
- 1) an MP candidate's application as set forth in clause 5 of Part 1 of Article 400 hereof is not available;
- 2) an MP candidate withdraws his application to be nominated an MP candidate pursuant to Part 3 of Article 407 hereof;
  - 3) such circumstances as set forth in Part 4 of Article 407 hereof are found;
- 4) at least one document of an MP candidate as set forth in clause 6 or 8 of Part 1 of Article 400 hereof is not available or is prepared improperly;
  - 5) an MP candidate's Ukrainian citizenship is terminated;
- 6) the person nominated an MP candidate leaves Ukraine for permanent residence or for the purpose of being granted asylum;
  - 7) the person nominated an MP candidate is found incompetent by the court;
- 8) a judgment passed by the court against the person nominated an MP candidate for committing intentional crime has come into force;
- 9) other circumstances that deprive the person nominated an MP candidate of his or her right to be an MP candidate pursuant to Article 390 hereof are found by the Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea.
- 3. The decision to refuse the registration of an MP candidate (candidates) shall contain sufficient reasons for such refusal. A copy of such decision shall be given to the authorized representative of the chapter of a party or its authorized person.
- 4. A refusal to register all MP candidates nominated by the chapter of a party though improper preparation of submitted documents as set forth in clauses 1-4, 7, 9, Part 1, Article 400 hereof shall leave open the possibility of resubmitting the application for registration of MP candidates put on the electoral lists of the chapter of a party by the chapter of a party. Such application containing the documents corrected in accordance with this Code shall be

submitted to the Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea no later than thirty-seven days prior to the date of voting.

- 5. A refusal to register an MP candidate for such reasons as set forth in clause 4 of Part 2 herein shall leave open the possibility of resubmitting relevant or corrected documents no later than thirty-seven days prior to the date of voting.
- 6. In such instances as set forth in Part 4 and 5 herein, the Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea shall adopt the final decision on registration of an MP candidate (candidates) put on the electoral list of MP candidates on behalf of the chapter of a party no later than thirty-five days prior to the date of voting.
- 7. In the event of a refusal to register all MP candidates nominated by the chapter of a party, such chapter of a party shall lose the status of a subject of the election process after the expiry of the term allowed for challenging such decision of the Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea. In the event that the said decision is challenged in a court, the status of a subject of the election process shall be reserved until the court decision enters into legal force.

#### Article 409. Termination of Registration of an MP Candidate (Candidates)

- 1. The Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea shall adopt a decision to terminate registration of a certain MP candidate on the electoral lists of the chapter of a party by striking his or her name off the list on which he or she is put if:
- 1) an MP candidate, at any time after his or her registration; however, no later than seven days prior to the date of voting, submits a written application, which shall not be subject to withdrawal, containing his or her refusal to be nominated an MP candidate;
- 2) no later than ten days prior to the date of voting, the chapter of a party shall submit an application to cancel the decision on registration of an MP candidate according to the decision made in accordance with the procedure established by the chater of the party;
- 3) an MP candidate's Ukrainian citizenship is terminated or if the citizenship of another state is found with an MP candidate;
- 4) an MP candidate leaves Ukraine for permanent residence or for the purpose of being granted asylum:
  - 5) an MP candidate is found incompetent by the court:
- 6) a judgment passed by a court against the person nominated an MP candidate for committing intentional crime has come into force;
- 7) an MP candidate is put on the electoral lists of two or more than two chapters of parties and his or her written applications containing his or her consent to be nominated on behalf of such chapters of parties are available:
- 8) the Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea finds other circumstances that deprive the person nominated an MP candidate of the right to be an MP candidate for the Parliament of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea pursuant to Article 390 hereof:
- 9) an MP candidate repeatedly commits the act in respect of which a warning has been given pursuant to Part 1 of Article 410 hereof.
- 2. The Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea shall, no later than three days prior to the date of voting, adopt a decision to terminate registration of all MP candidates put on the electoral lists of the chapter of a party if:
- 1) in the course of consideration of an election dispute according to the procedure established by the law, the court finds that the chapter of a party, in addition to its electoral fund resources, made use of other resources to finance its election campaign in the amount exceeding the maximum amount of voluntary contribution to the electoral fund of the chapter of a party established by Part 5 of Article 420 hereof;
- 2) in the course of financing the election campaign, the amount of expenses of the chapter of a party that exceeds the maximum amount of expenses of the relevant electoral fund established by Part 4 of Article 420 hereof is in the amount that exceeds the maximum amount of voluntary contribution to the electoral fund of the chapter of a party established by Part 4 of Article 420 hereof.
- 3. The Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea shall consider the termination of registration of an MP candidate (candidates) in the presence of either the MP

candidate or the authorized representative of the chapter of a party. The said persons shall be notified of the time of consideration of such termination of registration no later than the date immediately preceding the date of consideration. If the said persons, who have been duly notified of the meeting dedicated to such consideration, are not present, such matter shall be considered by the Election Commission in the absence of the aforesaid persons.

- 4. The Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea shall communicate its decision to terminate registration of an MP candidate (candidates) to the MP candidate and the relevant chapter of a party, no later than the date following the date of adoption of the decision and shall provide the authorized representative of the chapter of a party or the relevant MP candidate with a copy of such decision within same term.
- 5. In the event of the death of an MP candidate, the Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea shall make a formal public announcement that the decision on his or her registration is no longer valid.
- 6. The MP candidate whose registration has been terminated or who has been withdraw from the election shall be taken off the electoral lists of MP candidates of the relevant party. Furthermore, the order in which other candidates' names appear on the list (numbers in the relevant electoral list) shall remain unchanged.
- 7. In the event of termination of registration of all candidates nominated by the chapter of a party, such chapter of a party shall lose the status of a subject of the election process upon expiration of the time allowed for lodging a complaint against such decision of the Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea. In the event that the said decision is challenged in a court, the status of a subject of the election process shall be reserved until the court decision enters into legal force.
- 8. The decision specified in Parts 4 or 5 herein shall be made public through the media no later than the third day following the date of adoption of the decision; however, no later than one day prior to the date of voting.

#### Article 410. Warning for Violation of the Election Legislation

- 1. The Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea shall give a formal warning to the chapter of a party that is a subject of the election process or a separate candidate if:
- 1) in the course of consideration of an election dispute in accordance with the procedure stipulated by law, the following is found:
- a) an act of bribery of voters or members of the election commission committed by the MP candidate, the chapter of a party that nominated candidates, the authorized representative of the chapter of a party or by an official of the chapter of a party, as well as by any other person on behalf of the chapter of a party or the candidate;
- b) an act of giving voters, institutions, agencies, organizations or members of the election commissions money or providing them, without pay or on a preferential basis, with goods (except the goods defined in Part 2 of Article 205 hereof), works, services, securities, loans, lotteries, other tangible assets (indirect bribery) committed by the organization to which the candidate, the chapter of a party, its executive officer, the authorized representative or authorized person of the chapter of a party belongs as Its founder, owner or a member of the governing body, in the course of the election process;
- c) an MP candidate who holds an office, including part-time work at the executive bodies, government bodies of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea or bodies of local self-governance, state-owned enterprises or public utilities, agencies, institutions, organizations, military units established according to the legislation of Ukraine, involved or made use of people accountable to him or her, service vehicles, telecommunication services, equipment, premises, and other objects and resources at his or her place of work in the election campaign (abuse of office);
- d) the chapter of a party, in addition to its electoral funds, made use of other funds to finance the election campaign in the amount that exceeds the maximum amount of voluntary contribution to the electoral fund of the chapter of a party established by Part 5 of Article 420 hereof:

- 2) if the chapter of a party that is the subject of the election process and/or an MP candidate break restrictions in respect of conducting the election campaign, including conducting the election campaign during the election process beyond the term established by Article 201 hereof;
- 3) the amount of expenses of the chapter of a party while financing the election campaign exceeds the maximum amount of expenses of the relevant electoral fund set forthin Part 4 of Article 420 hereof by the amount that is not larger than the maximum amount of voluntary contribution to the electoral fund of the chapter of a party set forth by Part 5 of Article 420 hereof.
- 2. Considering the matter of giving a warning to a candidate or the chapter of a party shall be according to the procedure established by Part 3 of Article 409 hereof. The decision to give a warning may be adopted one day prior to the date of voting.
- 3. The decision to give a warning to a candidate or the chapter of a party shall be made public through the media no later than the third day following the date of adoption of the decision.

### Article 411. The Official List of the Chapters of Parties That Are Subjects of the Election Process

- 1. No later than thirty days prior to the date of voting, the Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea shall endorse the official list of the chapters of parties that are subjects of the election process.
- 2. The names of chapters of parties on the official list of the chapters of parties that are subjects of the election process shall appear in the order of their numbers dedetermined by drawing lots, which shall be conducted by the Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea with the involvement of authorized representatives of chapters of parties immediately after the registration of MP candidates.
- 3. The sequence number of the chapter of a party on the official list of the chapters of parties that are subjects of the election process assigned according to such procedure as set forth by Part 2 herein shall remain unchanged for the entire duration of the election process.
- 4. Using the money earmarked in the budget of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea to prepare and conduct the elections, the Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea shall make sure that the official list of the chapters of parties that are subjects of the election process is produced on the basis of at least twenty-five copies for each large election precinct, at least twenty copies for each medium election precinct, and at least fifteen copies for each small election precinct. The required quantity of copies of the official list of the chapters of parties that are subjects of the election process shall be delivered to the relevant precinct election commissions including information posters of parties within such time frame as set forth by Article 423 hereof.
- 5. If a decision to terminate registration of all candidates nominated by the chapter of a party is adopted, changes shall made to the official list of chapters of parties pursuant to the procedure established by Article 424 hereof.

### Article 412. Guaranties of the Activity of MP Candidates of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea

- 1. An MP candidate shall not be denied the opportunity to take a leave of absence without pay at his or her place of work **and to not** perform operational and office duties for the period of duration of the election campaign.
- 2. An MP candidate, during the election process, shall not be dismissed by the owner of the enterprise, agency, institution, organization or the body authorized by him or her and/or the commander of the military unit (command). Without his or her prior consent, an MP candidate shall not be transferred to any other place of work, sent on a business trip, as well as called up for military or alternative (non-military) service, training (check) and special assemblies of persons liable to conscription for military service.
- 3. An MP candidate shall have the rights to act as an authorized person of the chapter of a party set forth by clauses 3, 4 of Part 3 of Article 418 hereof, which he or she shall exercise

within the limits of the territorial election districts that are included in the regional election district where the MP candidate is put on the electoral list of the chapter of a party.

### Article 413. Guarantees of the Activity of the Chapters of Parties That Are Subjects of the Election Process

- 1. The chapter of a party that nominated candidates for Members of Parliament of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea shall have the right to delegate one authorized representative to the Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea with a consultative vote who is authorized to represent the interests of the chapter of a party in the Commission during the election process.
- 2. The chapter of a party that is a subject of the election process may have not more than two authorized persons in the republican election district and not more than one authorized person in each regional election district.
- 3. The candidacies for the authorized representative and authorized persons on behalf of the chapter of a party (including the designation of the republican or the respective regional election district) shall be endorsed by the governing body of the chapter of a party.

### Article 414. Requirements to the Authorized Representatives and Authorized Persons of the Chapter of a Party

- 1. The authorized representative of the chapter of a party to the Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and/or the authorized person of the chapter of a party may be a citizen of Ukraine who has the right to vote at the elections of Members of Parliament of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea.
- 2. The following persons shall not be authorized representatives and/or authorized persons of the chapter of a party:
  - 1) a member of any election commission;
- 2) an officer of an executive body, government body of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea or a body of local self-government;
  - 3) a member or an official of the judicial or law enforcement agencies;
- 4) a member of the armed forces or a person who does his or her alternative (non-military) service.

# Article 415. The Procedure for Registration of the Authorized Representative of the Chapter of a Party with the Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea

- 1. An application to register the authorized representative of the chapter of a party containing the signature of the head of the chapter of a party and the seal of the chapter of a party affixed thereto, and the decision of the governing body of the chapter of a party to endorse a canddidacy for the authorized representative of the chapter of a party shall be submitted to the Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea concurrently with an application to register candidates for Members of Parliament of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea on behalf of the chapter of a party pursuant to Part 1 of Article 400 hereof.
- 2. An application to register the authorized representative of the chapter of a party shall contain the following personal data in respect of such person:
  - 1) first, middle and last name;
  - 2) citizenship;
  - 3) date of birth:
  - 4) place of work, current position (occupation);
  - 5) voting address, telephone number.
- 3. The written consent of the person to represent the interests of the chapter of a party in the Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea shall be attached to the application specified in Part 1 herein.
- 4. No later than the third day following receipt of the documents specified in Parts 1 and 3 herein, the Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimeashall shall register the authorized representative of the chapter of a party. A candidacy for the authorized representative of the chapter of a party may be turned down exclusively on the basis of non-compliance with the provisions of Article 414 hereof or Parts 1-3 herein.

- 5. Upon registration of the authorized representative of the chapter of a party, the Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea shall issue an identification document to the authorized representative. The identification document form shall be established by the Central Election Commission.
- 6. If the chapter of a party loses the status of a subject of the election process, the powers of the authorized representative of the chapter of a party shall be deemed to be terminated at the occurrence of the said circumstance as set forth in Part 7 of Article 408 or Part 7 of Article 409 hereof.

### Article 416. The Rights of the Authorized Representative of the Chapter of a Party to the Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea

- 1. The authorized representative of the chapter of a party shall have the right:
- 1) to be present at all meetings of the Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea during the discussion of matters pertaining to the elections of Members of Parliament of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea with a consultative vote: prior to the date of meeting, to receive its agenda and materials related to the agenda items, ask a speaker questions, participate in discussions of the agenda items, table proposals in relation to the decisions of the Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea;
- 2) to familiarise himself or herself with the content of minutes of the meetings of the Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and its decisions, receive copies of such decisions; in his or her absence at the meeting, to familiarise himself with the documents on the basis of which the decisions were made at such meeting;
- 3) to immediately familiarise himself or herself with the minutes, telephone messages, fax messages, and other official messages received by the Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea from district election commissions containing information on vote returns in the respective territorial election district, as well as protocols of the respective precinct election commissions on vote counting in the election precinct, protocols of district election commissions on repeat vote counting in certain election precincts;
- 4) upon application, to be immediately provided with copies of the documents specified in clause 3 herein;
- 5) to exercise other rights stipulated by this Code for the authorized representative of the chapter of a party.
- 2. The authorized representative of the chapter of a party, from the date of his or her registration until termination of his or her powers or upon completion of the election process, shall have the opportunity to take a leave of absence without pay and **not to** perform operational and office duties by agreement with the owner of the enterprise, agency, institution, organization or the body authorized by him or her.

#### Article 417. Registration of the Authorized Persons of the Chapter of a Party

- 1. An application to register the authorized representatives of the chapter of a party containing the signature of the head of the chapter of a party and the seal of the chapter of a party affixed thereto shall be submitted to the Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea at any time upon registration of the MP candidates put on the electoral lists of the chapter of a party.
- 2. An application to register the authorized persons of the chapter of a party shall contain personal data in respect of each authorized person stipulated by Part 2 of Article 415 hereof, as well as the respective election district subject to the powers of the respective authorized person.
- 3. The decision of the governing body of the chapter of a party to endorse the candidacies for authorized persons of the chapter of a party bearing the signature of the head of the chapter of a party and the seal of the chapter of a party affixed thereto, and twritten consent of such persons to represent the interests of the chapter of a party in the respective election district shall be attached to the application.
- 4. No later than the third day following the date of receipt of the documents specified in Parts 1 and 3 herein, but no later than one day prior to the date of voting, the Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea shall register the authorized persons of the chapter of a party and shall issue the authorized representatives of the chapter of a party

their identification documents according to the form established by the Central Election Commission.

#### Article 418. The Powers of the Authorized Persons of the Chapter of a Party

- 1. The activity of the authorized person of the chapter of a party shall promote the participation of the chapter of a party in the election process, including conducting the election campaign, and without a proxy, represent the respective chapter of the party that is the subject of the election process.
- 2. The authorized person of the chapter of a party shall not be a separate subject of the election process.
  - 3. The authorized person of the chapter of a party:
- 1) shall represent the interests of the chapter of a party during the election process in his or her contacts with voters, election commissions, other subjects of the election process, courts, executive bodies, government bodies of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, bodies of local self-government, mass media, enterprises, agency, institutions and organizations in the respective election district;
- 2) may participate in the meetings of the election commissions with a consultative vote in the respective election district:
- 3) shall have the right to be present at the election precinct during voting and at the meeting of the precinct election commission during vote counting taking account of the restrictions established by clause 3 of Part 2, Article 114 hereof;
- 4) shall have the rights of an official observer on behalf of the chapter of a party stipulated by Part 1 of Article 215 hereof;
- 5) shall have other powers stipulated by this Code for the authorized person of the chapter of a party.
- 4. The authorized person in the republican election district shall have the right to be present at the meeting of the Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea.
- 5. The authorized person of the chapter of a party shall be subject to the restrictions established by Part 2 of Article 215 hereof.
- 6. The authorized person of the chapter of a party, from the date of his or registration until after termination of his or her powers or upon completion of the election process, shall have the opportunity to take a leave of absence without pay and **not to** perform operational and office duties by agreement with the owner the enterprise, agency, institution, organization or the agency authorized by him or her.
- 7. If the chapter of a party loses the status of a subject of the election process, the powers of the authorized representative of the chapter of a party shall be deemed to be terminated at the occurrence of the said circumstances pursuant to Part 7 of Article 409 hereof.

### Article 419. Substitution for the Authorized Representative or Authorized Person of the Chapter of a Party

- 1. At any time prior to the date of voting, the authorized representative of the chapter of a party and/or the authorized person of the chapter of a party shall have the right to submit an application to terminate his or her powers to the Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea.
- 2. At any time prior to the date of voting, the governing body of the chapter of a party that made the decision to endorse the authorized representative of the chapter of a party or nominated the authorized person of the chapter of the party for registration may adopt a decision to recall the authorized representative or authorized person of the chapter of a party, as well as to endorse any other candidacy to substitute for the one who was recalled. The respective application along with the decision and other documents shall be submitted to the Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea according to the procedure established by Article 415 or 417 hereof.
- 3. Based on the application submitted in accordance with the provisions of Part 1 or 2 herein, the Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea shall adopt a decision to terminate registration of the authorized representative or authorized person of the chapter of a party and to register any other person as the authorized representative or

authorized person of the chapter of a party, respectively, no later than the third day following receipt of the said document, but no later than the date preceding the date of voting, and on the date of voting such decision shall be adopted without delay. A copy of the decision shall be immediately issued to the authorized representative of the chapter of a party or delivered to the registered office of the governing body of the chapter of a party.

4. The identification document of the authorized representative or authorized person of the chapter of a party whose powers have been terminated prior to the date of completion of the election process shall be considered invalid.

#### Article 420. The Right of the Chapter of a Party to Have Official Observers

- 1. The chapter of a party that is a subject of the election process shall have the right to have official observers pursuant to Part 1 of Article 214 hereof.
- 2. The nomination of candidacies for official observers on behalf of the chapter of a party that is a subject of the election process pursuant to Article 217 hereof shall be made by the authorized persons of the chapter of a party in the respective regional or republican election district.

# SECTION XXXV. CHARACTERISTICS OF INFORMATION SUPPORT AND ELECTION CAMPAIGNS DURING THE ELECTIONS OF MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT OF THE AUTONOMOUS REPUBLIC OF CRIMEA

### Article 421. Specific procedure for opening, formation and use of election budgets by parties which are subjects of the election process

- 1. Parties which have their candidates registered by the Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea shall form their electoral funds to finance their election campaigns under the procedure described in articles 185 through 189 of this Code.
- 2. No individual electoral funds shall be created for candidates for members of the parliament. Candidate contributions to the electoral fund of the respective party shall be submitted under the procedure for contributions from individuals.
- 3. Electoral fund accumulation account of a party shall be opened within five days upon approval of the decision by the Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea on registration of candidates for members of the parliament from the list of candidates of such party.
- 4. Maximum expenses from the electoral fund of a party shall be limited to three thousand times the minimum wage effective on the day of commencement of the election process.
- 5. Voluntary contributions to the electoral fund of a party shall be limited to 50 times the minimum wage effective on the day of commencement of the election process. The amount of a party's own funds to be transferred into the accumulation account shall be limited to maximum expenses from the electoral fund as indicated in part four hereunder.

#### Article 422. Information booklets about the parties

- 1. The Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea shall fund the production of information booklets about each party which is subject of the election process in compliance with Article 194 hereunder from the budget allocated for preparation and organization of the elections of members of Parliament.
- 2. Information booklets about each party shall include the election program of such party submitted by the latter when registering the MP candidates as well as the republican and all regional electoral lists of parties with photographs of all candidates included on the regional electoral lists.
- 3. Regional electoral lists of MP candidates within the information booklet about a party shall indicate the information about each candidate as stipulated in clauses 1-4 and 6 of part seven of Article 398 hereunder as well as place of residence of the respective candidate.
- 4. The republican electoral list within the information booklet about a party shall indicate the number of the candidate in the republican electoral list, full name of such candidate, as well as regional election district which lists the respective candidate on its regional list, and the candidate's number in such regional list.

- 5. The Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea shall fund the production of the same number of information booklets about each party. The quantity of copies of each booklet shall be calculated under the following procedure: no fewer than 15 copies for each large election district, no fewer than 12 copies for each medium election district, and no fewer than 10 copies for each small election district. Also, five copies shall be allocated for each District Election Commission. The finished information booklets about the parties shall be delivered to the Precinct Election Commissions immediately upon creation of such commissions under the procedure approved by the Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea. All representatives of parties shall receive five copies of the booklet each.
- 6. The Precinct Election Commissions shall make the information booklets available to all voters within each respective commission's facility, and within voting facilities on the voting day. The Precinct Election Commission shall make the same number of information booklets about each party which is subject of the election process available to the voters.
- 7. Should the registration of a candidate be terminated or should a candidate be announced removed from ballot under the procedure set forth by Article 409 hereunder based on the respective decision of the Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, the Precinct Election Commission shall reflect such changes in the information booklet of the respective party.

#### Article 423. Information posters about the parties

- 1. The Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea shall fund the production of information posters about the parties which are subjects of the election process as indicated in Article 194 hereunder within 15 days prior to voting day.
- 2. Information posters about the parties shall be produced for each regional election district. The information poster about a party for the respective regional election district shall indicate the information required by clauses 1-4 and 6 of part seven of Article 398 hereunder and photographs of all candidates included on the respective regional electoral list.
- 3. The Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea shall fund the production of the same number of information posters about each party which is subject of the election process for each regional election district. The quantity of copies of each poster shall be calculated under the following procedure: no fewer than 25 copies of each information poster for each large election district, no fewer than 20 copies for each medium election district, and no fewer than 15 copies for each small election district.
- 4. The finished information posters about the parties shall be delivered to the respective Precinct Election Commissions immediately upon creation of such commissions under the procedure approved by the Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea within seven days prior to the voting day.
- 5. The information posters about the parties which are subjects of the election process shall be used to inform the voters on the voting day within polling booths under the procedure set forth by Article 429 hereunder and in the course of mobile voting in compliance with part six of Article 238 hereunder.

### Article 424. Entering changes to the official list of parties which are subjects of the election process and their information posters

- 1. Should registration of all candidates of a party be terminated in compliance with part two of Article 409 hereunder based on the respective decision of the Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, the Precinct Election Commission shall reflect such changes in all available copies of the official list of parties which are subjects of the election process as indicated in Article 411 hereunder.
- 2. Should the registration of a candidate be terminated or should a candidate be announced removed from ballot under the procedure set forth by Article 409 hereunder based on the respective decision of the Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, the Precinct Election Commissions of the regional election district shall reflect changes in the regional electoral list of MP candidates which previously listed such candidate and the information posters of the respective party.

- 3. The Precinct Election Commission shall enter all changes to the official list of parties which are subjects of the election process and information posters about the parties during its meeting with the help of the "Removed" stamp as indicated in part two of Article 225 hereunder.
- 4. Any changes to the official list of parties which are subjects of the election process without the respective decision of the Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea on termination of registration of all MP candidates nominated by a party or any changes to the information poster about a party without the respective decision of the Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea on termination of registration of a candidate or announcing the latter removed from ballot shall be prohibited.
- 5. When entering changes to the official list of parties which are subjects of the election process the member of the commission appointed by the latter shall apply the "Removed" stamp over the number and the title of the respective party on each copy of the official list. The stamp shall be applied horizontally without infringing on the text of the official list with the number or the title of a different party. The Commission Head shall apply his/her signature to the left of the number of the respective party. The secretary of the commission shall apply the commission stamp over the signature of the Commission Head.
- 6. When entering changes to the information poster about a party the member of the commission appointed by the latter shall apply the "Removed" stamp over the number and the name of the respective candidate on each information poster of the respective party. The stamp shall be applied horizontally without infringing on the text of the poster with the number or the name of a different candidate. The Commission Head shall apply his/her signature to the left of the number of the respective candidate. The secretary of the commission shall apply the commission stamp over the signature of the Commission Head.
- 7. Each voter shall be informed about all changes to the official list of parties which are subjects of the election process and the information posters further to the decision of the Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea when issued ballot paper.
- 8. Should changes be made to the official list of parties which are subjects of the election process or the information posters about a party without the respective decision as indicated in part four hereunder or without full compliance with such decision, the Precinct Election Commission shall withdraw and destroy all the copies of the official list or the posters. It shall register this fact during its meeting and execute two copies of the respective document under the form and procedure indicated in part six of Article 115 hereunder. This document shall indicate the number of received copies of the official list or information posters of the respective party, the number of withdrawn and destroyed copies of the official list or information posters, as well as names of individuals due to the fault of whom such a situation has occurred. One copy of such document shall be immediately forwarded to the Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the other copy kept by the Precinct Election Commission.
- 9. The Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea shall be responsible for availability of sufficient number of copies of the official list of parties which are subjects of the election process or information posters of the respective party in election districts. When necessary, the Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea shall fund the production of additional copies of the official list or the information posters of the respective party in the regional election district.
- 10. The Precinct Election Commission shall withdraw and destroy all the information posters of a party which was excluded from the official list of parties which are subjects of the election process in compliance with part one hereunder. The commission shall execute two copies of the respective document under the form and procedure set forth by part 10 of Article 115 hereunder. This document shall indicate the number of received copies of the official list and the number of withdrawn and destroyed copies of the official list or information posters. One copy of such document shall be immediately forwarded to the Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the other copy kept by the Precinct Election Commission.
- 11. The use of copies of the official list or information posters without changes further to the respective decision as indicated in part four hereunder, or with changes not supported by the respective decision or not fully compliant with such decision, as well as the information posters of a party the title of which was excluded from the official list shall be prohibited.

### Article 425. Parity in dissemination of information about the parties which are subjects of the election process and their nominated candidates

- 1. All requirements to the parity in dissemination of information set forth by part two of Article 196 hereunder shall regulate dissemination of information about political parties which are subjects of the election process.
- 2. Air time in programs (program series) as indicated in part one hereunder dedicated to parties which are subjects of the election process shall include air time dedicated to the candidates nominated by the respective parties.
- 3. Increased air time shall be granted to parties which are subjects of the election process and are currently represented by their members of the Parliament of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea or the MP candidates who are acting members of the Parliament of the Autonomous Republic of Crime; such increased air time shall not exceed 30 percent above the average air time as set forth by part two of Article 196 hereunder.
- 4. All limitations described in this Article and Articles 195 through 198 hereunder shall apply to all national, regional and local TV and radio stations broadcasted on the territory of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea.

### Article 426. Election campaigns during the MP elections financed from the budget of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea

- 1. The Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea shall conclude agreements with regional TV and radio stations broadcasted on the territory of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea in compliance with part four of Article 210 hereunder to make air time available to the parties which are subjects of the election process for the cost and in the framework of the budget of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea allocated for preparation and organization of elections.
- 2. Regional TV and radio stations as indicated in part one hereunder based on the respective agreements shall provide air time to each party which is subject of the election process to run their election campaigns; each party shall be granted no less than 30 minutes of air time on the respective TV station and no less than 30 minutes of air time on the respective radio station. The total available air time on each of the aforementioned channels shall be provided in two equal parts of the total available time.
- 3. The respective TV and radio stations shall elaborate air time schedule indicating all election campaign-related TV and radio programs with specific date and time these are broadcasted further to the drawing conducted by the Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea; such drawing shall be conducted among the representatives of the parties within 32 days prior to the voting day.
- 4. The results of the drawing described in part three hereunder shall be made public through publications in regional printed mass media within three days upon their approval by the Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea.

# SECTION XXXVI. SPECIAL PROCEDURE FOR PREPARING AND ADMINISTRATING THE VOTING PROCESS AND ESTABLISHING THE RESULTS OF THE ELECTIONS OF MEMBERS OF THE PARLIAMENT OF THE AUTONOMOUS REPUBLIC OF CRIMEA

### Article 427. Ballot papers for the elections of members of the Parliament of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea

- 1. All ballot papers shall include the text comprised of the following two sentences: "I hereby cast my vote in support of the electoral list of the republican political party under No"; and "I hereby cast my vote in support of the candidate for member of the Parliament from the republican political party under No". Each of the aforementioned sentences shall start with a new line. At the end of each sentence there shall be two boxes for writing the numbers of the respective party on the official list of parties which are subjects of the election process, approved by the Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea in compliance with Article 411 hereunder, and the number of the candidate for member of the Parliament in the respective regional electoral list of the respective political party.
- 2. The number of ballot papers shall be counted by the Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea in compliance with part one of Article 222 hereunder based on

the information provided by the State Voter Register bodies about the number of voters having the right to vote during the elections of members of the Parliament of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea.

#### Article 428. Transfer of ballot papers to the Election Precinct Commissions

- 1. The Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea shall deliver ballot papers in manufacturer's packaging to the meeting of the Territorial Election Commissions with the authorities of the District Election Commissions on elections of members of the Parliament of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea (hereinafter referred to as the "DEC") no earlier than seven days prior to the voting day. The authorized members of the Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea shall deliver the ballot papers on behalf of the Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea.
- 2. The District Election Commission shall accept and store the ballot papers under the procedure set forth by parts two and four of Article 224 hereunder. Ballot papers acceptance protocol shall also be signed by the member of the Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea authorized to deliver the ballot papers in addition to the members of the District Election Commission. The first copy of the protocol shall be delivered to the Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea.
- 3. Any MP candidate, authorized representative of the party which is subject of the election process or official observer present during transfer of ballot papers shall be entitled to request an immediate copy of the protocol described in part two of Article 224 hereunder verified on each page by the signatures of the Head and the secretary of the District Election Commission and the commission stamp; no more than one such copy of the protocol shall be issued to each party which is subject of the election process.
- 4. Ballot papers shall be transferred to the Precinct Election Commissions and accepted by the Precinct Election Commissions under the procedure set forth by Articles 225 and 226 hereunder.

#### Article 429. Requirements to preparation of voting booths

- 1. Each voting booth at each election precinct shall be equipped with a properly protected stand displaying throughout the voting process the official list of the parties which are subjects of the respective election process as indicated in Article 411 hereunder and the information posters of the parties which are subjects of the election process in the respective election district as indicated in Article 423 hereunder. The placement of the aforementioned materials on the stand shall provide for accessibility thereto by any voter filling in the ballot paper in the voting booth.
- 2. The Central Election Commission shall provide its requirements to the size and materials of such stands required by part one hereunder. The Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea shall manufacture the aforementioned stands for each election precinct in the amount equal to the number of booths for secret voting at the respective election precinct in compliance with part one of Article 230 hereunder plus two additional stands.
- 3. Should the materials placed on the stands within the voting booths in compliance with part one hereunder be damaged, the Head of the Precinct Election Commission or a different member thereof assigned by the Commission Head shall immediately replace the damaged materials with the copies provided to the Precinct Election Commission in compliance with part four of Article 411 and part three of 423 hereunder.
- 4. Should the stand described in part one hereunder or significant portion thereof be destroyed or suffer significant damage the Head of the Precinct Election Commission shall take all relevant measures to immediately replace it.
- 5. Upon exposure of the damage described in parts three and four the use of the respective voting booth shall be suspended until such damage is fully removed.

#### Article 430. The procedure for filling in the ballot paper when casting the vote

1. In the respective ballot paper each voter shall put into the boxes next to the text "I hereby cast my vote in support of the electoral list of the republican political party under No" the two numbers which represent the candidate/candidates from which specific party the

voter wishes to support in the official list of political parties which are subjects of the election process. Should the number of the party be less than 10, "0" shall be put in the first box.

- 2. The may indicate in the ballot paper in the boxes next to the text "I hereby cast my vote in support of the candidate for member of the Parliament from the republican political party under No" the two numbers which represent the specific candidate whom the voter wishes to support in the regional electoral list of the party s/he supported in compliance with part one hereunder. Should the number of the candidate be less than 10, "0" shall be put in the first box.
- 3. Should the voter waive his/her right indicated in part two hereunder or the boxes next to the text "I hereby cast my vote in support of the candidate for member of the Parliament from the republican political party under No" contain non-existing numbers, it shall be deemed that the candidate supported the entire regional list of candidates from the respective party while not supporting any specific candidate on such list in particular.

### Article 431. Counting the votes which supported regional electoral lists of parties at election precincts

- 1. To count the number of votes to support the electoral lists of parties all ballot papers subject to counting shall be laid out in the order stipulated by part one of Article 244 hereunder in places marked with double-sided signs with numbers of parties in compliance with the official list of parties which are subjects of the election process as indicated in Article 411 hereunder, and also one with "void" sign.
- 2. Void ballot papers in compliance with clause 3 of part three of Article 244 hereunder shall include the following ballots:
- 1) the ballots which lack the party's number in the boxes next to the text "I hereby cast my vote in support of the electoral list of the republican political party under No";
- 2) the ballots where the number next to the text "I hereby cast my vote in support of the electoral list of the republican political party under No" does not coincide with the number of any party which is subject of the election process in the official electoral list.
- 3. The Precinct Election Commission shall count the votes to support regional electoral lists of parties under the procedure indicated in part three of Article 226 hereunder. When counting the votes any election commission member shall have the right to check or recount the respective ballot papers.
- 4. When counting the votes in compliance with part three hereunder any ballot shall be deemed as such which was cast in support of the regional electoral list of a party if the numbers in the box next to the text "I hereby cast my vote in support of the electoral list of the republican political party under No" coincides with the number of the respective party which is subject of the election process in the official electoral list regardless of whether there is a number or a valid number in the box next to the text "I hereby cast my vote in support of the candidate for member of the Parliament from the republican political party under No".
- 5. Should one of the election commission members have any doubts in relation to will expression of a voter, such issue shall be resolved by casting the vote by the Precinct Election Commission. Prior to voting each member of the election commission shall have the right to personally inspect the ballot paper. Counting other ballot papers shall be suspended for the duration of such inspection and such voting. The respective protocol decision shall be registered in the minutes of the meeting of the Precinct Election Commission.
- 6. The results of counting the votes to support regional electoral lists of each party at the election precinct shall be announced by the Commission Head and registered by the commission secretary in the vote counting protocol at the election precinct.
- 7. When counting the votes at the election precinct the Precinct Election Commission shall verify whether the number of voters who took part in voting at the election precinct calculated in compliance with part 12 of Article 243 hereunder equals the sum of void ballots and ballots in support of regional electoral lists of the respective parties. If these numbers do not match the Precinct Election Commission shall recount the ballot papers. If the aforementioned mismatch is confirmed the Precinct Election Commission shall elaborate an

act under the form and procedure set forth by part ten of Article 115 hereunder with indication of the established by its decision reasons for such mismatch.

### Article 432. Counting the votes which supported specific candidates on regional electoral lists at election precincts

- 1. The Precinct Election Commission shall process the ballot papers with the votes to support the regional electoral list of each party and count the votes in support of each specific candidate on such electoral list. For this purpose the ballot papers with the votes to support the regional electoral list of each party shall be laid out in places marked with double-sided signs with numbers of the candidates on the regional list of candidates from the respective party, and also one with the sign "supported the entire electoral list of the party". The ballot papers shall be distributed under the procedure described in part one of Article 244 hereunder.
- 2. The Precinct Election Commission shall count the votes to support each specific candidate on the regional electoral list of the respective party and the votes to support the entire regional electoral list of MP candidates from the respective party without indication of a specific candidate from the list under the procedure described in part three of Article 226 hereunder. When counting the votes any election commission member shall have the right to check or recount the respective ballot papers.
- 3. When counting the votes in compliance with part two hereunder any ballot shall be deemed as such which was cast in support of the candidate registered under the same number which the voter put in the boxes next to the text "I hereby cast my vote in support of the candidate for member of the Parliament from the republican political party under No" to the regional electoral list of the party which the voter has shown support to when putting the numbers into the boxes next to the text "I hereby cast my vote in support of the electoral list of the republican political party under No".
- 4. Should one of the election commission members have any doubts in relation to will expression of a voter in the respective ballot paper, such issue shall be resolved by casting the vote by the Precinct Election Commission. The respective protocol decision shall be registered in the minutes of the meeting of the Precinct Election Commission. Prior to voting each member of the election commission shall have the right to personally inspect the ballot paper. Counting other ballot papers shall be suspended for the duration of such inspection and such voting. The respective protocol decision and the results of casting the vote shall be registered in the minutes of the meeting of the Precinct Election Commission.
- 5. The results of counting the votes shall be announced by the commission head and registered by the commission secretary in the vote counting protocol at the election precinct.
- 6. Upon completion of processing the ballot papers in support of regional electoral list of the respective party the Precinct Election Commission shall verify whether the number of voters in support of the regional electoral list equals the sum of votes in support of each specific candidate on the party's regional electoral list and the number of votes in support of the entire regional electoral list of MP candidates from the given party. If these numbers do not match the Precinct Election Commission shall recount the ballot papers. If the aforementioned mismatch is confirmed the Precinct Election Commission shall elaborate an act under the form and procedure set forth by part ten of Article 115 hereunder with indication of the established by its decision reasons for such mismatch.
- 7. Ballot papers with the votes in support of each specific candidate on the regional electoral list of the respective party shall be put into envelopes under the procedure set forth by part ten of Article 221 hereunder. Each envelope shall be labeled with the title of the respective party and its number in the official list of parties which are subjects of the election process and the name of the candidate and his/her number in the party's regional electoral list.
- 8. Ballot papers with the votes in support of the entire regional electoral list of the respective party shall be put into the envelope under the procedure set forth by part ten of Article 221 hereunder. Each envelope shall be labeled with the title of the party and its number in the official list of parties which are subjects of the election process.

10. All ballot papers indicated in parts seven and nine hereunder with the votes in support of each respective party's regional electoral list shall be packaged in one paper bag under the procedure set forth by part eight of Article 240 hereunder. Each paper bag shall be labeled with the title of the respective party and its number in the official list of parties which are subjects of the election process.

### Article 433. Information in the special section of the vote counting protocols of the Precinct and District Election Commissions

- 1. The special section of the vote counting protocol of the Precinct Election Commission regulated by part five of Article 246 hereunder, the vote counting protocol of the District Election Commission on vote recount at the precinct regulated by part 12 of Article 252 hereunder, the vote counting protocol of the District Election Commission on tabulation of protocols within the territorial election district regulated by part four of Article 255 hereunder shall provide the following information:
  - 1) the total number of valid votes within the precinct or the territorial election district;
- 2) the number of votes in support of the regional electoral list of MP candidates from each respective party;
- 3) the number of votes in support of specific candidates on each party's regional electoral list of MP candidates;
- 4) the number of votes in support of the entire regional list of candidates from each party.
- 2. The total number of valid votes shall be calculated as the sum of votes in support of regional electoral lists of MP candidates from each party.

#### Article 434. Delivering election documents of the Precinct Election Commission

The documents of the Precinct Election Commission indicated in part one of Article 250 hereunder shall be delivered to the respective Territorial Election Commission which acts as the District Election Commission on the elections of members of the Parliament of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea in the respective territorial election district under the procedure set forth by Article 250 hereunder.

### Article 435. The procedure for consideration of election documents by District Election Commissions

- 1. The Territorial Election Commission acting as the District Election Commission on the elections of members of the Parliament of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea in the respective territorial election district shall collect and consider all election documents received from the Precinct Election Commissions as indicated in part one of Article 250 hereunder and elaborate the District Election Commission protocol on tabulation of protocols within the territorial election district under the procedure set forth by Articles 251 through 257 hereunder.
- 2. Should any other local elections be held simultaneously with the elections of members of the Parliament of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea in which the respective Territorial Election Commission is the Head Election Commission, the documents of the Precinct Election Commissions on the elections of members of the Parliament of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea shall be considered after it approves the results of elections in which it is the head commission.

# Article 436. Protocol on the results of the elections of members of the Parliament of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea

- 1. The Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea during its meeting shall approve the results of the elections based on vote counting protocols from the District Election Commissions within the respective territorial election districts, including those marked as "Amended" and execute the respective protocol within eight days after the voting day.
- 2. The protocol on the results of the elections of members of the Parliament of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea shall provide the information required by Article 437 hereunder.
- 3. The Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea shall execute three copies of the protocol on the results of the elections of members of the Parliament. All copies

of the protocol shall be signed by the Head, Deputy Head, secretary and other members of the Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea present at the meeting and verified by the stamp of the Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea. The protocol shall indicate the date and time (hours and minutes) when it was signed by the members of the Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea.

- 4. All members of the Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea present at the meeting shall sign the protocol on the results of the elections. Should any member disagree with the results registered in the protocol of the Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, such member of the Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea shall sign the protocol with a remark "Different opinion". Such different opinion shall be described in writing and attached to the protocol on the results of the elections of members of the Parliament. Should the protocol lack the signature of any member of the Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea there shall be a remark next to the name of the respective member of the Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea stating the reason of absence at the meeting.
- 5. Any candidates for members of the Parliament of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and/or representatives of the parties in the republican election district who are present at the meeting when approving the results of the elections of members of the Parliament shall have the right to sign the first copy of the protocol.
- 6. The third copy of the protocol shall be immediately posted for the public in the facility of the Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea.

### Article 437. Content of the protocol on the results of the elections of members of the Parliament of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea

- 1. The general section of the protocol by the Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea on the results of the elections of members of the Parliament as indicated in Article 436 hereunder shall include the following information:
- 1) the quantity of ballot papers produced at the order of the Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea;
  - 2) the number of ballot papers received by the District Election Commissions:
  - 3) the number of ballot papers received by the Precinct Election Commissions:
- 4) the number of non-used ballot papers invalidated by the Precinct Election Commissions;
  - 5) the number of voters on the register of voters at election precincts;
  - 6) the number of voters on the extracts from the register of voters for mobile voting;
  - 7) the number of voters who were issued ballots in the voting facility;
  - 8) the number of voters who were issued their ballots for mobile voting:
  - 9) the total number of voters who were issued ballots:
  - 10) the number of voters who took part in voting in the voting facility;
  - 11) the number of voters who took part in mobile voting;
  - 12) the number of ballot papers not to be counted at the election precincts;
  - 13) the number of voters who took part in voting in each regional election district;
  - 14) the total number of voters who took part in voting;
  - 15) the number of ballot papers declared void in each regional election district;
- 16) the ratio of ballot papers declared void in each regional election district to number of voters who took part in voting in the same regional election district;
  - 17) the total number of ballot papers declared void;
  - 18) the ratio of ballot papers declared void to number of voters who took part in voting.
- 2. The special section of the protocol on the results of the elections of members of the Parliament as indicated in Article 436 hereunder shall provide the following information in numbers and words:
  - 1) the number of valid votes in each regional election district;
  - 2) the total number of valid votes:
- 3) the number of voters to support regional electoral lists of MP candidates from each party in each regional election district;

- 4) the ratio of votes to support regional electoral lists of MP candidates from each party in each regional election district to the total number of valid votes in the same regional election district:
- 5) the number of votes to support specific candidates on the regional electoral list of MP candidates from each party in each regional election district;
- 6) the ratio of votes to support a specific candidate on the regional electoral list of MP candidates from each party in each regional election district to the total number of valid votes in the same regional election district;
- 7) the number of votes to support the entire regional list of candidates from each party in each regional election district;
- 8) the total number of votes to support the entire regional list of candidates from each party;
- 9) the ratio of the total number of votes to support the entire regional list of candidates from each party to the total number of valid votes.
- 3. The information on the results of voting indicated in clauses 1, 14, 17, and 18 of part one and clauses 2, 8, and 9 of part two hereunder shall be included in the protocol of the Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea on the results of the elections of members of the Parliament for the republican election district in numbers and words. The information indicated in clauses 2 through 12 of part one hereunder shall be indicated in numbers for each territorial election district, as well as in numbers and words for the entire republican election district. The information indicated in clauses 13, 15, and 16 of part one and clauses 3 through 5 and 7 of part two hereunder shall be indicated in numbers for each territorial election district, as well as in numbers and words for each regional election district.
- 4. The information indicated in clause 6 of part two hereunder shall be indicated in whole numbers through disregarding the fractions. The information indicated in clauses 16 and 18 of part one and clauses 4 and 9 of part two hereunder shall be indicated to the hundredths.
- 5. Other information in the special section of the protocol on the results of the elections shall be indicated in compliance with Articles 438 through 442 hereunder.
- 6. The number of MP mandates won by the electoral lists of MP candidates from parties and individuals elected members of the Parliament from these parties shall be determined based on the results of the elections of members of the Parliament of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea.

#### Article 438. Parties entitled to take part in distribution of MP mandates

- 1. The regional lists of candidates of the parties which were supported by three or more percent of valid votes shall be entitled to participate in distribution of MP mandates.
- 2. The Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea based on the information indicated in clause 9 of part two of Article 327 hereunder shall determine the parties entitled to take part in the distribution of MP mandates. The titles of such parties shall be indicated in the special section of the protocol on the results of the elections.
- 3. All candidates on parties' electoral lists which failed to gain support of three or more percent of valid votes within the republican election district shall not be entitled to take part in the distribution of MP mandates.

#### Article 439. Election quota

- 1. The Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea shall calculate the total number of votes to support the regional lists of parties which are entitled to take part in the distribution of MP mandates in each regional election district. This information shall be indicated in the special section of the protocol on the results of the elections of members of the Parliament in numbers and words for each regional election district.
- 2. The Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea shall calculate the total number of votes to support the regional lists of parties which are entitled to take part in the distribution of MP mandates within the republican election district. This information shall be indicated in numbers and words in the special section of the protocol on the results of the elections of members of the Parliament.

- 3. The Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea shall calculate the total number of votes necessary to obtain one MP mandate (hereinafter referred to as the "Election quota"). The election quota shall be calculated as the whole part of the result of dividing the total number of votes to support the regional lists of parties entitled to take part in the distribution of MP mandates in compliance with part two hereunder by the total number of MP mandates available which is equal to the number of members of the Parliament of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea.
- 4. The election quota shall be indicated in the special section of the protocol on the results of the elections of members of the Parliament in numbers and words.

### Article 440. Allocation of MP mandates between the regional electoral lists of MP candidates from parties

- 1. In each regional election district the MP mandates shall be distributed between the regional electoral lists of MP candidates from parties as indicated in part one of Article 438 hereunder proportionally to the number of votes to support the respective regional electoral list; the number of such MP mandates shall be determined in compliance with parts two trough four hereunder.
- 2. To determine the number of MP mandates obtained by a regional electoral list of MP candidates from a party the number of votes to support the respective regional electoral list within the regional election district shall be divided by the election quota calculated in compliance with part three of Article 439 hereunder. The whole part of the above fraction shall represent the number of MP mandates obtained by the candidates on the respective electoral list from this party.
- 3. The Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea shall calculate the number of votes to support the regional electoral list of the respective party which were not accounted for when distributing the MP mandates within the given regional election district (hereinafter referred to as the "number of unused votes in support of the regional electoral list of a party within a regional election district) by subtracting the product of multiplying the election quota by the number of mandates received by the candidates on the respective regional electoral list of a given party from the number of votes to support the respective regional electoral list.
- 4. The Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea shall add up the mandates received by the candidates on regional electoral lists of all parties in the respective regional election district and thus determine the total number of mandates distributed in the respective regional election district.
- 5. The Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea shall add up the unused votes in support of regional electoral lists of parties within each regional election district and thus determine the total number of unused votes to support the regional electoral lists of parties which take part in the distribution of mandates.
- 6. The Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea shall include the following information in the results protocol for each regional election district in numbers and words:
- 1) the number of MP mandates received by the candidates on the regional electoral list of each party as indicated in part one of Article 438 hereunder;
- 2) the total number of MP mandates distributed in the respective regional election district:
- 3) the number of unused votes in support of the regional electoral lists of parties within the regional election district as indicated in part one of Article 438 hereunder;
- 4) the total number of unused votes in support of the regional electoral lists of parties which take part in the distribution of mandates.

### Article 441. Determining the elected members of the Parliament in the regional election district

1. The Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea shall determine the order of the candidates on the regional electoral list of each party with account to the votes within the given regional election district as indicated in part two hereunder.

- 2. All candidates on the regional electoral list of the respective party shall be organized in descending order of votes in support of the respective candidate as indicated in clause 6 of part two of Article 437 hereunder. When the percent of votes is equal for two or more candidates, the higher position on the list shall be given to the candidate who boasts higher position on the regional electoral list of candidates from the given party registered by the Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea in compliance with Article 407 hereunder.
- 3. The Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea shall indicate in the protocol on the results of the elections of members of the Parliament the electoral lists of candidates from each party as indicated in part one of Article 438 hereunder in each regional election district with the candidates organized in the order regulated by part two hereunder.
- 4. The top candidates on the regional electoral list of a party organized in compliance with part two hereunder shall be announced elected from such given party; the number of such elected candidates shall equal the number of mandates won by all candidates on the regional electoral list of such party as indicated in clause 1 of part six of Article 440 hereunder.
- 5. The Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea shall provide the following information about each candidate elected in the regional election districts in the protocol on the results of the elections of members of the Parliament:
  - 1) the elected MP's full name;
  - 2) regional election district in which the MP was elected;
  - 3) title of the party which nominated the MP;
  - 4) place of work (occupation) and position at the time of registration as MP candidate;
  - 5) place of residence;
  - 6) party membership.

### Article 442. Determining the number of mandates and the candidates elected in the republican election district

- 1. The Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea shall determine the total number of mandates distributed in all regional election districts based on the information provided by clause 2 of part six of Article 440 hereunder.
- 2. The Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea shall determine the number of mandates subject to distribution in the republican election district by subtracting the number of mandates established in compliance with part one hereunder from the total number of available MP mandates which is equal to the number of members of the Parliament of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea.
- 3. The Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea shall calculate the total number of unused votes in support of electoral lists of each party in the republican election district based on the information provided by clause 3 of part six of Article 440 hereunder.
- 4. To determine the number of mandates obtained by the republican electoral list of candidates from a party the total number of votes submitted in the republican election district in support of the electoral list of candidates from the respective party and calculated in compliance with part three hereunder shall be divided by the election quota calculated in compliance with part three of Article 439 hereunder. The whole part of the above fraction shall be the number of MP mandates obtained by the candidates on the respective republican electoral list from this party. Any fraction shall be accounted for when distributing the remaining MP mandates under part five hereunder.
- 5. The parties which boast the republican electoral lists with the largest compared to others fractions after the division described in part four hereunder shall all receive one additional MP mandate starting with the republican electoral list of the party with the highest fraction. If two or more electoral lists of candidates from parties boast equal fractions, the first to receive the additional MP mandate shall be the electoral list of a party which obtained more votes for its candidates in the republican election district in compliance with clause 8 of part two of Article 437 hereunder. The distribution of additional MP mandates shall be completed when all MP mandates are distributed.

- 6. The top candidates on the republican electoral list of a party shall be announced elected from such given party; the number of such elected candidates shall equal the number of mandates calculated in compliance with parts four and five hereunder. All candidates announced elected in the respective regional election districts shall be excluded from the republican electoral list of candidates from the party and shall not be taken into account when distributing the MP mandates in the nationwide election district.
- 7. The Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea shall provide the following information in numbers and words in the protocol on the results of the elections of members of the Parliament:
  - 1) the number of mandates subject to distribution in the republican election district;
- 2) the total number of unused votes within the republican election district in support of the electoral list of each party taking part in the distribution of mandates;
- 3) the number of MP mandates obtained by the candidates on republican election lists of candidates from each party taking part in the distribution of mandates.
- 8. The Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea shall indicate in the protocol on the results of the elections of members of the Parliament the information about each candidate elected in the republican election district required by clauses 1, 3-6 of part five of Article 441 hereunder.

#### Article 443. Declaring the elections invalid

- 1. The Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea shall approve the decision on declaring the elections of members of the Parliament of the Parliament of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea invalid in the following cases:
- 1) if during the election process or during vote counting there were significant violations of this Code which impacted the elections' results:
- 2) if the number of election precincts where the voting was declared invalid under Articles 249 and 253 hereunder exceeds 25 percent of the total number of election precincts on the territory of the republican election district.
- 2. When the elections of members of the Parliament of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea are declared invalid by the Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea it shall approve the decision on repeated elections of members of the Parliament of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea on the same day.

### Article 444. Official publication of the results of the elections of members of the Parliament of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea

- 1. The Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea shall officially publish the results of the elections of members of the Parliament in regional printed mass media no later than on the fifth day upon approval of the results of the elections. The list of the elected members of the Parliament shall be published in alphabetical order along with the following information about each elected MP:
  - 1) year of birth;
  - 2) education;
  - 3) place of work (occupation), position;
  - 4) place of residence:
  - 5) party membership;
  - 6) regional or republican election district in which such candidate was elected;
  - 7) title of the party which nominated the MP.
- 2. The official publication by the Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea shall provide the grounds for dismissal from work (position) incompatible with the MP mandate and/or approval of decision on termination of any other representative mandate of the individual elected as member of the Parliament.

# Article 445. Registration of the elected members of the Parliament of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea

1. If applicable, any individual elected as member of the Parliament shall within 20 days upon official publication of the results of the elections of members of the Parliament submit to the Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea a copy of properly registered application submitted respectively to the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine or any local

board on termination of any other representative mandate to be registered as member of Parliament of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea.

- 2. The Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea shall within 22 days upon official publication of the results of the elections of members of the Parliament approve the decision on registration of the elected members of the Parliament of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea. Any individuals with other representative mandates shall be registered as members of the Parliament of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea by the Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea only upon presenting proper copies of applications as indicated in part one hereunder.
- 3. Should any individual with other representative mandate fail to submit a copy of application in terms indicated in part one hereunder when elected as member of the Parliament the Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea shall approve the decision on declaring such individual as such who refused from his/her MP mandate and announce next in order candidate on the same regional or republican electoral list from the respective party the elected member of the Parliament.
- 4. Should the respective regional electoral list lack sufficient number of candidates, the right to receive the MP mandate shall be transferred to the republican electoral list of the same party. Should the republican electoral list of a party lack sufficient number of candidates, the right to receive the MP mandate shall be transferred to the unexhausted regional electoral list of the same party with highest support of votes in the respective regional election district.

### Article 446. Replacement of members of the Parliament whose authorities were subject to early termination

- 1. Should the authorities of any member of the Parliament of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea be subject to early termination further to the decision of the Election Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, the next in order candidate for member of the Parliament on the same regional or republican electoral list from the respective party shall be announced the elected member of the Parliament under the procedure described in part four of Article 445 hereunder.
- 2. The Parliament of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea shall register any individual described in part one hereunder as member of the Parliament under the procedure described in Article 445 hereunder.

### Article XII. ELECTIONS OF MEMBERS OF VILLAGE, SETTLEMENT, CITY AND CITY RAION BOARDS

### SECTION XXXVII. GENERAL PROVISIONS ON ELECTIONS OF MEMBERS OF VILLAGE, SETTLEMENT, CITY AND CITY RAION BOARDS

### Article 447. Main principles of elections of members of village, settlement, city and city raion boards

The elections of members of village, settlement, city and city raion boards shall be held under the majoritarian election system by simple majority of votes in single-mandate districts within the territory of the respective village, settlement, city or city raion community.

#### Article 448. Number of members in village, settlement, city and city raion boards

- 1. Village, settlement and city boards shall boast the following number of members depending on the number of voters within the respective territorial community:
  - 1) under 1 thousand of voters from 12 to 15 members;
  - 2) from 1 thousand to 3 thousand of voters from 15 to 25 members:
  - 3) from 3 thousand to 8 thousand of voters from 20 to 30 members;
  - 4) from 8 thousand to 20 thousand of voters from 25 to 35 members;
  - 5) from 20 thousand to 50 thousand of voters from 30 to 45 members;
  - 6) from 50 thousand to 100 thousand of voters from 35 to 50 members;
  - 7) from 100 thousand to 250 thousand of voters from 40 to 60 members;
  - 8) from 250 thousand to 500 thousand of voters from 50 to 75 members;
  - 9) from 500 thousand to 800 thousand of voters from 60 to 90 members:

- 10) from 800 thousand to 1 million 500 thousand of voters from 80 to 120 members;
- 11) over 1 million 500 thousand of voters from 90 to 150 members.
- 2. The number of members in city raion board shall not exceed the maximum number of members as indicated in part one hereunder with respect to the number of voters who have registered election addresses on the territory of the respective city raion.
- 3. The respective current local board shall approve the decision on the number of members (number of member mandates) of a village, settlement, city and city raion boards within the limitations set forth by part one hereunder within 120 days prior to the voting day during the next local elections.
- 4. Should the respective current local board fail to approve the decision on the number of members of next convocation board in terms stipulated by part three hereunder, the number of members of the respective local board of next convocation shall remain the same.
- 4. When announcing the first elections of members of village, settlement, city and city raion boards, the Parliament of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, oblast or city board shall approve the decision on the number of members in the first convocation board in compliance with part one hereunder; such first elections shall be appointed in compliance with part three of Article 5 hereunder.

### Right 449. The right to nominate candidates for members of village, settlement and city boards

- 1. All voters shall be entitled to nominate candidates for members of village, settlement, city and city raion boards through political parties (hereinafter referred to as the "parties") as indicated in part two hereunder or nominate themselves under the procedure hereunder.
- 2. Any party qualified under the requirements set forth by part four of Article 13 hereunder shall be able to nominate:
- 1) candidates for members of village, settlement and city (city of raion subordinance) boards (less villages, settlements and satellite cities) through the respective raion party unit;
- 2) candidates for members of city (city of Oblast and Republic level in Autonomous Republic of Crimea, cities of Kyiv and Sevastopol) board and candidates for members of village, settlement and city (including village, settlements and satellite cities) boards through the respective city party unit;
- 3) candidates for members for city raion board through the respective city party unit or city raion party unit in single-mandate districts in which the respective city unit of the same party has not nominated any candidates.
- 3. The territorial body of the Ministry of Justice of Ukraine in the respective raion or city (city of Oblast and Republic level in Autonomous Republic of Crimea, cities of Kyiv and Sevastopol, or city raion) shall publish in regional or city printed mass media the list of raion, city or city raion parties which qualify under the requirements set forth by part four of Article 13 hereunder within three days upon commencement of the election process.

#### Article 450. The terms for announcing and holding interim and repeated elections

- 1. The interim elections of board members shall be announced further to the decision of village, settlement, city, city raion (hereinafter referred to as the "territorial") Election Commission in the respective single-mandate district due to early termination of authorities of a member of the respective board who was previously elected in such district or due to declaring an individual elected as member of the respective board in the respective district as such who refused from his/her member mandate.
- 2. The decision on the interim elections of board members shall be approved by the Head of the Territorial Election Commission no later than on the tenth day upon exposure of circumstances which provide the grounds for appointing such interim elections.
- 3. The decision on the repeated elections of board members shall be approved by the Head of the Territorial Election Commission based on the grounds and under the procedure provided by part four of Article 488 hereunder.
- 4. Voting at the interim and repeated elections shall be held on the last week of the 70-day term upon official publication of the decision described in parts two and three hereunder.

5. The interim and repeated elections of a board member shall be held in the respective single-mandate district.

#### Article 451. Territorial organization of the elections of board members

- 1. The system of territorial organization of the elections of members of village, settlement and city (town) boards shall include:
  - 1) single-mandate districts;
- 2) regular election precincts on the territory of the respective village, settlement, city and city raion community;
- 3) special polling stations in establishments listed in clauses 1 and 2 of part two of Article 36 hereunder on the territory of the respective community of city raion.
- 2. The territory of the respective community or city raion shall be divided into single-mandate districts with the purpose of electing board members. The number of single-mandate districts shall equal the number of members of village, settlement, city or city raion board of next convocation in compliance with Article 448 hereunder.
- 3. Single-mandate districts shall be created with approximately equal number of voters. The difference in number of voters in a single-mandate district shall not exceed five percent from the average number of voters calculated by dividing the total number of voters within the respective community (or city raion) based on the information provided by the State Voter Register by the number of members of the respective board of next convocation.
- 4. Single-mandate districts shall be created by the respective Territorial Election Commission no later than on the second day upon commencement of the election process.
- 5. When creating the districts the respective Territorial Election Commission shall define the territory of each such single-mandate district (list of streets, residential houses or other criteria for identifying the district's territory). Each district shall be assigned a number.
- 6. The boarders of a single-mandate district as a rule shall not cross the boundaries of election precincts. As an exception from the general rule for communities with the total number of voters in a single-mandate district comparable with the number of voters in an average election precinct, it shall be acceptable for the territory of such single-mandate district to belong to two neighboring regular election precincts.
- 7. The list of created single-mandate districts shall be made public through publication in printed mass media or if not applicable in any other way determined by the Territorial Election Commission no later than on the following day upon approval of decision on creation of such single-mandate districts.

### Article 452. The structure of election commissions during the elections of board members

- 1. The structure of election commissions to prepare and administrate the elections of members of the respective board of the territorial community shall include:
- 1) village, settlement, city, city raion Election Commission (hereinafter referred to as the "Head Territorial Election Commission");
- 2) Precinct Election Commissions on the territory of the respective territorial community (or city raion).
- 2. No District Election Commissions on elections of members of village, settlement, city and city raion boards shall be created. Their authorities shall be assigned to the respective village, settlement or city Election Commission.
- 3. The authorities of the District Election Commissions may be assigned to the City Raion Election Commissions further to the decision of the City Election Commission when electing members of city boards in cities where city raion boards are elected; in this case the City Raion Election Commissions shall belong to the structure of election commissions which prepare and administrate the elections of members of the respective city board.

#### **Article 453. Formation of Precinct Election Commissions**

1. When holding nationwide local elections the Precinct Election Commissions shall be created in compliance with part six of Article 94 hereunder.

- 2. The following entities shall be entitled to nominate the candidates for members of the Precinct Election Commissions in compliance with part two of Article 95 hereunder and in cases described in part one of the same Article:
- 1) on the territory of cities of oblast and republican subordinance in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, cities of Kyiv and Sevastopol the entities defined by clause 1 of part two of Article 497 hereunder:
  - 2) on the territory of raion the entities defined by Article 544 hereunder.
- 3. When the elections of members (a member) of village, settlement, city and city raion boards are held at the time other than the time of any other local elections, the Precinct Election Commissions shall be formed by the Head of the Territorial Election Commission of the respective local elections.
- 4. In case of the situation described in part three hereunder the candidates for members registered in the respective single-mandate district (districts) shall be the entities to nominate candidates for members of the Precinct Election Commissions in compliance with part two of Article 95 hereunder.
- 5. The Precinct Election Commissions shall be created under the procedure and terms regulated by Articles 95 and 96 hereunder.

### SECTION XXXVIII. NOMINATING AND REGISTERING CANDIDATES FOR MEMBERS OF VILLAGE, SETTLEMENT, CITY AND CITY RAION BOARDS

#### Article 454. The terms for nominating the candidates for board members

- 1. Nomination of the candidates for village, settlement, city and city raion boards shall commence on the day following the date of approving the decision on creation of single-mandate districts in compliance with part four of Article 451 hereunder and finish 45 days prior to the voting day.
- 2. Any candidate for board member as of the date of his/her nomination under the procedure described in part six of Article 455 or part one of Article 456 hereunder shall receive the status of subject of the respective election process.

#### Article 455. The procedure for nominating candidates by the parties

- 1. The respective party as indicated in part two of Article 449 hereunder shall be entitled to nominate one candidate for member of village, settlement, city and city raion boards in every single-mandate election district on the territory of the respective community or city raion.
- 2. A party shall be entitled to nominate any member thereof or an independent individual who under Article 12 hereunder has the right to be elected as board member and who hasn't submitted an application on self-nomination as candidate for board member. The same individual shall not be nominated by more than one party.
- 3. A party shall nominate its candidates for board members during its conference (meeting) organized and held under the procedure set forth by the party's charter.
- 4. The chairman of the party shall notify in writing the respective Head Territorial Election Commission about the time and place of holding the party's conference (meeting) to nominate its candidates for board members within three days prior to such conference (meeting). A member of the aforementioned Territorial Election Commission assigned by its Head shall be present at such conference (meeting).
- 5. The party's conference (meeting) on nomination of its candidates for board members shall be held openly. The conference (meeting) shall boast the appropriate atmosphere for free and comprehensive discussion of the individuals proposed as candidates for board members and their election programs.
- 6. The decision of the party's conference (meeting) to nominate the candidates for board members shall be approved in the form of a list of candidates with indication of the number of single-mandate district for each such candidate in which s/he is nominated.
- 7. The decision of the party's conference (meeting) described in part six hereunder shall indicate the following information in relation to each candidate:
  - 1) the candidate's full name;
  - 2) date, month and year of birth;

- 3) nationality;
- 4) party membership;
- 5) education;
- 6) place of work (occupation), position;
- 7) place of residence and election address.
- 8. The minutes of the party's conference (meeting) shall provide the following information: date of such conference (meeting), agenda, number of selected and present delegates (when holding a meeting the total number of the party's members and those present at the meeting), the voting results (number of affirmative votes, number of negative votes, number of votes which did not take part in voting) on nomination of each of the candidates, as well as the information about each individual nominated as candidate for board member in compliance with part seven hereunder with indication of the number of single-mandate district in which such candidate is nominated.
- 9. The decision described in part six hereunder and the minutes described in part eight hereunder shall be signed by the chairman of the party and verified by the party's stamp.

### Article 456. The procedure for self-nomination as candidate for board member

- 1. Any citizen of Ukraine wishing to self-nominate as candidate for board member shall in person submit the application on self-nomination in a given single-mandate district to the Head Territorial Election Commission of the respective elections.
- 2. The application on self-nomination as candidate for board member shall provide the following information:
- 1) the statement of the individual's desire to nominate as candidate for member of the respective local board in a given single-mandate district:
- 2) the information required by clauses 1 through 7 of part seven of Article 455 hereunder.
  - 3) the official contact address of the candidate;
- 4) the statement of consent to making the candidate's information contained in the documents submitted to the Territorial Election Commission public due to taking part in the elections:
- 5) the statement of obligation to refuse from his/her representative mandate which under the Constitution and the laws of Ukraine is incompatible with the mandate of member of village, settlement and city board, or refuse from his/her mandate of member of the respective board.
- 3. The documents indicated in part one of Article 457 hereunder shall be attached to the application.

### Article 457. The conditions for registration of candidates for board members

- 1. To be registered any self-nominated candidate shall in person submit to the Head of the Territorial Election Commission of the respective elections the following documents in addition to his/her application:
- 1) the candidate's autobiography which shall provide the following information in a precise manner:
  - a) full name;
  - б) date, month and year of birth;
  - в) nationality;
  - r) education;
  - r') work (including part-time);
  - д) public activity (including elective office);
- e) place of work (occupation) and position at the time of nomination as candidate for board member;
  - ε) party membership, year of joining the party;
  - ж) family status;
- 3) place of residence and election address with indication of duration of residing in Ukraine.
  - и) instances and grounds for criminal responsibility or responsibility for corruption;
  - i) prior convictions if applicable:
  - 2) brief election program in official national language;

- 3) property and income statement in compliance with Article 458 hereunder;
- 4) signature sheets with signatures of voters who have the right to vote at the elections of members of the respective board in support of registration of the candidate; the required number of such signatures shall be regulated by part one of Article 459 hereunder;
- 5) photographs of the candidate; the size and quantity of such photographs shall be determined by the Head Territorial Election Commission no later than on the third day of the election process.
- 2. The following documents shall be submitted in addition to the documents listed in clause 1 through 5 of part one hereunder when registering candidates for board members nominated by parties:
- 1) the party's application on registration of the candidate signed by the chairman of the party and verified by the party's stamp;
- 2) a copy of the party's registration certificate, verified without charge by the territorial body of the Ministry of Justice of Ukraine after commencement of the election process;
- 3) the decision of the conference (meeting) of the party to nominate candidates for board members as indicated in parts six and seven of Article 455 hereunder;
- 4) the minutes of the party's conference (meeting) on nomination of candidates for board members as indicated in part eight of Article 455 hereunder;
- 5) the statement of consent from the respective individual to be nominated as candidate for member of village, settlement and city board from a given party in the respective single-mandate district along with the information required by clauses 3 through 5 of part two of Article 456 hereunder.
- 3. One copy of each document listed in part two hereunder shall be submitted by the party in relation to each candidate for member of the respective board nominated by the party.
- 4. The documents on registration of the candidate (candidates) from a party as indicated in part two hereunder shall be submitted to the Head Territorial Election Commission by the individual assigned by the decision of the party's management body.
- 5. The head, deputy head, secretary or other member of the Territorial Election Commission shall accept the documents. The commission shall issue a notice on acceptance of documents to the submitter of documents in compliance with part one or four hereunder. Such a notice shall indicate the list of submitted documents, date, month, year and time they were submitted and the last name and position of the individual who had accepted them.
- 6. The acceptance of documents by the respective Territorial Election Commission on registration of candidates for board members shall terminate 40 days prior to the voting day.
- 7. The documents submitted to the respective Territorial Election Commission shall not be re-submitted.

### Article 458. Property and income statement of the candidate

- 1. The property and income statement of the candidate for the previous year subject to reporting as of the day of commencement of the election process shall be filled in by such candidate in person under the form for property and income statements of officials approved by the Ministry of Finance of Ukraine as of January, 1 of the year in which the election process commenced.
- 2. Any mistakes or discrepancies in property and income statement shall be subject to correction and fail to provide the grounds for refusal to register the candidate for board member.

### Article 459. Collecting signatures to support registration of the candidate for board member

- 1. Signature sheets with the following number of signatures to support registration of the candidate for board member shall be submitted:
  - 1) candidate for village board member no less than 10 signatures;
  - 2) candidate for settlement board member no less than 15 signatures;
- 3) candidate for city (city of raion subordinance or satellite city) board member no less than 25 signatures;

- 4) candidate for city (city of Oblast and Republic level in Autonomous Republic of Crimea with no more than 300 thousand voters) or city raion (less city raion in Kyiv) board no less than 50 signatures;
- 5) candidate for city (city of Oblast and Republic level in Autonomous Republic of Crimea with more than 300 thousand voters, less oblast centers, Kyiv, Simferopil and Sevastopol) no less than 80 signatures;
- 6) candidate for city (Oblast centers, Kyiv, Simferopil and Sevastopol) and city raion in Kyiv boards no less than 100 signatures.
- 2. The form of signature sheets shall be regulated by part four of Article 402 hereunder. In place of the information indicated in clauses 2 and 3 of part two of Article 403 hereunder the signature sheet shall provide correspondently the following information:
  - 1) the number of the election precinct in which signatures are being collected;
- 2) full name of the candidate in whose support signatures are being collected and the nominating entity.
- 3. The individual nominated by a party or the individual with the intent to self-nominate shall in person submit the application to the Head Territorial Commission of the respective elections on the intent to collect signatures of voters to support his/her registration and attach an example of signature sheet. Additionally, such individual shall submit the document stipulated by clause 1 or 2 of part one of Article 10 hereunder.
- 4. The Head Territorial Election Commission of the respective elections shall approve the respective decision within two days upon receipt of such application. The example of the signature sheet shall be returned to the applicant within three days upon approval of the aforementioned decision.
- 5. The individual who received the example of the signature list shall be entitled to produce any number of such signature sheets under the approved form.

### Article 460. The procedure for collecting the signatures of voters

- 1. Voters' signatures to support registration of the candidate for board member shall be collected by a voter with the right to vote at the respective elections and authorized in writing by the nominee or who has the intent to self-nominate as candidate. Any individual may also personally collect the voters' signatures to support his/her registration.
- 2. The signatures shall be collected under the procedure and in compliance with the requirements set forth by parts two through nine and eleven of Article 404 hereunder.
- 3. In single-mandate districts any voter whose address belongs to the respective single-mandate district may submit his/her signature to support the registration of a candidate for board member.

## Article 461. The procedure for submitting signature sheets to the Territorial Election Commission

- 1. All signature sheets shall be submitted to the Head Territorial Election Commission of the respective elections along with the documents required by parts one and (for party's nominees) two of Article 457 hereunder.
- 2. When receiving the signature sheets the Territorial Election Commission shall execute transfer and acceptance certificate which shall indicate the number of submitted signature lists and number of signatures therein along with date and time of submitting them. Such certificate shall be executed in two copies under the form provided by part ten of clause 115 hereunder and signed by the authorized member of the election commission and the submitter. The first copy of the certificate shall be provided to the submitter and the second copy shall be kept by the election commission.

### Article 462. The procedure for verification of voters' signatures

- 1. The Head Territorial Election Commission shall perform control over the observance of the requirements of this Code in relation to signature sheets by the latter being verified by members of the election commission. When verifying the signature sheets members of the election commission may use the information from the State Voter Register.
- 2. When counting the number of voters who supported the registration of the candidate in the respective single-mandate district based on the signature sheets those signature sheets in

which the signatures were collected by any individual other than those indicated in part one of Article 460 hereunder or those with violations described in clauses 2 through 11 of part two of Article 406 hereunder shall be disregarded.

- 3. When counting the number of voters who supported the registration of the candidate based on the signature sheets any signatures of voters who have their election addresses outside the respective single-mandate district in which the candidate is being nominated or qualify under the characteristics indicated in clauses 1 through 4, 6 and 7 of part three of Article 406 hereunder shall be disregarded.
- 4. The Territorial Election Commission shall execute the protocol on the results of collecting the signatures to support registration of the candidate under the procedure and form stipulated by part ten of Article 115 hereunder; this protocol shall clearly indicate the total number of valid signatures to support registration of the candidate
- 5. The Territorial Election Commission shall approve its decision to disregard certain signature in signature sheets and/or signature sheets in general; such decision shall clearly indicate the number of disregarded signatures of voters and the grounds to disregard such signatures.
- 6. The Territorial Election Commission shall provide a copy of the protocol and the decision to the candidate for board member no later than on the following day upon execution (approval).
- 7. Only the members of the respective election commission shall have the right to study the signature sheets submitted to the Territorial Election Commission. The candidate shall have the right to look though the signature sheets within the election commission's facility upon execution of the protocol and approval of the decision as indicated respectively in parts four and five hereunder.

### Article 463. The procedure for registration of candidates for board members

- 1. The Head Territorial Election Commission of the respective elections shall register the candidates for board members nominated in the respective single-mandate districts provided all the documents indicated in parts one and (for candidates nominated by parties) two of Article 457 hereunder were submitted.
- 2. Any individual nominated as candidate for board member shall have the right to withdraw his/her application on self-nomination or submit an application on withdrawal of his/her statement of consent to be nominated as candidate for board member from the respective party before the registration date. The commission shall not accept second applications on self-nomination or statement of consent to be nominated as candidate at the same elections in any district from any party.
- 3. The Territorial Election Commission shall approve the decision on registration of the candidate or refusal to register within five days upon acceptance of the documents indicated in parts one and (for candidates nominated by parties) two of Article 457 hereunder.
- 4. The candidate for board member registered by the Territorial Election Commission shall be issued the candidate's identification document under the form approved by the Central Election Commission within five days upon registration.
- 5. The list of registered candidates for board members in each single-mandate district shall be made public through publication in local printed mass media or if not applicable in any other way determined by the Head Territorial Election Commission.

### Article 464. Refusal to register a candidate

- 1. The Head Territorial Election Commission of the respective elections shall refuse registration of the candidate for board member nominated in a single-mandate district in the following instances:
  - 1) violations of this Code and other laws of Ukraine regulating nomination of candidates;
- 2) failure to submit or improper execution of at least one of the documents indicated in parts one and (for candidates nominated by parties) two of Article 457 hereunder;
- 3) failure to submit the application of the individual nominated as candidate in compliance with clause 5 of part two of Article 457 hereunder (for candidates nominated by parties);

- 4) withdrawal of application on self-nomination or submitting an application on withdrawal of his/her statement of consent to be nominated as candidate for board member from the respective party in compliance with part two of Article 463 hereunder by the individual nominated as candidate:
- 5) failure to submit or insufficient number (as indicated in part one of Article 459 hereunder) of signatures to support registration of the candidate in compliance with part four of Article 462 hereunder:
  - 6) termination of citizenship of Ukraine of the individual nominated as candidate:
- 7) if the individual nominated as candidate leaves the country of Ukraine for permanent residence or political asylum abroad;
- 8) approval by the court of the decision on legal incompetence of the individual nominated as candidate:
- 9) effectiveness of a guilty verdict by competent court for deliberate crime in relation to the individual nominated as candidate;
- 10) any other circumstances which were found by the Territorial Election Commission which deprive the individual nominated as candidate the right to be a candidate for board member.
- 2. The decision on refusal to register a candidate for board member shall clearly indicate the sufficient grounds for such refusal. A copy of such decision shall be issued to the candidate within the following day upon approval.
- 3. The refusal to register a candidate for board member on the grounds described in clause 2 of part one hereunder shall not deprive the applicant the right to submit additional or corrected documents no later than 37 days prior to the voting day.
- 4. In instances provided by part three hereunder the Territorial Election Commission shall approve its final decision on registration of the candidate for board member within 35 days prior to voting day.

### Article 465. Termination of registration of a candidate for board member

- 1. The Head Territorial Election Commission of the respective elections shall approve the decision on termination of registration of a candidate in the following instances:
- 1) written application on refusal to be candidate submitted by the candidate for board member after the registration however within three days prior to the voting day (in cases regulated by part five of Article 490 hereunder prior to the repeat voting day); such application shall not be subject to withdrawal;
- 2) exposure or emersion of circumstances indicated in clauses 6 through 10 of part one of Article 464 hereunder after the registration of the candidate;
- 3) exposure of the fact that the candidate is using additional resources to finance his/her election campaign (other than the electoral fund) in the amount greater than the maximum amount of voluntary contribution to the candidate's electoral fund regulated by part eight of Article 474 hereunder in the course of court consideration of the elections-related dispute under the procedure set forth by the legislation;
- 4) expenses of the candidate to finance his/her election campaign exceeding the maximum expenses from the respective electoral fund regulated by part seven of Article 474 hereunder by the amount greater than the maximum amount of voluntary contribution to the candidate's electoral fund regulated by part eight of Article 474 hereunder;
- 5) repeated actions of the candidate for which s/he has previously received a warning in compliance with part one of Article 466 hereunder.
- 2. The Territorial Election Commission shall consider the termination of registration of a candidate with such candidate being present. The candidate shall be notified about such consideration within one day in advance. If the candidate is not present while properly notified about the meeting the election commission shall consider the issue without such candidate.
- 3. The Territorial Election Commission shall inform the candidate and (if nominated by the party) the respective party about its decision to terminate the registration of the candidate within the following day upon approval and provide a copy of such decision to the candidate within the same term.
- 4. When the registration is terminated the candidate shall loose the status of the subject of the election process upon completion of the term for challenging such decision of the

Territorial Election Commission in court. When the decision is challenged under the court procedure the status of the subject of the election process shall be preserved until the court ruling becomes effective.

5. In the event of death of the candidate the Head Territorial Election Commission of the respective elections shall announce the decision of registration of such candidate void.

### Article 466. Warnings for violations of the election legislation

- 1. The Head Territorial Election Commission of the respective elections shall give warnings to the candidates for board members in the following instances:
- 1) exposure of any of the below facts in the course of court consideration of the elections-related dispute under the procedure set forth by the legislation:
- a) bribing voters or members of election commissions by the candidate, any representatives thereof, the nominating party, any official of the party, or any other affiliated individual assigned by the candidate or the nominating party;
- 6) giving money or offering free-of-charge or on preferential terms goods (less the goods listed in part two of Article 205 hereunder), works, services, securities, credits, lotteries or other material goods (indirect bribe) to the voters, establishments, institutions, organizations or members of election commissions in the course of the election process by the organization where the candidate, the nominating party or one of its officials is the founder, owner or member of management body:
- B) the candidate is using additional resources to finance his/her election campaign (other than the electoral fund) in the amount less than the maximum amount of voluntary contribution to the candidate's electoral fund regulated by part nine of Article 474 hereunder;
- r) the candidate while holding an official position including part time positions in executive bodies, government bodies of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea or local self-administration bodies, state or public utility companies, establishments, institutions, organizations, or military units created in compliance with the laws of Ukraine has engaged or used in his/her election campaign his/her subordinates, company vehicles, communications, property, facilities or other objects or resources at his/her place of work (abuse of office);
- 2) violations by the candidate of limitations on election campaigns, including election campaigns in the course of the election process outside the terms set forth by Article 201 hereunder:
- 3) expenses of the candidate to finance his/her election campaign exceeding the maximum expenses from the respective electoral fund regulated by part seven of Article 474 hereunder by the amount less than the maximum amount of voluntary contribution to the candidate's electoral fund regulated by part eight of Article 474 hereunder
- 2. The issue on announcing a warning to the candidate shall be considered under the procedure set forth by parts two and three of Article 465 hereunder.

# Article 467. The procedure for holding the elections in single-mandate districts where less than two candidates were registered

- 1. If only one candidate was registered in a single-mandate district in terms regulated by part four of Article 464 hereunder, voting in such district shall be held in relation to such one candidate.
- 2. If no candidates were registered in a single-mandate district in terms regulated by part four of Article 464 hereunder, the elections in the respective single-mandate district shall be deemed as such which have not been held.

### Article 468. Work guarantees for candidates for board members

- 1. The candidate for board member shall be granted discharge from his/her work or official duties at his/her place of work under unpaid leave conditions for the duration of his/her election campaign.
- 2. In the course of the election process the candidate for board member shall not be fired from work at the initiative of owner or any authorized body of the enterprise, institution, establishment, or organization, or the commanding officer of the military unit (base). The candidate without his/her consent shall neither be assigned a different position, sent on

business trips, nor drafted for military or alternative (unarmed) service, training (qualification) and special army boot camps for those liable for military service.

3. Any candidate for board member shall enjoy the rights of the official observer set forth in part one of Article 215 hereunder. Any candidate for board member shall be subject to limitations set forth by part two of Article 215 hereunder.

### Article 469. Authorized persons of the candidate

- 1. Any candidate for board member shall be entitled to the following number of authorized persons thereof:
- 1) candidate for members of city (city of raion subordinance or satellite cities) board no more than one authorized person;
- 2) candidate for member of city (city of Oblast and Republic level in Autonomous Republic of Crimea with more than 300 thousand voters, less oblast centers, cities of Kyiv, Simferopil and Sevastopol) board or candidate for member of city raion (less city raion in Kyiv) board no more than three authorized persons;
- 3) candidate for member of city (oblast centers, cities of Kyiv, Simferopil and Sevastopol) board or candidate for member of Kyiv city raion board no more than five authorized persons.
  - 2. The candidates for members of village or settlement boards shall not have proxies.
- 3. Any citizen of Ukraine with the right to vote at the respective elections shall be entitled to the candidate's authorized person.
- 4. The following individuals shall not be entitled to be authorized persons of the candidate:
  - 1) member of any election commission;
- 2) official of any executive body, government body of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea or self-administration body:
  - 3) court and law enforcement officials;
  - 4) individual in active military service or alternative (unarmed) service.

### Article 470. The procedure for registering authorized persons of the candidate

- 1. The application on registration of authorized persons of the candidate shall be signed by the candidate and submitted to the Head Territorial Election Commission of the respective elections at any time after the registration of the candidate.
- 2. The application on registration of authorized persons shall provide the following information about the respective individuals:
  - 1) full name;
  - 2) citizenship;
  - 3) year of birth;
  - 4) place of work (occupation), position;
  - 5) election address, contact telephone number.
- 3. A written statement of consent of the individual to represent the interests of the candidate shall be attached to the application indicated in part one hereunder.
- 4. The Territorial Election Commission shall register the candidate's authorized persons and issue them accreditations under the form approved by the Central Election Commission within three days upon receipt of the documents indicated in parts one and three hereunder however within one day prior to the voting day. The candidates for authorized persons may be rejected only on the grounds of violations of part four of Article 469 hereunder and part one through three of this Article.
- 5. Upon termination of registration of a candidate for board member the authorities of his/her authorized persons shall terminate as of the date the candidate looses his/her status of the subject of the election process.

### Article 471. Authorities of the candidate's authorized persons

- 1. The candidate's authorized persons shall engage in the election campaign in the respective single-mandate district, assist the candidate throughout the election process, and represent the candidate in the election process without special assignment.
  - 2. The candidate's authorized persons shall:

- 1) represent the interests of the candidate before the voters, election commission and other subjects of the election process, courts, local executive bodies, government bodies of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, local self-administration bodies, mass media, enterprises, establishments, institutions, and organizations on the territory of the respective election district;
- 2) be entitled to take part with deliberative vote in the meetings of the Head Territorial Election Commission of the respective elections, Territorial Election Commission acting as the District Election Commission in the respective election district, and Precinct Election Commissions on the territory of the respective election district;
- 3) have the right to be present at election precinct at the time of voting and at the meeting of the Precinct Election Commission when counting the votes with account to limitations set forth by clause 3 of part two of Article 114 hereunder;
- 4) enjoy the rights of the official observer from the candidate as regulated by part one of Article 215 hereunder:
  - 5) exercise other authorities set forth hereunder for authorized persons of candidates.
- 3. All authorized persons shall be subject to limitations set forth by part two of Article 215 hereunder.
- 4. The candidate's authorized person shall be granted discharge from his/her work or official duties at his/her place of work under unpaid leave conditions with the approval of the owner or any authorized body of the enterprise, institution, establishment, or organization as of the date of registration by the Territorial Election Commission until expiration of his/her authorities or completion of the election process.

### Article 472. Replacing the candidate's authorized persons

- 1. The candidate's authorized person shall be able to submit an application to the Head Territorial Election Commission of the respective elections on retiring from office at any time prior to the voting day.
- 2. The candidate for board member shall at any time prior to the voting day be able to submit an application to the Head Territorial Election Commission on withdrawal of accreditation of his/her authorized person and on replacing his/her authorized person with a new candidate. The respective application along with the written statement of consent of the new candidate shall be submitted to the Territorial Election Commission under the procedure set forth by part one of Article 470 hereunder.
- 3. Based on the application submitted in compliance with parts one or two hereunder the Territorial Election Commission shall approve the decision on termination of the registration of the candidate's authorized person and (if the respective application was submitted) on registration of a different individual as the candidate's authorized person within three days upon receipt of such application however not later than one day prior to the voting day, or immediately on the voting day. A copy of the decision shall be issued to the candidate or forwarded to his/her official contact address.
- 4. The accreditation of the candidate's authorized person whose authorities were terminated prior to the completion of the election process shall be deemed void.

### Article 473. The candidate's right to have official observers

- 1. The candidate for board member shall have the right to have official observers in compliance with part one of Article 214 hereunder.
- 2. The candidate or his/her representative shall in person submit the candidates for official observers on behalf of the given candidate in compliance with Article 217 hereunder.

# SECTION XXXIX. CHARACTERISTICS OF INFORMATION SUPPORT AND ELECTION CAMPAIGNS DURING THE ELECTIONS OF MEMBERS OF VILLAGE, SETTLEMENT, CITY AND CITY RAION BOARDS

## Article 474. Specific procedure for opening, formation and use of election budgets by candidates for board members

1. The candidates for members of city (cities of oblast and republican in Autonomous Republic of Crimea subordinance with more than 300 thousand voters, cities of Kyiv and

Sevastopol), and city raion boards shall form their electoral funds under the procedure described in articles 185 through 189 hereunder.

- 2. The candidates for members of village, settlement, city (less the cities in part one hereunder) boards shall be able to form their electoral funds to finance their election campaigns under the procedure described in articles 185 through 189 hereunder.
- 3. The parties nominating candidates for members of village, settlement, city and city raion boards shall not form their own electoral funds to finance election campaigns in the course of such elections.
- 4. The candidate's electoral fund accumulation account (if such fund is created) shall be opened within five days upon approval of the decision on registration of the candidate by the Territorial Election Commission.
- 5. No current accounts shall be opened for the candidate's electoral fund. The electoral funds shall be spent directly from the electoral fund accumulation account.
- 6. When creating the electoral fund the candidate shall personally manage the fund's accumulation and current accounts or assign management of the fund's accounts to one of his/her proxies.
  - 7. The maximum expenses from the candidate's electoral fund shall be limited to:
- 1) 50 times the minimum wage effective on the day of commencement of the election process for the elections of members of village or settlement boards;
- 2) 75 times the minimum wage effective on the day of commencement of the election process for the elections of members of city (city of raion subordinance or satellite cities) boards;
- 3) 100 times the minimum wage effective on the day of commencement of the election process for the elections of members of city (city of Oblast and Republic level in Autonomous Republic of Crimea with more than 300 thousand voters, less oblast centers, Kyiv, Simferopil and Sevastopol) or city raion (less city raion in Kyiv) boards;
- 4) 150 times the minimum wage effective on the day of commencement of the election process for the elections of members of city (oblast centers, Kyiv, Simferopil and Sevastopol) or city raion in Kyiv boards.
- 8. Voluntary contributions to the candidate's electoral fund shall be limited to three times the minimum wage effective on the day of commencement of the election process. The amount of the candidate's own funds to be transferred into the accumulation account shall be limited to maximum expenses from of the electoral fund as indicated in part seven hereunder.

### Article 475. Information posters of candidates for board members

- 1. The Head Territorial Election Commission of the respective elections shall fund the production of information posters as indicated in Article 194 hereunder for candidates for members of city (city of Oblast and Republic level in Autonomous Republic of Crimea, cities of Kyiv and Sevastopol) or city raion boards.
  - 2. The candidate's information poster shall include the following information:
  - 1) the number of single-mandate district in which the candidate is registered;
  - 2) the entity nominating the candidate;
- 3) the information required by clauses 1 through 4, and 6 of part seven of Article 455 hereunder;
  - 4) the candidate's place of residence;
  - 5) the candidate's photograph;
  - 6) the candidate's brief election program submitted at registration.
- 3. The Head Territorial Election Commission of the respective local elections shall fund the production of the same number of information posters about each candidate in the respective single-mandate district however no fewer than four copies of each information poster per each election precinct.
- 4. Three copies of the finished information posters about each candidate shall be delivered to the respective election commissions at each election precinct under the procedure approved by the respective Territorial Election Commission, and the rest to the candidate. The information posters shall be delivered to the election precincts immediately upon creation of the respective Precinct Election Commissions.

- 5. The Precinct Election Commissions shall make the information posters available to all voters within each respective commission's facility, and on the voting day in compliance with the regulations of Article 478 hereunder.
- 6. No information posters shall be produced for candidates for village, settlement or city (less the cities indicated in part one hereunder) boards.

# Article 476. Election campaigns during the elections of members of village, settlement, city and city raion boards

- 1. No air time shall be funded for the cost of the budget allocated for preparation and organization of elections for the candidates for members.
- 2. No publications of election materials in printed mass media shall be funded for the cost of the budget allocated for preparation and organization of elections for the candidates for members.

# SECTION XL. SPECIAL PROCEDURE FOR PREPARING AND ADMINISTRATING THE VOTING PROCESS AND ESTABLISHING THE RESULTS OF ELECTIONS OF THE MEMBERS OF VILLAGE, SETTLEMENT, CITY AND CITY RAION BOARDS

## Article 477. Ballot papers for the elections of members of village, settlement, city (town) boards

- 1. The text of the ballot paper for each single-mandate district shall be approved by the Head Territorial Election Commission of the respective local elections within 25 days prior to the voting day.
- 2. The ballot paper in the respective election district shall list the names of candidates in alphabetical order along with the following information about such registered candidates: full name, year of birth, principal place of work (occupation), party membership, and nominating entity. An empty box shall be allocated between the candidate's full name and the information about such candidate.
- 3. The Head Territorial Election Commission of the respective local elections shall determine the quantity of ballot papers for each single-mandate election district based on the information provided by the State Voter Register on the number of voters with the respective voting addresses plus no more than two percent from the number of voters in the respective district of additional ballot papers.

#### Article 478. Requirements to voting facilities

- 1. In addition to the information posters in compliance with part four of Article 192 hereunder, the information posters about each candidate for board member registered in the respective single-mandate district (if applicable) as indicated in Article 475 hereunder shall be placed directly in front of the voting facility.
- 2. The candidate's information posters shall be placed in the order they are listed within the ballot papers.
- 3. The Head of the Precinct Election Commission shall provide for constant availability of information posters of all the candidates registered in the respective single-mandate election district throughout the entire course of voting.

### Article 479. The procedure for filling in the ballot paper when casting the vote

- 1. Each voter shall put one mark, either a "plus" ("+") or any other symbol to signify his/her will expression, in the box next to the name of the candidate s/he wishes to support within the ballot paper.
- 2. When filling in the ballot paper each voter shall cast his/her vote in support of only one candidate for board member.

### Article 480. Voting at special precincts

Voters on the voting lists at special precincts created at full-time medical institutions shall be issues ballot papers to vote at:

1) the election of members of village, settlement and city boards provided his/her voting address is within the respective territorial community;

2) the elections of members of city raion boards provided his/her voting address is within the respective city raion.

### Article 481. Counting the votes at election precincts

- 1. To count the number of votes to support each candidate for board member in the respective single-mandate district all ballot papers of the respective election precinct subject to counting shall be laid out in the order stipulated by part one of Article 244 hereunder in places marked with double-sided signs with names of the candidates on the ballot paper, and also one with "void" sign.
- 2. Void ballot papers in compliance with clause 3 of part two of Article 244 hereunder shall be deemed all ballots which:
- 1) have more than one mark as indicated in part one of Article 479 hereunder next to the names of different candidates:
  - 2) lack any mark by the names of the candidates.
- 3. The Precinct Election Commission shall count the ballot papers under the procedure indicated in part three of Article 226 hereunder and determine the number of votes to support each candidate for board member in the respective single-mandate district. In the course of counting any member of the commission shall have the right to check or recount the respective ballot papers.
- 4. Should one of the members of the election commission have doubts in relation to validity or will expression of a voter within a ballot paper, such issues shall be resolved by casting the vote by the Precinct Election Commission. Prior to voting each member of the election commission shall have the right to personally inspect the ballot paper. Counting other ballot papers shall be suspended for the duration of such inspection and such voting. The respective protocol decision shall be registered in the minutes of the meeting of the Precinct Election Commission.
- 5. The results of counting the votes to support each candidate for board member in the respective single-mandate district at the election precinct shall be announced by the commission head and registered by the commission secretary in the vote counting protocol at the election precinct of the respective single-mandate district.
- 6. When counting the votes at the election precinct the Precinct Election Commission shall verify whether the number of voters who took part in voting at the election precinct in the respective single-mandate district determined in compliance with part 12 of Article 243 hereunder equals the sum of void ballots at the election precinct of the respective single-mandate district and ballots in support of each candidate within the same district. If these numbers do not match the Precinct Election Commission shall recount the ballot papers. If the aforementioned mismatch is confirmed the Precinct Election Commission shall elaborate an act under the form and procedure set forth by part ten of Article 115 hereunder with indication of the established by its decision reasons for such mismatch.
- 7. The ballot papers with votes to support each candidate for board member shall be packed separately under the procedure set forth by part eight of Article 240 hereunder. Each such package shall be labeled with the candidate's name.

### Article 482. Counting votes at election precinct where the voting was held for more than one election district

- 1. When at the election precinct the voting was held for more than one election district, the Precinct Election Commission shall perform all the actions indicated in Articles 241 through 244, 481, and 483 hereunder and collect the respective information in relation to each separate single-mandate district for which the voting was held at the given election precinct. The respective information shall be registered in the vote counting protocol of the Precinct Election Commission in the respective single-mandate district as indicated in part one of Article 483 hereunder.
- 2. In all instances described in part one hereunder the Precinct Election Commission shall keep the ballot papers subject to counting under part one of Article 244 hereunder of each respective single-mandate district for which the voting was held at the same election precinct separately one from another. The voting results for each such single-mandate district shall be determined separately in their numeric order.

## Article 483. Vote counting protocol of the Precinct Election Commission in the respective single-mandate district

- 1. The Precinct Election Commission at its meeting as indicated in Article 240 hereunder shall execute the election precinct vote counting protocol for each single-mandate election district under the form indicated in part one of Article 245 hereunder.
- 2. The Precinct Election Commission shall include the information required by parts two through four of Article 246 hereunder and determined for the respective single-mandate district in the general section of the election precinct vote counting protocol for the respective single-mandate district.
- 3. The following information shall be included in the special section of the election precinct vote counting protocol for the respective single-mandate district prepared by the Precinct Election Commission in compliance with part five of Article 246 hereunder, and the election precinct vote repeat counting protocol prepared by the Territorial Election Commission in compliance with part 12 of Article 252 hereunder:
  - 1) the total number of valid votes within the single-mandate district:
  - 2) the total number of votes to support of each candidates;
- 3) the ratio of votes to support each candidate to the total number of valid votes (when only one candidate on the ballot paper the ratio of votes in support of such candidate to number of voters who took part in voting).
- 4. The total number of valid votes shall be calculated as the sum of votes to support each candidate registered in the respective single-mandate district.
- 5. In all instances described in part one of Article 482 hereunder, the election precinct vote counting protocols of the Precinct Election Commissions shall be subject to priority execution and signing upon completion of vote counting within the respective single-mandate district in the numeric order of single-mandate districts where the voting was held at the same election precinct.

### Article 484. Transporting election documents of the Precinct Election Commission

- 1. The documents of the Precinct Election Commission indicated in part one of Article 250 hereunder shall be delivered to the Head Territorial Election Commission of the respective elections under the procedure set forth by Article 250 hereunder.
- 2. In cities with raion division the City Raion Election Commissions acting as District Election Commissions on elections of members of city board the election documents shall be delivered under the procedure set forth by Article 250 hereunder to the election commission acting as the District Election Commission in the respective election district where the voting was held at the election precinct.

### Article 485. The procedure for consideration of election documents by Territorial Election Commissions acting as the District Election Commissions

- 1. The City Raion Election Commission acting as the District Election Commission for elections of members of city board in the respective single-mandate districts shall accept and consider the election documents of the Precinct Election Commissions regulated by part one of Article 250 hereunder under the procedure set forth by Articles 251 through 254 hereunder in relation to each of the aforementioned election districts.
- 2. When the elections of city raion board members and the elections of city board members are held simultaneously the City Raion Election Commission shall consider the documents related to elections of city board members submitted by the Precinct Election Commissions after approving the results of elections of city raion board members.

### Article 486. The procedure for consideration of election documents by the Head Territorial Election Commission

- 1. The Head Territorial Election Commission of the respective elections shall accept and consider the election documents provided by the Precinct Election Commissions as indicated in part one of Article 250 hereunder under the procedure set forth by Articles 251-254 hereunder in compliance with the instructions contained hereunder.
- 2. In all instances described in part one of Article 482 hereunder the documents of the Precinct Election Commissions in compliance with part two and three of Article 251 hereunder

shall be accepted separately for each single-mandate election district in which the voting was held at the respective election precinct.

- 3. In all instances described in part two of Article 484 hereunder the City Election Commission shall accept and consider the protocols of the District Election Commissions on voting results of elections of city board members within the respective single-mandate districts.
- 4. Further to consideration of the documents in compliance with part five of Article 251 hereunder the Territorial Election Commission shall approved one of the following decisions:
- 1) to accept the election documents of the respective single-mandate district from the Precinct (if the territory of single-mandate district lies within the territory of the same election precinct) or District Election Commission (if City Raion Election Commissions act as the District Election Commissions) and approve the results of voting in the given single-mandate district;
- 2) to accept the election documents of the respective single-mandate district from the Precinct Election Commission and take the information provided by the vote counting protocol at the election precinct in the respective district into account when approving the voting results within the given single-mandate election district (if the territory of single-mandate district lies on the territory of two or more election precincts);
- 3) to refuse acceptance of the election documents of the respective single-mandate district from the Precinct (District) Election Commission and compel the Precinct (District) Election Commission to correct the existing faults though execution of the protocol with the mark "Amended";
- 4) to conduct repeat vote counting at the election precinct within the respective single-mandate district or in general.
- 5. The Territorial Election Commission shall conduct repeat vote counting at the election precinct under the procedure set forth by Article 252 hereunder. In all instances described in part one of Article 482 hereunder the repeat vote counting may be conducted within the respective single-mandate district.
- 6. In all instances described in part one of Article 483 hereunder the Head Territorial Election Commission may declare voting at the election precinct void on the following grounds:
- 1) the grounds described in clause 1 of part one of Article 253 hereunder within the respective single-mandate district;
- 2) the grounds described in clause 2 of part one of Article 253 hereunder for all single-mandate districts for which the voting was held at the respective election precinct.

# Article 487. Establishing the results of elections of members of village, settlement, city or city raion boards in single-mandate districts

- 1. The Territorial Election Commission shall establish the results of elections in a single-mandate district the territory of which lies within the territory of the same respective election precinct based on the voting results in the same single-mandate district registered in the election precinct vote counting protocol of the Precinct Election Commission in the respective single-mandate district approved in compliance with clause 1 of part three of Article 486 hereunder, or the election precinct vote repeat counting protocol prepared by the Territorial Election Commission in the respective single-mandate district executed in compliance with part four of Article 485 hereunder.
- 2. If the territory of single-mandate district lies on the territory of two or more election precincts, the Head Territorial Election Commission or the Territorial Election Commission acting as the District Election Commission shall establish the results of elections in the respective single-mandate district in the course of its meeting based on the election precinct vote counting protocols of the Precinct Election Commissions in the respective single-mandate district, including those marked "Amended", and, when repeat vote counting is conducted, also based on the protocol of the Territorial Election Commission on repeat vote counting at the election precinct in respect of the given single-mandate district and execute the respective protocol.

# Article 488. Protocol on the results of elections of members of village, settlement, city and city raion board

- 1. The general section of the protocol of the Territorial Election Commission on the results of elections of members of village, settlement, city and city raion board in a single-mandate district shall provide the following information in numbers and words:
- 1) the quantity of ballot papers produced at the order of the Head Territorial Election Commission for the respective single-mandate district;
- 2) the number of non-used ballot papers for the single-mandate district invalidated by the Head Territorial Election Commission;
- 3) the number of ballot papers for the single-mandate district received by the Precinct Election Commissions;
- 4) the number of non-used ballot papers for the single-mandate district invalidated by the Precinct Election Commissions;
  - 5) the total number of non-used ballot papers for the single-mandate district;
  - 6) the number of spoiled ballots in the single-mandate district:
  - 7) the number of voters on the register of voters in the single-mandate district;
- 8) the number of voters on the extracts from the register of voters for mobile voting in the single-mandate district;
- 9) the number of voters who were issued ballots in the voting facility in the single-mandate district;
- 10) the number of voters who were issued their ballots for mobile voting in the single-mandate district:
  - 11) the total number of voters who were issued ballots in the single-mandate district;
- 12) the number of voters who took part in voting in the voting facility in the single-mandate district;
  - 13) the number of voters who took part in mobile voting in the single-mandate district;
  - 14) the number of ballot papers not to be counted located at election precincts;
  - 15) the total number of voters who took part in voting in the single-mandate district;
  - 16) the number of ballot papers declared void in the single-mandate district;
- 17) the ratio of ballot papers declared void to the number of voters who took part in voting in the single-mandate district.
- 2. The special section of the protocol on the results of elections of board members in a single-mandate district shall provide the following information in numbers and words:
  - 1) the total number of valid votes in the single-mandate district;
  - 2) the number of votes in support of each specific candidate;
- 3) the ratio of votes in support of each candidate to the total number of valid votes in the single-mandate district.
- 3. The Territorial Election Commission shall execute three copies of the protocol on the results of elections of board member in the single-mandate district. All copies of the protocol shall be signed by the Head, Deputy Head, secretary and other members of the Territorial Election Commission present at the meeting and verified by the stamp of the Territorial Election Commission. The protocol shall indicate the date and time (hours and minutes) when it was signed by the members of the Territorial Election Commission.
- 4. All members of the Territorial Election Commission present at the meeting shall sign the protocol on the results of elections of board members in the single-mandate district. Should any member disagree with the results registered in the protocol of the Territorial Election Commission, such member of the Territorial Election Commission shall sign the protocol with a remark "Different opinion". Such different opinion shall be described in writing and attached to the protocol on the results of elections of board members in the single-mandate district. Should the protocol lack the signature of any member of the Territorial Election Commission there shall be a remark next to the name of the respective member of the Territorial Election Commission stating the reason of absence at the meeting.
- 5. Any candidates for board members in the respective single-mandate district and/or official observers who are present at the meeting when approving the results of elections of board members in the single-mandate district shall have the right to sign the first copy of the protocol.
- 6. If the protocol on the results of elections of board members in the single-mandate district was executed by the Territorial Election Commission acting as the District Election Commission, the first copy of the aforementioned protocol shall be packaged under the

procedure set forth by part seven of Article 256 hereunder and delivered along with other election documents listed in part one of Article 258 hereunder to the Head Territorial Election Commission of the respective elections immediately upon completion of the commission's meeting. The Head of the Territorial Election Commission acting as the District Election Commission, or his/her Deputy Head along with two other members of the commission who represent two different candidate nominating entities shall deliver the election documents.

7. The third copy of the protocol shall be immediately posted for the public in the facility of the Territorial Election Commission.

### Article 489. Decision of the Territorial Election Commission based on the results of voting at the elections of board members in the single-mandate district

- 1. The Territorial Election Commission shall announce the elected board member in the single-mandate district the candidate who further to the results of counting the votes in the respective single-mandate district based on the protocols indicated in part one or two of Article 487 hereunder collected the greatest number of votes compared to other candidates registered in the same district. The Territorial Election Commission shall approve the respective decision on election of board member in the single-mandate district.
- 2. Should two or more candidates collect the same and at the same time the greatest number of votes further to the results of counting the votes in the respective single-mandate district, the Territorial Election Commission shall approve the decision on repeat voting in relation to such candidates.
- 3. Should there be only one candidate on the ballot in the respective single-mandate district such candidate shall be deemed elected board member if the number of votes to support such candidate exceeds 50 percent of the number of voters who took part in voting.
- 4. The Territorial Election Commission shall approve the decision on declaring the elections in the respective single-mandate district as such which have not been held and call repeated elections in the same district in the following instances:
- 1) there was only one candidate on the ballot in the respective single-mandate district who failed to gain support of 50 percent of voters who took part in voting;
- 2) when the territory of single-mandate district lies within the territory of the same election precinct for which the elections were declared invalid in compliance with part six of Article 486 hereunder:
- 3) when the territory of single-mandate district lies within the territory of two or more election precincts and the number of such precincts for which the elections were declared invalid exceeds 25 percent of all precincts to which the territory of the respective single-mandate district belongs.

### Article 490. Repeat voting

- 1. The Head Territorial Election Commission of the respective elections shall declare repeat voting in the single-mandate district based on the grounds indicated in part two of Article 489 hereunder; such repeat voting shall be held on the second week after the voting day of the respective elections. The decision on repeat voting shall be made public through publications in printed mass media or if not applicable in any other way within the next day upon approval of such decision.
- 2. Repeat voting in the respective single-mandate district shall be prepared and conducted, votes shall be counted and the results established under the procedure hereunder with regard to the instructions set forth by this particular Article.
- 3. The layout and text of the ballot shall be approved by the Territorial Election Commission at the time of announcing repeat voting.
- 4. The repeat voting ballot shall include only those candidates as indicated in part two or Article 489 hereunder less those who refused to nominate after the voting day.
- 5. If all candidates indicated in part two of Article 489 hereunder but one refused to run as candidates in compliance with clause 1 of part one of Article 465 hereunder or were removed from ballot in compliance with part five of Article 465 hereunder within five days prior to repeat voting, the Head Territorial Election Commission of the respective elections shall approve the decision on canceling the repeat voting and announce elected the candidate on the repeat voting ballot who has not submitted such an application.

- 6. The voter list for the respective election precinct shall be prepared under the procedure set forth by parts one through four of Article 329 hereunder. The voter list shall include only those voters whose election addresses belong to the respective single-mandate district.
- 7. Repeat voting shall be prepared and conducted by the Precinct Election Commissions of those precincts the territory of which include the territory of the respective single-mandate district; these precincts shall be the same which administrated the respective elections. A member of Precinct Election Commission in the event of early termination of his/her authorities shall be replaced under the procedure set forth by Article 106 hereunder.
  - 8. Election campaigns of the candidates on repeat voting ballot shall not be financed.

### Article 491. Official publication of the results of elections

- 1. The Head Territorial Election Commission of the respective elections shall officially make the results of the elections of members of village, settlement, city and city raion boards public through publications in local printed mass media within five days upon approving such results.
- 2. The results of the elections shall be published as the list of individuals elected board members. The following information about each such individual shall also be provided:
  - 1) number of single-mandate district;
  - 2) full name;
  - 3) number of votes to support the candidate;
- 4) ratio of votes to support the candidate to the number of valid votes in the respective single-mandate district;
  - 5) year of birth;
  - 6) nominating entity;
  - 7) party membership;
  - 8) education;
- 9) place of work (occupation), position obtained by the elected board member prior to elections;
  - 10) place of residence.
- 3. In the event of repeat voting or repeated elections in a specific single-mandate district such information shall be indicated in the publication in place of information about the elected board member.
- 4. The results of repeat voting in a single-mandate district shall be officially made public under the procedure and in terms set forth by parts one and two hereunder. In the event of calling repeated elections further to the results of repeat voting in the respective single-mandate district, such information shall be made public under the procedure set forth by part three hereunder.
- 5. The official publication of the results of elections of board members by the Territorial Election Commission shall provide the grounds for termination of any other representative mandate of the candidate elected as board member.

### Article 492. Registration of the elected board members

- 1. If applicable, any individual elected as board member shall within 15 days upon official publication of the results of elections of board members submit to the Head Territorial Election Commission a copy of properly registered application submitted respectively to the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine, the Parliament of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea or any local board on termination of any other representative mandate to be registered as member of the respective village, settlement, city or city raion board.
- 2. The Head Territorial Election Commission of the respective elections shall approve the decision on registration of the elected members of the respective village, settlement, city and city raion boards within 20 days upon official publication of the results of such elections.
- 3. Should any individual with other representative mandate and elected as board member fail to submit a copy of application in terms indicated in part one hereunder the Head Territorial Election Commission shall approve the decision on declaring such individual as such who refused from his/her board member mandate and call interim elections in the respective single-mandate district.

### CHAPTER XIII. ELECTIONS OF VILLAGE, SETTLEMENT, AND CITY MAYORS

### SECTION XLI. GENERAL PROVISIONS ON THE ELECTIONS OF VILLAGE, SETTLEMENT, AND CITY MAYORS

### Article 493. Main principles of the elections of village, settlement, and city mayors

- 1. The elections of village, settlement, and city mayor (hereinafter referred to as the "Head of Territorial Community") shall be conducted in a single village, settlement, and city election district within the territory of the respective village, settlement, or city community.
- 2. The elections of village, settlement, and city (city of oblast subordinance or satellite city) mayor shall be conducted under the majority voting system.
- 3. The repeated voting may be announced at the elections of the territorial community head in instances stipulated hereunder.

### Article 494. The right to nominate candidates for village, settlement, or city mayor

- 1. The voters shall be entitled to nominate candidates for territorial community heads; the voters shall exercise such right through raion or city units of political parties (hereinafter referred to as the "parties") as indicated in part two hereunder or through self-nomination under the procedure set forth hereunder.
- 2. Any party which complies with the requirements of part four of Article 13 hereunder shall be entitled to nominate:
- 1) candidates for village, settlement, or city (city of raion subordinance) mayors (villages, settlements, or cities within the territory of the respective raion) through the respective raion unit of the party;
- 2) candidates for city (city of Oblast and Republic level in Autonomous Republic of Crimea, or Kyiv city) mayor, as well as candidates for village, settlement, or city (city satellite village, settlement or city) mayor through the respective city unit of the party.

### Article 495. Territorial organization of elections of village, settlement, or city mayor

- 1. The system of territorial organization of the elections of territorial community heads shall include:
- 1) single village, settlement, or city election district which includes the entire territory of the respective territorial community;
  - 2) regular precincts on the territory of the respective village, settlement, or city community;
- 3) special precincts created in establishments listed in clause 1 and 2 of part two of Article 36 hereunder on the territory of the respective community.
- 2. In cities with city raion boards in instances listed in part three of Article 496 hereunder, the territory of city raion further to the decision of the City Election Commission shall be deemed territorial election district for the elections of city mayor.
- 3. No decision shall be approved on creation of a single village, settlement, or city election district; in the event of the situation described in part two hereunder no such decision shall be approved on creation of territorial election districts.

# Article 496. The system of election commissions at the elections of village, settlement, or city mayors

- 1. The system of election commissions to prepare and conduct the elections of village, settlement, or city mayor shall include:
  - 1) village, settlement, or city election commission;
  - 2) precinct election commissions.
- 2. No District Election Commissions shall be created at the elections of village, settlement, or city mayors less the situation described in part three hereunder.
- 3. In cities where city raion boards are elected further to the decision of the City Election Commission the City Raion Election Commissions may act as the District Election Commissions at the elections of city mayor in the respective territorial election districts as indicated in part two of Article 493 hereunder. In such instance the City Raion Election

Commissions shall be included in the system of election commissions to prepare and conduct the elections of the respective city mayor.

### Article 497. Creation of the Precinct Election Commissions

- 1. At the elections of the territorial community head less the situation described in part three hereunder the Precinct Election Commissions shall be created in compliance with part six of Article 94 hereunder.
- 2. Entities to nominate candidates for members of the Precinct Election Commissions in compliance with part two if Article 95 hereunder shall include:
- 1) on the territory of cities of Oblast and Republic level in Autonomous Republic of Crimea, or the cities of Kyiv and Sevastopol the candidates for members of the Precinct Election Commissions shall be nominated by the candidates for the respective city mayor position;
- 2) on the territory of raion the candidates for members of the Precinct Election Commissions shall be nominated by the entities listed in Article 544 hereunder.
- 3. If the elections of village, settlement, or city (city of raion subordinance or satellite city) mayor do not coincide with other local elections (less the elections of the respective local board members) the Precinct Election Commissions shall be created by the Head Election Commission of the respective elections.
- 4. The candidates for the respective territorial community head shall be the entities to nominate the candidates for members of the Precinct Election Commissions in compliance with part two of Article 95 hereunder in all instances indicated in part three hereunder.
- 5. In all instances described in clause 2 of part two and part four hereunder the respective nomination shall be made with the signature of the candidate for territorial community head or with the signature of his/her representative on his/her behalf.
- 6. The Precinct Election Commissions shall be created under the procedure and terms set forth by Articles 95 and 96 hereunder.

# SECTION XLII. NOMINATING AND REGISTERING THE CANDIDATES FOR VILLAGE, SETTLEMENT, OR CITY MAYOR

## Article 498. The terms for nominating the candidates for village, settlement, or city mayor

- 1. The candidates for the territorial community head shall be nominated as of the day following the commencement of the election process and until 45 days prior to the voting day.
- 2. Each candidate for the territorial community head shall gain the status of the subject of the election process as of the date of his/her nomination as indicated in part six of Article 499 or part one of Article 500 hereunder.

### Article 499. The procedure for nomination of the candidates by parties

- 1. Any party as regulated in part two of Article 494 hereunder shall nominate only one candidate for the respective territorial community head.
- 2. Any party shall nominate as candidate for territorial community head any individual who is a member of such party or individual without party membership; such individual shall qualify to run as candidate for the territorial community head in compliance with Article 12 hereunder and has not previously submitted the application on self-nomination. Any individual shall be nominated by one party only.
- 3. The candidate for the territorial community head shall be nominated by a party in the course of its conference (meeting) which is called under the procedure set forth by such party's charter.
- 4. The chairman of the party shall notify in writing the respective Head Territorial Election Commission about the time and place of holding the party's conference (meeting) to nominate its candidate for territorial community head within three days prior to such conference (meeting). A member of the aforementioned Territorial Election Commission assigned by its Head shall have the right to attend such conference (meeting).

- 5. The party's conference (meeting) on nomination of its candidate for territorial community head shall be held openly. The conference (meeting) shall boast the appropriate atmosphere for free and comprehensive discussion of the individuals proposed as candidates and their election programs.
- 6. The candidate for the respective territorial community head shall be nominated from the party further to the decision of the party's conference (meeting). Should the candidates be nominated for more than one territorial community the party's conference (meeting) shall approve a separate decision in respect of each such candidate.
- 7. The decision of the party's conference (meeting) described in part six hereunder shall indicate the following information in relation to each candidate:
  - 1) the candidate's full name;
  - 2) date, month and year of birth;
  - 3) nationality;
  - 4) party membership;
  - 5) education;
  - 6) place of work (occupation), position;
  - 7) availability of any other representative mandate at the time of nomination;
  - 8) place of residence and election address.
- 8. The minutes of the party's conference (meeting) shall provide the following information: date of such conference (meeting), agenda, number of selected and present delegates (when holding a meeting the total number of the party's members and those present at the meeting), the voting results (number of affirmative votes, number of negative votes, number of votes which did not take part in voting) on nomination of each of the candidates, as well as the information about each individual nominated as candidate for the respective territorial community head in compliance with part seven hereunder.
- 9. The decision described in part six hereunder and the minutes described in part eight hereunder shall be signed by the chairman of the party and verified by the party's stamp.

### Article 500. The procedure for self-nomination as candidate for territorial community head

- 1. Any citizen of Ukraine wishing to self-nominate shall in person submit the application on self-nomination as candidate for the respective territorial community head to the Head Territorial Election Commission of the respective elections.
- 2. The application on self-nomination as candidate for territorial community head shall provide the following information:
- 1) the statement of the individual's desire to nominate as candidate for the respective territorial community head;
- 2) the information required by clauses 1 through 8 of part seven of Article 499 hereunder,
  - 3) the official contact address of the candidate;
- 4) the statement of consent to making the candidate's information contained in the documents submitted to the Territorial Election Commission public due to taking part in the elections;
- 5) the statement of obligation to terminate his/her activities or refuse from his/her representative mandate which under the Constitution and the laws of Ukraine are incompatible with the mandate of village, settlement, or city mayor, or refuse from his/her mandate of territorial community head.
- 3. The documents indicated in part one of Article 501 hereunder shall be attached to the application.

# Article 501. The conditions for registration of candidates for village, settlement, or city mayor

- 1. To be registered any self-nominated candidate for territorial community head shall in person submit to the respective Territorial Election Commission the following documents in addition to his/her application as indicated in Article 500 hereunder:
- 1) the candidate's autobiography which shall provide the following information in a precise manner:

- a) full name;
- б) date, month and year of birth;
- в) nationality;
- r) education;
- ґ) work (including part-time);
- д) public activity (including elective office);
- e) place of work (occupation) and position at the time of nomination as candidate;
- ε) party membership, year of joining the party;
- ж) family status;
- 3) place of residence and election address with indication of duration of residing in Ukraine,
  - и) instances and grounds for criminal responsibility or responsibility for corruption;
  - i) prior convictions if applicable;
- 2) brief election program in official national language under three thousand printed characters;
  - 3) property and income statement in compliance with Article 458 hereunder;
- 4) signature sheets with signatures of voters who have the right to vote at the elections of the respective territorial community head in support of registration of the candidate; the required number of such signatures shall be regulated by part one of Article 503 hereunder;
- 5) the document confirming availability of money guarantee in compliance with Article 502 hereunder;
- 6) photographs of the candidate; the size and quantity of such photographs shall be determined by the Territorial Election Commission no later than on the third day of the election process.
- 2. The following documents shall be submitted in addition to the documents listed in clause 1 through 6 hereunder when registering candidate for territorial community head nominated by parties:
- 1) the party's application on registration of the candidate signed by the chairman of the party and verified by the party's stamp:
- 2) a copy of the party's registration certificate, verified without charge by the territorial body of the Ministry of Justice of Ukraine after commencement of the election process:
- 3) the decision of the conference (meeting) of the party to nominate the candidate for territorial community head as indicated in parts six and seven of Article 499 hereunder;
- 4) the minutes of the party's conference (meeting) on nomination of the candidate for territorial community head as indicated in part eight of Article 499 hereunder;
- 5) the statement of consent from the respective individual to be nominated as candidate for village, settlement, or city mayor from a given party with indication of his/her official contact address along with his/her statement of obligation to refuse from his/her representative mandate which under the Constitution and the laws of Ukraine is incompatible with the mandate of village, settlement, or city mayor, or refuse from the office, and his/her statement of consent to making the candidate's information contained in the documents submitted to the Territorial Election Commission public due to taking part in the elections.
- 3. The documents on registration of the candidate from a party as indicated in part two hereunder shall be submitted to the Head Territorial Election Commission by the individual assigned by the decision of the party's management body.
- 4. The head, deputy head, secretary or other member of the Territorial Election Commission shall accept the documents. The commission shall issue a notice on acceptance of documents to the submitter of documents in compliance with part one or three hereunder. Such a notice shall indicate the list of submitted documents, date, month, year and time they were submitted and the last name and position of the individual who had accepted them.
- 5. The respective Territorial Election Commission shall accept no documents for registration of candidates for territorial community head after 40 days prior to voting day.
- 6. The documents submitted to the respective Territorial Election Commission shall not be re-submitted.

- 1. The money guarantee shall be remitted by all candidates for city (city of Oblast and Republic level in Autonomous Republic of Crimea, or Kyiv city) mayor in non-cash form into the special account of the City Election Commission in the following amounts:
- 1) when nominating (self-nominating) as candidate for city (city of Oblast and Republic level in Autonomous Republic of Crimea, less oblast centers or Simferopil city) mayor 50 times the minimum wage effective on the day of commencement of the election process;
- 2) when nominating (self-nominating) as candidate for city (Kyiv city, oblast centers or Simferopil city) mayor 100 times the minimum wage effective on the day of commencement of the election process;
- 2. The account number for remitting the money guarantees shall be made public by the respective City Election Commission though publications in regional and local printed mass media within two days upon commencement of the election process.
- 3. Should the City Election Commission refuse registration of a candidate, the remitted money guarantee shall be transferred to the account of the nominated (self-nominated) candidate within five days upon approval of the respective decision.
- 4. Should the City Election Commission terminate the registration of a candidate for city mayor further to his/her application filed no later than 30 days prior to the voting day the remitted money guarantee shall be transferred to the account of the nominated (self-nominated) candidate within five days upon approval of the respective decision. Should the City Election Commission terminate the registration of a candidate for city mayor on any other grounds the remitted money guarantee shall be transferred to the respective city budget within five days upon approval of the respective decision.
- 5. The money guarantees shall be reimbursed to all candidates for city mayor who further to the voting results won no less than seven percent of valid votes each. Should the candidate for city mayor fail to win more than seven percent of valid votes, the money guarantee of such candidate shall be transferred to the respective city budget.

# Article 503. Collecting signatures to support registration of the candidate for territorial community head

- 1. Signature sheets with the following number of signatures to support registration of the candidate for territorial community head shall be submitted:
  - 1) candidate for village or settlement mayor no less than 50 signatures;
- 2) candidate for city (city of raion subordinance or satellite city) mayor no less than 200 signatures;
- 3) candidate for city (city of Oblast and Republic level in Autonomous Republic of Crimea less oblast centers and Simferopil city) mayor no less than 400 signatures;
- 4) candidate for city (oblast centers, cities of Kyiv and Sevastopol) mayor no less than 750 signatures.
- 2. The form of signature sheets shall be regulated by part four of Article 402 hereunder. In place of the information indicated in clauses 2 and 3 of part two of Article 403 hereunder the signature sheet shall provide correspondently the following information:
  - 1) full name of the candidate in whose support signatures are being collected
  - 2) the nominating entity.
- 3. Signature sheets shall be received and produced under the procedure set forth by parts three through five of Article 459 hereunder.

### Article 504. The procedure for collection of voters' signatures

- 1. Voters' signatures to support registration of the candidate for territorial community head shall be collected by a voter with the right to vote at the respective elections and authorized in writing by the nominee or who has the intent to self-nominate as candidate. Any individual may also personally collect the voters' signatures to support his/her registration.
- 2. The signatures shall be collected under the procedure and in compliance with the requirements set forth by parts two through nine and eleven of Article 404 hereunder.
- 3. Any voter whose address belongs to the respective territorial community shall be able to submit his/her signature to support the registration of a candidate for territorial community head.

### Article 505. The procedure for submitting signature sheets to the Territorial Election Commission

- 1. All signature sheets shall be submitted to the Head Territorial Election Commission of the respective elections along with the documents required by parts one and (for party's nominees) two of Article 501 hereunder.
- 2. When receiving the signature sheets the Territorial Election Commission shall execute transfer and acceptance certificate under the procedure set forth by part two of Article 461 hereunder.

### Article 506. The procedure for verification of voters' signatures

- 1. The Head Territorial Election Commission of the respective elections shall perform control over the observance of the requirements of this Code in relation to signature sheets by the latter being verified by members of the election commission. When verifying the signature sheets members of the election commission may use the information from the State Voter Register.
- 2. When counting the number of voters who supported the registration of the candidate for territorial community head based on the signature sheets those signature sheets in which the signatures were collected by any individual other than those indicated in part one of Article 504 hereunder or those with violations described in clauses 2 through 11 of part two of Article 406 hereunder shall be disregarded.
- 3. When counting the number of voters who supported the registration of the candidate for territorial community head based on the signature sheets any signatures of voters who have their election addresses outside the respective territorial community in which the candidate is being nominated or qualify under the characteristics indicated in clauses 1 through 4, 6 and 7 of part three of Article 406 hereunder shall be disregarded.
- 4. The Territorial Election Commission shall establish the results of collecting the votes to support registration of the candidate for territorial community head and register such results in compliance with parts four through seven of Article 462 hereunder.

### Article 507. The procedure for registration of candidates for territorial community head

- 1. The Head Territorial Election Commission of the respective elections shall register the candidates for territorial community head provided all the documents indicated in parts one and (for candidates nominated by parties) two of Article 501 hereunder were submitted.
- 2. Any individual nominated as candidate for territorial community head shall have the right to withdraw his/her application on self-nomination or submit an application on withdrawal of his/her statement of consent to be nominated as candidate from the respective party before the registration date. The commission shall not accept second applications on self-nomination or statement of consent to be nominated as candidate from any party at the same elections.
- 3. The Territorial Election Commission shall approve the decision on registration of the candidate for territorial community head or refusal to register within five days upon acceptance of the documents indicated in parts one and (for candidates nominated by parties) two of Article 501 hereunder.
- 4. The candidate for territorial community head registered by the Territorial Election Commission shall be issued the candidate's identification document under the form approved by the Central Election Commission within five days upon registration.
- 5. The list of registered candidates for territorial community head shall be made public through publication in local printed mass media or if not applicable in any other way determined by the Head Territorial Election Commission.

### Article 508. Refusal to register a candidate

- 1. The Head Territorial Election Commission of the respective elections shall refuse registration of the candidate for territorial community head in the following instances:
  - 1) violations of this Code and other laws of Ukraine regulating nomination of candidates;
- 2) failure to submit or improper execution of at least one of the documents indicated in parts one and (for candidates nominated by parties) two of Article 501 hereunder;

- 3) failure to submit the application of the individual nominated as candidate in compliance with clause 5 of part two of Article 501 hereunder (for candidates nominated by parties);
- 4) withdrawal of application on self-nomination or submitting an application on withdrawal of his/her statement of consent to be nominated as candidate in compliance with part two of Article 507 hereunder by the individual nominated as candidate;
- 5) failure to submit or insufficient number (as indicated in part one of Article 503 hereunder) of signatures to support registration of the candidate in compliance with Article 506 hereunder;
- 6) exposure or emersion of circumstances indicated in clauses 6 through 9 of part one of Article 464 hereunder;
- 7) exposure of other circumstances by the Territorial Election Commission which deprive the individual nominated as candidate the right to run as candidate for territorial community head in compliance with clause 1 of part seven of Article 9 hereunder.
- 2. The decision on refusal to register a candidate for territorial community head shall clearly indicate the sufficient grounds for such refusal. A copy of such decision shall be issued to the candidate's representative within the following day upon approval.
- 3. The refusal to register a candidate for territorial community head on the grounds described in clause 2 of part one hereunder shall not deprive the applicant the right to submit additional or corrected documents no later than 37 days prior to the voting day.
- 4. In instances provided by part three hereunder the Territorial Election Commission shall approve its final decision on registration of the candidate for territorial community head within 35 days prior to voting day.

### Article 509. Termination of registration of a candidate

- 1. The Head Territorial Election Commission of the respective elections shall approve the decision on termination of registration of a candidate in the following instances:
- 1) the written application on refusal to be candidate submitted by the candidate after the registration however within three days prior to the voting day (in cases regulated by part five of Article 534 hereunder prior to the repeat voting day); such application shall not be subject to withdrawal;
- 2) exposure or emersion of circumstances indicated in clauses 6 through 9 of part one of Article 464 hereunder or clause 7 of part one of Article 508 hereunder after the registration of the candidate;
- 3) exposure of the fact that the candidate is using additional resources to finance his/her election campaign (other than the electoral fund) in the amount greater than the maximum amount of voluntary contribution to the candidate's electoral fund regulated by part eight of Article 512 hereunder in the course of court consideration of the elections-related dispute under the procedure set forth by the legislation
- 4) expenses of the candidate to finance his/her election campaign exceeding the maximum expenses from the respective electoral fund regulated by part seven and eight of Article 512 hereunder by the amount greater than the maximum amount of voluntary contribution to the candidate's electoral fund regulated by part nine of Article 512 hereunder
- 5) repeated actions of the candidate for which s/he has previously received a warning in compliance with part one of Article 510 hereunder.
- 2. The Territorial Election Commission shall consider the termination of registration of a candidate for territorial community head and notify the candidates about the respective decision under the procedure set forth by part two and three of Article 465 hereunder.
- 3. When the registration is terminated the candidate shall loose the status of the subject of the election process upon completion of the term for challenging such decision of the Territorial Election Commission in court. When the aforementioned decision is challenged under the court procedure the status of the subject of the election process shall be preserved until the court ruling becomes effective.
- 4. In the event of death of the candidate the Territorial Election Commission of the respective elections shall announce the decision of registration of such candidate void.

- 1. The Head Territorial Election Commission of the respective elections shall give warnings to the candidates for territorial community head in the following instances:
- 1) exposure of any of the below facts in the course of court consideration of the elections-related dispute under the procedure set forth by the legislation:
- a) bribing voters or members of election commissions by the candidate, any representatives thereof, the nominating party, any official of the party, or any other affiliated individual assigned by the candidate or the nominating party;
- 6) giving money or offering free-of-charge or on preferential terms goods (less the goods listed in part two of Article 205 hereunder), works, services, securities, credits, lotteries or other material goods (indirect bribe) to the voters, establishments, institutions, organizations or members of election commissions in the course of the election process by the organization where the candidate, the nominating party or one of its officials is the founder, owner or member of management body;
- B) the candidate is using additional resources to finance his/her election campaign (other than the electoral fund) in the amount less than the maximum amount of voluntary contribution to the candidate's electoral fund regulated by part nine of Article 512 hereunder;
- r) the candidate while holding an official position including part time positions in executive bodies, government bodies of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea or local self-administration bodies, state or public utility companies, establishments, institutions, organizations, or military units created in compliance with the laws of Ukraine has engaged or used in his/her election campaign his/her subordinates, company vehicles, communications, property, facilities or other objects or resources at his/her place of work (abuse of office);
- 2) violations by the candidate of limitations on election campaigns, including election campaigns in the course of the election process outside the terms set forth by Article 201 hereunder;
- 3) expenses of the candidate to finance his/her election campaign exceeding the maximum expenses from the respective electoral fund regulated by part seven and eight of Article 512 hereunder by the amount less than the maximum amount of voluntary contribution to the candidate's electoral fund regulated by part nine of Article 512 hereunder.
- 2. The issue on announcing a warning to the candidate shall be considered under the procedure set forth by parts two and three of Article 465 hereunder.

# Article 511. The procedure for holding elections of village, settlement, or city mayor when less than two candidates were registered

- 1. If only one candidate was registered for the elections of territorial community head in terms regulated by part four of Article 508 hereunder, voting shall be held in relation to one candidate.
- 2. If no candidates were registered for the elections of territorial community head in terms regulated by part four of Article 508 hereunder, the elections in the respective single-mandate district shall be deemed as such which have not being held.

### Article 512. Work guarantees for candidates for village, settlement, or city mayor

- 1. The candidate for territorial community head shall be granted discharge from his/her work or official duties at his/her place of work under unpaid leave conditions for the duration of his/her election campaign.
- 2. In the course of the election process the candidate for territorial community head shall not be fired from work at the initiative of owner or any authorized body of the enterprise, institution, establishment, or organization, or the commanding officer of the military unit (base). The candidate without his/her consent shall neither be assigned a different position, sent on business trips, nor drafted for military or alternative (unarmed) service, training (qualification) and special army boot camps for those liable for military service.
- 3. Any candidate for board member shall enjoy the rights of the official observer set forth in part one of Article 215 hereunder. Any candidate for board member shall be subject to limitations set forth by part two of Article 215 hereunder.
- 4. The candidate for territorial community head shall have the right to delegate one representative to the Head Territorial Election Commission of the respective elections with

deliberative vote (hereinafter referred to as the "representative"); such representative shall represent his/her interests in the aforementioned election commission during the election process.

- 5. The candidate for territorial community head shall be entitled to the following number of authorized persons:
- 1) candidate for village, settlement, or city (city of raion subordinance or satellite cities) mayor no more than three authorized persons;
- 2) candidate for city (city of Oblast and Republic level in Autonomous Republic of Crimea, less oblast centers, Simferopil and small towns) mayor no more than five authorized persons;
- 3) candidate for city (oblast centers, cities of Kyiv and Simferopil) mayor no more than ten authorized persons.
- 6. Any voter with the right to vote at the respective elections shall be entitled to be the representative or proxy of the candidate for territorial community head. The limitations on individuals to be representatives or proxies of the candidate shall be regulated by clauses 1 through 4 of part four Article 469 hereunder.

### Article 513. The procedure for registering representatives of the candidate

- 1. The application on registration of representatives of the candidate shall be signed by the candidate and submitted to the Head Territorial Election Commission at the time of submitting the application on registration of the candidate for territorial community head from a party in compliance with part two of Article 501 hereunder or application on self-nomination of the candidate in compliance with part one of Article 500 hereunder.
- 2. The application on registration of representative shall provide the information about the respective individual required by clauses 1 through 5 of part two of Article 470 hereunder.
- 3. A written statement of consent of the individual to represent the interests of the respective candidate shall be attached to the application indicated in part one hereunder.
- 4. The Head Territorial Election Commission shall register the candidate's representatives within three days upon receipt of the documents indicated in parts one and three hereunder. The candidates for representatives may be rejected only on the grounds of violations of part six of Article 512 hereunder and part one through three of this Article.
- 5. After the registration of a representative each such representative shall be issued accreditation. The form of such accreditation shall be established by the Central Election Commission.
- 6. In the event of refusal of registration or termination of registration of a candidate for territorial community head the authorities of his/her representatives shall terminate as of the date the candidate looses his/her status of the subject of the election process.

### Article 514. Authorities of the candidate's representatives

- 1. The candidate's representative shall:
- 1) be entitled to take part with deliberative vote in the meetings of the Head Territorial Election Commission of the respective elections on all issues related to the elections of the territorial community head; to receive the agenda and agenda-related materials prior to such meetings; to ask the speakers questions; to participate in discussions of the issues on the agenda and to make proposals to the decisions of the aforementioned election commission;
- 2) study the minutes of the meetings of the Head Territorial Election Commission of the respective elections and its decisions and receive copies of such decisions; if absent at a meeting, the representative shall study the documents based on which decisions at such meeting were approved;
- 3) immediately study the protocols, telephone and fax messages and any other official notices received by the Head Territorial Election Commission of the respective elections from the Precinct and District Election Commissions, as well as vote counting protocols of the respective Precinct Election Commissions and election precinct vote repeat counting protocol and protocol on voting results in the respective territorial election district of the District Election Commission, and receive copies thereof;
  - 4) exercise other authorities set forth hereunder for representatives of candidates.

2. The candidate's representative shall be granted discharge from his/her work or official duties at his/her place of work under unpaid leave conditions with the approval of the owner or any authorized body of the enterprise, institution, establishment, or organization as of the date of registration until expiration of his/her authorities or completion of the election process.

### Article 515. Authorized persons of the candidate for territorial community head

- 1. The authorized persons of the candidate for territorial community head shall be registered under the procedure set forth by Article 470 hereunder.
- 2. Upon termination of registration of a candidate for territorial community head the authorities of his/her authorized persons shall terminate as of the date the candidate looses his/her status of the subject of the election process.
- 3. The candidate's authorized person shall engage in the election campaign, assist the candidate throughout the election process, and represent the candidate in the election process.
  - 4. The candidate's authorized person shall:
- 1) represent the interests of the candidate in the relations with voters, election commission and other subjects of the election process, courts, local executive bodies, government bodies of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, local self-administration bodies, mass media, enterprises, establishments, institutions, and organizations on the territory of the respective territorial community;
- 2) be entitled to take part with deliberative vote in the meetings of the election commissions engaged in preparation and administration of the respective elections;
- 3) have the right to be present at election precinct at the time of voting and at the meeting of the Precinct Election Commission when counting the votes with account to limitations set forth by clause 3 of part two of Article 114 hereunder;
- 4) enjoy the rights of the official observer from the candidate as regulated by part one of Article 215 hereunder;
- 5) exercise other authorities set forth hereunder for authorized persons of the candidate for territorial community head.
- 5. All authorized persons shall be subject to limitations set forth by part two of Article 215 hereunder.
- 6. The candidate's authorized person shall be granted discharge from his/her work or official duties at his/her place of work under unpaid leave conditions with the approval of the owner or any authorized body of the enterprise, institution, establishment, or organization as of the date of registration by the Territorial Election Commission until expiration of his/her authorities or completion of the election process.

#### Article 516. Replacing the candidate's proxy or representative

- 1. The candidate's proxy or representative shall at any time prior to the voting day submit an application to the respective Territorial Election Commission of the respective elections on retiring from office.
- 2. The candidate for territorial community head shall at any time prior to the voting day be able to submit an application to the respective Territorial Election Commission on withdrawal of accreditation of his/her proxy or representative and on replacing his/her proxy or representative with a new candidate. The respective application on new candidate shall be submitted under the procedure set forth hereunder for registration of the proxy or representative.
- 3. Based on the application submitted in compliance with parts one or two hereunder the Territorial Election Commission shall approve the decision on termination of the registration of the candidate's proxy or representative and (if the respective application was submitted) on registration of a different individual as the candidate's proxy or representative within three days upon receipt of such application however not later than one day prior to the voting day, or immediately on the voting day. A copy of the decision shall be issued to the candidate's representative or forwarded to his/her address.
- 4. The accreditation of the candidate's proxy or representative whose authorities were terminated prior to the completion of the election process shall be deemed void.

### Article 517. The right of the candidate for territorial community head to have official observers

- 1. The candidate for territory community head shall have the right to have official observers in compliance with part one of Article 214 hereunder.
- 2. The candidate or his/her representative shall in person submit the candidates for official observers on behalf of the given candidate in compliance with Article 217 hereunder.

## SECTION XLIII. CHARACTERISTICS OF INFORMATION SUPPORT AND ELECTION CAMPAIGNS DURING THE ELECTIONS OF VILLAGE, SETTLEMENT, OR CITY MAYORS

# Article 518. Specific procedure for opening, formation and use of election budgets by candidates for territorial community head

- 1. Any candidate for village, settlement, or city (city of raion subordinance or satellite cities) mayor may create and form his/her electoral fund to finance his/her election campaign under the procedure set forth by Articles 185 through 189 hereunder.
- 2. Each candidate for city (city of Oblast and Republic level in Autonomous Republic of Crimea, Kyiv city) mayor shall create and form his/her electoral fund to finance his/her election campaign under the procedure set forth by Articles 185 through 189 hereunder.
- 3. The party nominating the candidate for territorial community head shall not create its own electoral fund to finance the election campaign at the respective elections.
- 4. Electoral fund accumulation account of the candidate (if created) shall be opened within five days upon approval of the decision by the Territorial Election Commission on registration of such candidate.
- 5. No current accounts shall be opened for the candidate's electoral fund. The electoral funds shall be spent directly from the electoral fund accumulation account.
- 6. When creating the electoral fund the candidate shall personally manage the fund's accumulation and current account or assign management of the fund's accounts to one of his/her proxies.
  - 7. The maximum expenses from the candidate's electoral fund shall be limited to:
- 1) 250 times the minimum wage effective on the day of commencement of the election process for the candidates for village or settlement mayor;
- 2) 500 times the minimum wage effective on the day of commencement of the election process for the candidates for city (city of raion subordinance or satellite cities) mayor:
- 3) 2000 times the minimum wage effective on the day of commencement of the election process for the candidates for city (city of oblast or republican subordinance, less oblast centers, and Simferopil) mayor;
- 4) 3000 times the minimum wage effective on the day of commencement of the election process for the candidates for city (oblast centers, cities of Kyiv or Simferopil) mayor.
- 8. In the event of repeat voting the limit of maximum expenses set forth by part seven hereunder for the candidates on repeat voting ballot shall be increased by 15 percent.
- 9. Voluntary contributions to the candidate's electoral fund shall be limited to 30 times the minimum wage effective on the day of commencement of the election process. The amount of the candidate's own funds to be transferred into the accumulation account shall be limited to maximum expenses from of the electoral fund as indicated in part seven and eight hereunder.

### **Article 519. Information posters of candidates**

- 1. The Head Territorial Election Commission of the respective elections shall fund the production of information posters for each candidate for territorial community head in compliance with part one of Article 194 hereunder.
- 2. The information poster of the candidate shall provide the information required by clauses 2 through 6 of part two of Article 475 hereunder.
- 3. The quantity, procedure and terms for the production and use of information posters of candidates shall be regulated by parts three through five of Article 475 hereunder.

# Article 520. Parity in dissemination of information about the candidates for territorial community head

- 1. All requirements to the parity in dissemination of information stipulated by part two of Article 196 hereunder shall regulate dissemination of information about the candidates for heads of the respective territorial communities.
- 2. All limitations set forth by Articles 195 through 198 hereunder shall apply to nationwide, regional and local TV and radio stations broadcasted on the territory of the respective city or raion to which the respective territorial community belongs.

# Article 521. Election campaigns during the elections of village, settlement, or city mayors

- 1. The City (city of Oblast and Republic level in Autonomous Republic of Crimea, and Kyiv city) Election Commission shall conclude agreements with regional or local TV and radio stations broadcasted on the territory of the respective city in compliance with part three of Article 210 hereunder to make air time available to the candidates for city mayor for the cost and in the framework of the budget allocated for preparation and organization of elections.
- 2. Regional and local TV and radio stations indicated in part one hereunder based on the respective agreements shall provide air time to each candidate for city mayor to run their election campaigns; each candidate shall be granted no less than 20 minutes of air time on the respective TV station and no less than 20 minutes of air time on the respective radio station. The total available air time on each of the aforementioned channels shall be provided in two equal parts of the total available time.
- 3. The respective TV and radio stations shall elaborate air time schedule indicating all election campaign-related TV and radio programs with specific date and time these are broadcasted further to the drawing conducted by the City Election Commission; such drawing shall be conducted among the representatives of the candidates within 32 days prior to the voting day.
- 4. The results of the drawing described in part three hereunder shall be made public through publications in regional or local printed mass media within three days upon their approval by the City Election Commission.
- 5. No air time for election campaigns of the candidates for village, settlement, city (city of raion subordinance or satellite cities) mayor shall be funded for the cost of the budget.
- 6. No publications of election materials in printed mass media of the candidates for territorial community head shall be funded for the cost of the budget allocated for preparation and organization of elections.

# SECTION XLIV. SPECIAL PROCEDURE FOR PREPARING AND ADMINISTRATING THE VOTING PROCESS AND ESTABLISHING THE RESULTS OF ELECTIONS OF VILLAGE, SETTLEMENT, AND CITY MAYOR

## Article 522. Requirements to the content of ballot papers for the elections of territorial community head

- 1. The text of the ballot paper for the elections of territorial community head shall be approved by the Head Territorial Election Commission within 25 days prior to the voting day.
- 2. The ballot paper for the elections of territorial community head shall list the names of candidates in alphabetical order along with the following information about such registered candidates: full name, year of birth, education, place of residence, principal place of work (occupation), party membership, and nominating entity. An empty box shall be allocated between the candidate's full name and other information about such candidate.
- 3. The Head Territorial Election Commission of the respective elections shall determine the quantity of ballot papers based on the information provided by the State Voter Register on the number of voters with the respective voting addresses plus no more than two percent from the number of voters in the respective territorial community of additional ballot papers.

#### Article 523. Requirements to voting facilities

1. In addition to the information posters in compliance with part four of Article 192 hereunder, the information posters about each candidate for the head of the respective

territorial community (if applicable) as indicated in Article 519 hereunder shall be placed directly in front of the voting facility.

- 2. The candidate's information posters shall be placed in the order they are listed within the ballot papers.
- 3. The Head of the Precinct Election Commission shall provide for constant availability of information posters of all the candidates registered in the respective single-mandate district throughout the entire course of voting.

### Article 524. The procedure for filling in the ballot paper when casting the vote

- 1. Each voter shall put one mark, either a "plus" ("+") or any other symbol to signify his/her will expression, in the box next to the name of the candidate s/he wishes to support within the ballot paper.
- 2. When filling in the ballot paper each voter shall cast his/her vote in support of only one candidate for the head of the respective territorial community.

### Article 525. Counting the votes at election precincts

- 1. To count the number of votes to support each candidate for territorial community head all ballot papers of the respective election precinct subject to counting shall be laid out in the order stipulated by part one of Article 244 hereunder in places marked with double-sided signs with names of the candidates or "void" sign.
- 2. Void ballot papers in compliance with clause 3 of part two of Article 244 hereunder shall be deemed all ballots which:
- 1) have more than one mark as indicated in part one of Article 522 hereunder next to the names of different candidates;
  - 2) lack any mark by the names of the candidates.
- 3. The Precinct Election Commission shall count the ballot papers under the procedure indicated in part three of Article 226 hereunder and determine the number of votes to support each candidate for the head of the respective territorial community. In the course of counting any member of the commission shall have the right to check or recount the respective ballot papers.
- 4. Should one of the members of the election commission have doubts in relation to validity or will expression of a voter within a ballot paper, such issues shall be resolved by casting the vote by the Precinct Election Commission. Prior to voting each member of the election commission shall have the right to personally inspect the ballot paper. Counting other ballot papers shall be suspended for the duration of such inspection and such voting. The respective protocol decision shall be registered in the minutes of the meeting of the Precinct Election Commission.
- 5. The results of counting the votes to support each candidate for territorial community head at the election precinct shall be announced by the commission head and registered by the commission secretary in the vote counting protocol at the election precinct.
- 6. When counting the votes at the election precinct the Precinct Election Commission shall verify whether the number of voters who took part in voting at the election precinct determined in compliance with part 12 of Article 243 hereunder equals the sum of void ballots at the election precinct and ballots in support of each candidate. If these numbers do not match the Precinct Election Commission shall recount the ballot papers. If the aforementioned mismatch is confirmed the Precinct Election Commission shall elaborate an act under the form and procedure set forth by part ten of Article 115 hereunder with indication of the established by its decision reasons for such mismatch.
- 7. The ballot papers with votes to support each candidate for territorial community head shall be packed separately under the procedure set forth by part eight of Article 240 hereunder. Each such package shall be labeled with the respective candidate's name.

### Article 526. Information in the special section of the vote counting protocols of the Precinct and District Election Commissions

1. The special section of the vote counting protocol of the Precinct Election Commission regulated by part five of Article 246 hereunder, the vote counting protocol of the District Election Commission on vote recount at the precinct regulated by part 12 of Article

252 hereunder, the vote counting protocol of the District Election Commission on tabulation of protocols within the territorial election district (less the instances indicated in part three of Article 496 hereunder) in compliance with part four of Article 255 hereunder shall contain the following information:

- 1) the total number of valid votes within the precinct or the territorial election district;
- 2) the number of votes in support of each candidate;
- 3) the ratio of votes to support each candidate to the total number of valid votes.
- 2. The total number of valid votes shall be calculated as the sum of votes in support of each candidate.

### Article 527. Transporting election documents of the Precinct Election Commission

- 1. The documents of the Precinct Election Commission indicated in part one of Article 250 hereunder shall be transported to the Head Territorial Election Commission of the respective elections under the procedure set forth by Article 250 hereunder.
- 2. In all instances described in part three of Article 496 hereunder, the election documents related to the elections of city mayor shall be transported to City Raion Election Commissions under the procedure set forth by Article 250 hereunder.

# Article 528. The procedure for consideration of election documents by the Territorial Election Commissions acting as the District Election Commissions

- 1. The City Raion Election Commission which in the instances indicated in part three of Article 496 hereunder acts as the District Election Commission on elections of city mayor in the respective territorial election district shall collect and consider all election documents received from the Precinct Election Commissions as indicated in part one of Article 250 hereunder, determine the results of voting in the respective territorial election district and elaborate the respective protocol under the procedure set forth by Articles 251 through 254 hereunder.
- 2. Should the elections of city mayor be held simultaneously with the elections of members of the city and/or city raion board, the documents of Precinct Election Commissions on elections of city mayor shall be considered after the approval of the results of elections of city raion board and consideration of the documents of Precinct Election Commissions on elections of city board members.

### Article 529. The procedure for consideration of election documents by the Head Territorial Election Commission

- 1. The Head Territorial Election Commission of the respective elections shall collect and consider the election documents received from the Precinct Election Commissions on the elections of territorial community head as indicated in part one of Article 250 hereunder under the procedure set forth by Articles 251 through 254 hereunder.
- 2. Should the elections of territorial community head be held simultaneously with the elections of a member(s) of the respective village, settlement, or city board, the documents of Precinct Election Commissions on elections of territorial community head shall be considered after the approval of the results of elections of member(s) of the respective board.
- 3. In the instances described in part three of Article 496 hereunder, the City Election Commission shall accept and consider vote counting protocols within the respective territorial election district from the Precinct Election Commissions.

### Article 530. Protocol on the results of elections of village, settlement, or city mayor

- 1. The Head Territorial Election Commission of the respective elections during its meeting shall approve the results of the elections based on vote counting protocols from Precinct Election Commissions at the election precincts, including those marked as "Amended", or in the event of repeat vote counting also based on the repeat vote counting protocol at the respective election precinct by the Territorial Election Commission and execute the respective protocol within three days after the voting day.
- 2. In the instances described in part three of Article 496 hereunder, the Territorial Election Commission shall approve the results of elections of territorial community head and execute the respective protocol based on the vote counting protocols within the respective election districts by the District Election Commissions, including those marked as "Amended".

- 3. The general section of the protocol by the Head Territorial Election Commission on the results of elections of village, settlement, or city mayor shall include the following information in numbers and words:
- 1) the quantity of ballot papers produced at the order of the Head Territorial Election Commission;
- 2) the number of non-used ballot papers invalidated by the Head Territorial Election Commission;
  - 3) the number of ballot papers received by the Precinct Election Commissions:
- 4) the number of non-used ballot papers invalidated by the Precinct Election Commissions:
  - 5) the total number of non-used ballot papers;
  - 6) the number of spoiled ballots;
  - 7) the number of voters on the register of voters;
  - 8) the number of voters on the extracts from the register of voters for mobile voting;
  - 9) the number of voters who were issued ballots in the voting facility;
  - 10) the number of voters who were issued their ballots for mobile voting;
  - 11) the total number of voters who were issued ballots;
  - 12) the number of voters who took part in voting in the voting facility;
  - 13) the number of voters who took part in mobile voting;
  - 14) the number of ballot papers not to be counted located at election precincts;
  - 15) the total number of voters who took part in voting;
  - 16) the number of ballot papers declared void;
- 17) the ratio of ballot papers declared void to the number of voters who took part in voting.
- 4. The special section of the protocol on the results of elections of territorial community head shall provide the following information in numbers and words:
  - 1) the total number of valid votes;
  - 2) the number of votes in support of each specific candidate;
  - 3) the ratio of votes in support of each candidate to the total number of valid votes.
- 5. The Head Territorial Election Commission shall execute three copies of the protocol on the results of elections of village, settlement, or city mayor. All copies of the protocol shall be signed by the Head, Deputy Head, secretary and other members of the Territorial Election Commission present at the meeting and verified by the stamp of the Territorial Election Commission. The protocol shall indicate the date and time (hours and minutes) when it was signed by the members of the Territorial Election Commission.
- 6. All members of the Territorial Election Commission present at the meeting shall sign the protocol on the results of elections of village, settlement, or city mayor. Should any member disagree with the results registered in the protocol of the Head Territorial Election Commission, such member of the Territorial Election Commission shall sign the protocol with a remark "Different opinion". Such different opinion shall be described in writing and attached to the protocol on the results of elections of village, settlement, or city mayor. Should the protocol lack the signature of any member of the Territorial Election Commission there shall be a remark next to the name of the respective member of the Territorial Election Commission stating the reason of absence at the meeting.
- 7. Any candidates for territorial community head, their representatives and proxies, or official observers who are present at the meeting when approving the results of elections of village, settlement, or city mayor shall have the right to sign the first copy of the protocol.
- 8. The third copy of the protocol shall be immediately posted for the public in the facility of the Territorial Election Commission.

# Article 531. Decision of the Head Territorial Election Commission based on the results of voting at the elections of village, settlement, or city (city of raion subordinance or satellite cities) mayor

1. The Head Territorial Election Commission of the respective elections shall announce the elected village, settlement, or city (city of raion subordinance or satellite cities) mayor the candidate who further to the results of counting the votes based on the protocols indicated in part one of Article 530 hereunder collected the greatest number of votes compared to other

candidates for the head of the respective territorial community. The Head Territorial Election Commission shall approve the respective decision on election of village, settlement, or city mayor.

- 2. Should two or more candidates collect the same and at the same time the greatest number of votes further to the results of counting the votes based on the protocols indicated in part one of Article 530 hereunder, the Territorial Election Commission shall approve the decision on repeat voting in relation to such candidates.
- 3. Should there be only one candidate on the ballot at the elections of the head of the respective territorial community such candidate shall be deemed elected if the number of votes to support such candidate exceeds 50 percent of the number of voters who took part in voting.
- 4. In the event of circumstances described in Article 533 hereunder, the Head Territorial Election Commission shall approve the decision on repeated elections of the head of the respective territorial community.

# Article 532. Decision of the City Election Commission based on the results of voting at the elections of city (city of Oblast and Republic level in Autonomous Republic of Crimea or Kyiv city) mayor

- 1. The City (city of Oblast and Republic level in Autonomous Republic of Crimea or Kyiv city) Election Commission shall announce the elected city mayor the candidate who qualifies under one of the below criteria further to the results of counting the votes based on the protocols indicated in part one or two of Article 530:
  - 1) support of more than 50 percent of valid votes;
- 2) support of less than 50 percent of valid votes, however this number is greater by 20 percent than the valid number of supporting votes of the next runner-up.
- 2. The Territorial Election Commission shall approve the respective decision on election of city mayor.
- 3. If there was only one candidate on the ballot at the elections of city mayor such candidate shall be deemed elected if the votes to support him amounted to 50 percent of all voters who took part in voting.
- 4. The City Election Commission shall approve the decision on repeat voting if there were more than two candidates for city mayor on the ballot while none of them was elected in compliance with part one hereunder.
- 5. In the event of circumstances described in Article 533 hereunder, the City Election Commission shall approve the decision on repeated elections of city mayor.

### Article 533. Grounds for repeated elections of territorial community head

The Head Territorial Election Commission of the respective elections shall approve the decision on declaring the elections of territorial community head as such which have not been held and call repeated elections of territory community head in the following instances:

- 1) there was only one candidate on the ballot at the elections of territorial community head who failed to gain support of 50 percent of voters who took part in voting;
- 2) the number of elections precincts for which the elections were declared invalid in compliance with Articles 249 and 253 hereunder exceeds 25 percent of all precincts within the respective territorial community;
- 3) on the grounds described in part two of Article 511 hereunder, including incurrence of such circumstances when preparing repeat voting;
  - 4) on the grounds described in part four of Article 536 hereunder.

### Article 534. Repeat voting

1. The Head Territorial Election Commission of the respective elections declare repeat voting based on the grounds provided by part two of Article 531 or part three of Article 532 hereunder; such repeat voting shall be held on the second week after the voting day of the respective elections. The decision on repeat voting shall be made public through publications in printed mass media or if not applicable in any other way within the next day upon approval of such decision.

- 2. Repeat voting shall be prepared and conducted, votes shall be counted and the results of elections of territorial community head shall be established under the procedure hereunder with regard to the instructions set forth by this particular Article.
- 3. The ballot for repeat voting declared in compliance with part two of Article 531 hereunder shall include only those candidates for territorial community head who further to the results of voting at the elections of territorial community head gained the support of the same and at the same time the greatest number of votes less those who refused to nominate after the voting day.
- 4. The ballot for repeat voting declared in compliance with part three of Article 531 hereunder shall include only those two candidates for city mayor who further to the results of voting at the elections of city mayor gained the support of the greatest number of votes less those who refused to nominate after the voting day.
- 5. The layout and text of the ballot shall be approved by the Territorial Election Commission at the time of announcing repeat voting.
- 6. If all candidates on repeat voting ballot but one refused to run as candidates in compliance with clause 1 of part one of Article 509 hereunder within five days prior to repeat voting or were removed from ballot in compliance with part four of Article 509 hereunder within five days prior to repeat voting, the Head Territorial Election Commission shall approve the decision on canceling the repeat voting and announce elected the candidate on the repeat voting ballot who has not submitted such an application.
- 7. The voter lists for repeat voting shall be prepared under the procedure set forth by parts one through four of Article 329 hereunder.
- 8. Repeat voting shall be prepared and conducted by the Precinct Election Commissions; these precincts shall be the same which administrated the respective elections. A member of Precinct Election Commission in the event of early termination of his/her authorities shall be replaced under the procedure set forth by Article 106 hereunder.

# Article 535. Official publication of the results of elections of village, settlement, or city mayor

- 1. The Head Territorial Election Commission of the respective elections shall officially make the results of the elections of the head of the respective territorial community public through publications in local printed mass media within five days upon approving such results.
- 2. The aforementioned publication required by part one hereunder shall provide the following information about the elected territorial community head:
  - 1) full name of the elected territorial community head:
  - 2) number of votes to support the candidate;
  - 3) ratio of votes to support the candidate to the number of valid votes;
  - 5) year of birth;
  - 6) entity which nominated the candidate elected as the territorial community head;
  - 7) party membership;
  - 8) education:
- 9) place of work (occupation), position obtained by the elected territorial community head member prior to elections;
  - 10) place of residence.
- 3. The official publication of the results of elections of territorial community head by the Head Territorial Election Commission shall provide the grounds for dismissal from work (position) incompatible with the position of village, settlement, or city mayor and approval of decision on termination of any other representative mandate of the individual elected as village, settlement, or city mayor.

### Article 536. Registration of the elected village, settlement, or city mayor

1. Any individual elected as territorial community head shall within 15 days upon official publication of the results of elections of the head of the respective territorial community submit to the Territorial Election Commission the document confirming his/her dismissal from work (position) incompatible with the position of village, settlement, or city mayor and/or a copy of properly registered application of any other representative mandate submitted

respectively to the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine, the Parliament of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea or any local board on termination to be registered as village, settlement, or city mayor.

- 2. If the individual elected as the territorial community head applies to the Head Territorial Election Commission with sufficient reasons which hinder such individual from observing part one hereunder, the Territorial Election Commission may approve the decision on sufficiency of such reasons and appoint a different term for adhering to the aforementioned requirements or insufficiency thereof.
- 3. Upon receipt of the documents indicated in part one hereunder, the Head Territorial Election Commission shall approve the decision on registration of the elected village, settlement, or city mayor.
- 4. Should the individual elected as the territorial community head fail to adhere to the requirements of part one hereunder in terms indicated in part one and two hereunder the Head Territorial Election Commission shall approve the decision on declaring such individual as such who refused from the position of village, settlement, or city mayor and call repeated elections of the village, settlement, or city mayor.

# CHAPTER XV. ELECTIONS OF MEMBERS OF RAION AND OBLAST BOARDS SECTION XLV. GENERAL PROVISION ON THE ELECTIONS OF MEMBERS OF RAION AND OBLAST BOARDS

### Article 537. Main principles of elections of members of raion and oblast boards

The elections of members of raion and oblast boards shall be held under simple majority principles in multiple mandate districts which under Article 140 of the Constitution of Ukraine provide for the status of raion and oblast boards as local self-administration bodies which represent the mutual interests of territorial communities of villages, settlements, or cities on the territory of raion or oblast respectively.

#### Article 538. Number of members in raion and oblast boards

- 1. The number of members in raion boards shall depend on the number of voters within the territorial communities of the respective raion. Each territorial community within the raion shall be represented by the following number of members in the board:
  - 1) under 5 thousand of voters 2 members;
  - 2) from 5 thousand to 10 thousand of voters 3 members;
  - 3) from 10 thousand to 20 thousand of voters 4 members;
  - 4) from 20 thousand to 30 thousand of voters 5 members;
  - 5) over 30 thousand of members 6 members.
- 2. The number of members in oblast boards shall depend on the number of voters within the raions and territorial communities in cities of oblast subordinance of the respective oblast. Each raion and city of oblast subordinance shall be represented by the following number of members in the oblast board:
  - 1) under 20 thousand of voters 2 members:
  - 2) from 20 thousand to 50 thousand of voters 3 members;
  - 3) from 50 thousand to 100 thousand of voters 4 members;
  - 5) from 100 thousand to 250 thousand of voters 5 members;
  - 6) from 250 thousand to 500 thousand of voters 6 members;
  - 7) from 500 thousand to 750 thousand of voters 7 members;
  - 8) from 750 thousand to 1 million of voters 8 members:
  - 9) over 1 million of voters 9 members.
- 4. Number of voters in the respective territorial community or raion shall be determined based on the State Voter Register.

### Article 539. The right to nominate candidates for members of raion and oblast boards

1. All voters shall be entitled to nominate candidates for members of raion and oblast boards through raion and oblast units of political parties (hereinafter referred to as the "parties") or nominate themselves under the procedure hereunder.

- 2. Any party qualified under the requirements set forth by part four of Article 13 hereunder shall be able to nominate:
  - 1) candidates for members of raion board through the respective raion party unit;
  - 2) candidates for members of oblast board through the respective oblast party unit;
- 3. The territorial body of the Ministry of Justice of Ukraine in the respective raion or oblast shall publish in regional or local printed mass media the list of raion or oblast parties which qualify under the requirements set forth by part four of Article 13 hereunder within three days upon commencement of the election process.

### Article 540. Interim elections of board member(s)

- 1. The interim elections of a board member shall be appointed by the Head Election Commission of the respective elections due to early termination of the authorities of the member of the respective raion or oblast board or if the individual elected as member of the respective board refused from his/her member mandate.
- 2. The interim elections of a board member shall be appointed by the respective Territorial Election Commission within ten days upon emersion of the circumstances which provided the grounds for such interim elections, however no later than 72 days prior to the voting day at such elections. Voting day at interim elections may not be appointed for the day later than 180 days prior to the voting day at the consecutive local elections.
- 3. The election process of interim elections shall commence 70 days prior to the voting day.
- 4. The interim elections of a board member shall be conducted in the respective multiple mandate election district.

### Article 541. The terms for appointing and conducting interim and repeated elections of board members

- 1. The interim elections of members of raion or oblast boards shall be appointed by the decision of the respective Raion or Oblast (hereinafter referred to as the "Head Territorial") Election Commission in the respective multiple mandate district due to early termination of the authorities of a member of the respective board previously elected in such a district, or on the grounds provided by part three of Article 578 hereunder.
- 2. The decision on appointing the interim elections of a board member shall be approved by the Head Territorial Election Commission of the respective elections within 10 days upon emersion of circumstances which provided the grounds for such interim elections.
- 3. The repeated elections of a board member(s) shall be appointed by the decision of the Head Territorial Election Commission of the respective elections on the grounds and under the procedure set forth by Article 576 hereunder.
- 4. Voting at the interim and repeated elections of board members shall be held on the last week of 70-day term as of the date of official publication of the decision as indicated in part two or three hereunder.
- 5. The interim and repeated elections of board members shall be held in the respective multiple mandate election district independently from the number of mandates subject to voting at the interim or repeated elections.

### Article 542. Territorial organization of the elections of board members

- 1. The system of territorial organization of the elections of members of raion or oblast boards shall include:
  - 1) multiple mandate districts;
  - 2) regular election precincts on the territory of the respective city or city raion community;
- 3) special polling stations in establishments listed in clauses 1 and 2 of part two of Article 36 hereunder on the territory of the respective raion or oblast.
- 2. The borders of multiple mandate districts for the elections of raion board members shall coincide with the borders of territorial communities within the raion.
- 3. The borders of multiple mandate districts for the elections of oblast board members shall coincide with the borders of raions and cities of oblast subordinance within the oblast.

- 4. No decision on creation of multiple mandate districts as indicated in part two and three hereunder shall be approved. The Head Territorial Election Commission of the respective elections shall assign numbers to multiple mandate districts by its decision within the first day of the election process.
- 5. The number of mandates for each multiple mandate district as indicated in part two and three hereunder shall be determined by the Head Territorial Election Commission of the respective elections based on the number of representatives in the respective board as indicated in Article 538 hereunder.
- 6. The Head Territorial Election Commission shall publish in the local or regional mass media the number of mandates for each multiple mandate district along with the number of each such district no later than the second day of the election process.

### Article 543. The system of election commissions at the elections of raion or oblast boards

- 1. The system of election commissions to organize and conduct the elections of raion board members shall include:
  - 1) Raion Election Commission;
  - 2) Precinct Election Commissions of the precincts on the territory of the respective raion.
- 2. No District Election Commissions shall be created for the elections of raion board members. The authorities of the District Election Commissions in all multiple mandate districts for the elections of raion board members shall be assigned to the Raion Election Commission.
- 3. The system of election commissions to organize and conduct the elections of oblast board members shall include:
  - 1) Oblast Election Commission;
- 2) Raion and City Election Commissions (raions and cities of oblast subordinance and included to the respective oblast), which perform the functions of the District Election Commissions in the respective multiple mandate districts;
  - 3) Precinct Election Commissions of the precincts on the territory of the respective oblast.

### Article 544. Creation of the Precinct Election Commissions

- 1. The candidates for raion board members registered in the respective multiple mandate district shall nominate the candidates for members of the precinct election commissions in compliance with part two of Article 95 hereunder.
- 2. The candidates for oblast board members registered in the respective single mandate district shall nominate the candidates for members of the precinct election commissions in compliance with part two of Article 95 hereunder provided the elections of oblast board members do not coincide with the elections of raion board members.
- 4. The nomination of candidates for members of Raion Election Commission on behalf of the candidate for raion or oblast board member shall be confirmed by such candidate's signature.
- 5. The Precinct Election Commissions shall be created in terms and under the procedure set forth by Articles 95 and 96 hereunder.

### SECTION XLVI. NOMINATION AND REGISTRATION OF THE CANDIDATES FOR RAION OR OBLAST BOARD MEMBERS

#### Article 545. The terms for nomination of candidates for board members

- 1. Nomination of the candidates for board members and self-nomination shall commence as of the date following the commencement of the election process and finish 45 days prior to the voting day.
- 2. The candidate for the territorial community head as of nomination day shall acquire the status of the subject of the respective election process under the procedure set forth by part six of Article 546 part one of Article 547 hereunder.

### Article 546. The procedure for nominating candidates by the parties

1. The respective party as indicated in part two of Article 539 hereunder shall be entitled to nominate candidates for board members in every multiple mandate district of the respective

elections; the number of such nominated candidates shall not exceed the number of mandates in the respective election district as determined by part five of Article 542 hereunder.

- 2. A party shall be entitled to nominate as candidate for board member any member thereof or an independent individual who under Article 12 hereunder has the right to be elected as board member and who hasn't submitted an application on self-nomination. The same individual shall not be nominated by more than one party.
- 3. A party shall nominate its candidates for board members during its conference (meeting) organized and held under the procedure set forth by the party's charter. No less than 100 delegates shall be present at the conference during which the candidates for oblast board members are nominated.
- 4. The chairman of the party shall notify in writing the respective Territorial Election Commission about the time and place of holding the party's conference (meeting) to nominate its candidates for board members within three days prior to such conference (meeting). A member of the aforementioned Territorial Election Commission assigned by its Head shall have the right to attend such conference (meeting).
- 5. The party's conference (meeting) on nomination of its candidate for territorial community head shall be held openly. The conference (meeting) shall boast the appropriate atmosphere for free and comprehensive discussion of the individuals proposed as candidates and their election programs.
- 6. The decision of the party's conference (meeting) to nominate the candidates for board members shall be approved in the form of a list of candidates with indication of the number of multiple mandate district for each such candidate in which s/he is nominated.
- 7. The decision of the party's conference (meeting) described in part six hereunder shall indicate the following information in relation to each candidate:
  - 1) the candidate's full name;
  - 2) date, month and year of birth;
  - 3) nationality;
  - 4) party membership;
  - 5) education:
  - 6) place of work (occupation), position;
  - 7) availability of any other representative mandate at the time of nomination;
  - 8) place of residence and election address.
- 8. The minutes of the party's conference (meeting) shall provide the following information: date of such conference (meeting), agenda, number of selected and present delegates (when holding a meeting the total number of the party's members and those present at the meeting), the voting results (number of affirmative votes, number of negative votes, number of votes which did not take part in voting) on nomination of each of the candidates, as well as the information about each individual nominated as candidate for board member in compliance with part seven hereunder with indication of the number of multiple mandate district in which such candidate is nominated.
- 9. The decision described in part six hereunder and the minutes described in part eight hereunder shall be signed by the chairman of the party and verified by the party's stamp.

### Article 547. The procedure for self-nomination as candidate for board member

- 1. Any citizen of Ukraine wishing to self-nominate shall in person submit the application on self-nomination in a given multiple mandate district to the Head Territorial Election Commission of the respective elections.
- 2. The application on self-nomination as candidate for board member shall provide the following information:
- 1) the statement of the individual's desire to nominate as candidate for member of the respective board in a given mandate mandate district;
- 2) the information required by clauses 1 through 8 of part seven of Article 546 hereunder.
  - 3) the official contact address of the candidate;

- 4) the statement of consent to making the candidate's information contained in the documents submitted to the Territorial Election Commission public due to taking part in the elections:
- 5) the statement of obligation to refuse from his/her representative mandate which under the Constitution and the laws of Ukraine is incompatible with the mandate of member of raion or oblast board, or refuse from his/her mandate of member of the respective board.
- 3. The documents indicated in part one of Article 548 hereunder shall be attached to the application.

#### Article 548. The conditions for registration of candidates for board members

- 1. To be registered any self-nominated candidate shall in person submit to the Head of the Territorial Election Commission of the respective elections the following documents in addition to his/her application required by Article 547 hereunder:
- 1) the candidate's autobiography which shall provide the following information in a precise manner:
  - a) full name;
  - б) date, month and year of birth;
  - в) nationality:
  - r) education;
  - d) work;
  - д) public activity (including elective office);
- e) place of work (occupation) and position at the time of nomination as candidate for board member;
  - ε) party membership, year of joining the party;
  - ж) family status;
- 3) place of residence and election address with indication of duration of residing in Ukraine.
  - и) instances and grounds for criminal responsibility or responsibility for corruption;
  - i) prior convictions if applicable:
  - 2) the candidate's brief election program in official national language:
  - 3) property and income statement in compliance with Article 458 hereunder;
- 4) the signature sheets with signatures of voters who have the right to vote at the elections of members of the respective board in support of registration of the candidate; the required number of such signatures shall be regulated by part one of Article 550 hereunder;
- 5) the document confirming availability of money guarantee in compliance with Article 549 hereunder:
- 6) photographs of the candidate; the size and quantity of such photographs shall be determined by the Head Territorial Election Commission no later than on the third day of the election process.
- 2. The following documents shall be submitted in addition to the documents listed in clause 1 through 5 of part one hereunder when registering candidates for board members nominated by parties:
- 1) the party's application on registration of the candidate(s) signed by the chairman of the party and verified by the party's stamp;
- 2) a copy of the party's registration certificate, verified without charge by the territorial body of the Ministry of Justice of Ukraine after commencement of the election process;
- 3) the minutes of the party's conference (meeting) on nomination of candidates for board members as indicated in part eight of Article 546 hereunder;
- 4) the decision of the conference (meeting) of the party to nominate candidates for board members as indicated in parts six and seven of Article 546 hereunder;
- 5) the statement of consent from the respective individual to be nominated as candidate for member of raion or oblast board from a given party in the respective multiple mandate district along with the information required by clauses 3 through 5 of part two of Article 457 hereunder.
- 3. One copy of each document listed in part two hereunder shall be submitted by the party in relation to each candidate for member of the respective board nominated by the party.

- 4. The documents on registration of the candidate (candidates) from a party as indicated in part two hereunder shall be submitted to the Head Territorial Election Commission of the respective elections by the individual assigned by the decision of the party's management body.
- 5. The head, deputy head, secretary or other member of the Territorial Election Commission shall accept the documents. The commission shall issue a notice on acceptance of documents to the submitter of documents in compliance with part one or four hereunder. Such a notice shall indicate the list of submitted documents, date, month, year and time they were submitted and the last name and position of the individual who had accepted them.
- 6. The acceptance of documents by the respective Territorial Election Commission on registration of candidates for board members shall terminate 40 days prior to the voting day.
- 7. The documents submitted to the respective Territorial Election Commission shall not be re-submitted.

### Article 549. Money guarantee

- 1. The money guarantee shall be remitted by all candidates for oblast board members in non-cash form into the special account of the Oblast Election Commission in the amount of ten times the minimum wage effective on the day of commencement of the election process.
- 2. The account number for remitting the money guarantees shall be made public by the respective Oblast Election Commission though publications in regional printed mass media within two days upon commencement of the election process.
- 3. Should the Oblast Election Commission refuse registration of a candidate, the remitted money guarantee shall be transferred to the account of the nominated (self-nominated) candidate within five days upon approval of the respective decision.
- 4. Should the Oblast Election Commission terminate the registration of a candidate for oblast board member further to his/her application filed no later than 30 days prior to the voting day the remitted money guarantee shall be transferred to the account of the nominated (self-nominated) candidate within five days upon approval of the respective decision. Should the Oblast Election Commission terminate the registration of a candidate for oblast board member on any other grounds, the remitted money guarantee shall be transferred to the respective oblast budget within five days upon approval of the respective decision.
- 5. The money guarantees shall be reimbursed to all candidates for oblast board members who further to the voting results won no less than five percent of valid votes each. Should the candidate for the head of oblast board fail to win more than five percent of valid votes, his/her money guarantee shall be transferred to the respective oblast budget.

# Article 550. Collecting signatures to support registration of the candidate for board member

- 1. Signature sheets with the following number of signatures to support registration of the candidate for board member shall be submitted:
  - 1) candidate for raion board member no less than 30 signatures;
  - 2) candidate for oblast board member no less than 100 signatures;
- 2. The form of signature sheets shall be regulated by part four of Article 402 hereunder. In place of the information indicated in clauses 2 and 3 of part two of Article 403 hereunder the signature sheet shall provide correspondently the following information:
  - 1) number of election district in which signatures are being collected;
- 2) full name of the candidate in whose support signatures are being collected and the nominating entity.
- 3. Signature sheets shall be received and produced under the procedure set forth by parts three through five of Article 459 hereunder.

#### Article 551. The procedure for collection of voters' signatures

1. Voters' signatures to support registration of the candidate for board member shall be collected by a voter with the right to vote at the respective elections and authorized in writing by the nominee or who has the intent to self-nominate as candidate. Any individual may also personally collect the voters' signatures to support his/her registration.

- 2. The signatures shall be collected under the procedure and in compliance with the requirements set forth by parts two through nine and eleven of Article 404 hereunder.
- 3. Any voter whose address belongs to the respective multiple mandate district may submit his/her signature to support the registration of a candidate for board member.

# Article 552. The procedure for submitting signature sheets to the Territorial Election Commission

- 1. All signature sheets shall be submitted to the Head Territorial Election Commission of the respective elections along with the documents required by parts one and (for party's nominees) two of Article 548 hereunder.
- 2. When receiving the signature sheets the Territorial Election Commission shall execute transfer and acceptance certificate under the procedure set forth by part two of Article 461 hereunder.

### Article 553. The procedure for verification of voters' signatures

- 1. The Head Territorial Election Commission of the respective elections shall perform control over the observance of the requirements of this Code in relation to signature sheets by the latter being verified by members of the election commission. When verifying the signature sheets members of the election commission may use the information from the State Voter Register.
- 2. When counting the number of voters who supported the registration of the candidate for board member based on the signature sheets those signature sheets in which the signatures were collected by any individual other than those indicated in part one of Article 551 hereunder or those with violations described in clauses 2 through 11 of part two of Article 406 hereunder shall be disregarded.
- 3. When counting the number of voters who supported the registration of the candidate based on the signature sheets any signatures of voters who have their election addresses outside the territorial community in which the candidate is being nominated as the head or qualify under the characteristics indicated in clauses 1 through 4, 6 and 7 of part three of Article 406 hereunder shall be disregarded.
- 4. The results of collecting the signatures of voters to support registration of the candidate for territorial community head shall be established and registered in compliance with parts four through seven of Article 462 hereunder.

#### Article 554. The procedure for registration of candidates for board members

- 1. The Head Territorial Election Commission of the respective elections shall register the candidates for board members nominated in the respective multiple mandate districts provided all the documents indicated in parts one and (for candidates nominated by parties) two of Article 548 hereunder were submitted.
- 2. Any individual nominated as candidate for board member shall have the right to withdraw his/her application on self-nomination or submit an application on withdrawal of his/her statement of consent to be nominated as candidate for board member from the respective party before the registration date. The commission shall not accept second applications on self-nomination or statement of consent to be nominated as candidate at the same elections from any party.
- 3. The Territorial Election Commission shall approve the decision on registration of the candidate or refusal to register within five days upon acceptance of the documents indicated in parts one and (for candidates nominated by parties) two of Article 409 hereunder.
- 4. The candidate for board member registered by the Territorial Election Commission shall be issued the candidate's identification document under the form approved by the Central Election Commission within five days upon registration.
- 5. The list of registered candidates for board members in each multiple mandate district shall be made public through publication in local and regional printed mass media or if not applicable in any other way determined by the Head Territorial Election Commission.

### Article 555. Refusal to register a candidate

- 1. The Head Territorial Election Commission of the respective elections shall refuse registration of the candidate for board member in the following instances:
  - 1) violations of this Code and other laws of Ukraine regulating nomination of candidates;
- 2) failure to submit or improper execution of at least one of the documents indicated in parts one and (for candidates nominated by parties) two of Article 548 hereunder;
- 3) failure to submit the application of the individual nominated as candidate in compliance with clause 5 of part two of Article 548 hereunder (for candidates nominated by parties);
- 4) withdrawal of application on self-nomination or submitting an application on withdrawal of his/her statement of consent to be nominated as candidate in compliance with part two of Article 554 hereunder by the individual nominated as candidate;
- 5) failure to submit or insufficient number (as indicated in part one of Article 550 hereunder) of signatures to support registration of the candidate in compliance with Article 553 hereunder:
- 6) exposure or emersion of circumstances indicated in clauses 6 through nine of part one of Article 464 hereunder;
- 7) exposure of other circumstances by the Territorial Election Commission which deprive the individual nominated as candidate the right to run as candidate for raion or oblast board member.
- 2. The decision on refusal to register a candidate for territorial community head shall clearly indicate the sufficient grounds for such refusal. A copy of such decision shall be issued to the candidate's representative within the following day upon approval.
- 3. The refusal to register a candidate for board member on the grounds described in clause 2 of part one hereunder shall not deprive the applicant the right to submit additional or corrected documents no later than 37 days prior to the voting day.
- 4. In instances provided by part three hereunder the Territorial Election Commission shall approve its final decision on registration of the candidate for board member within 35 days prior to voting day.

#### Article 556. Termination of registration of a candidate

- 1. The Territorial Election Commission which registered the candidate for board member shall approve the decision on termination of registration of such candidate in the following instances:
- 1) written application on refusal to be candidate submitted by the candidate for board member after the registration however within three days prior to the voting day; such application shall not be subject to withdrawal:
- 2) exposure or emersion of circumstances indicated in clauses 6 through 9 of part one of Article 464 or clause 7 of part one of Article 555 hereunder after the registration of the candidate:
- 3) exposure of the fact that the candidate is using additional resources to finance his/her election campaign (other than the electoral fund) in the amount greater than the maximum amount of voluntary contribution to the candidate's electoral fund regulated by part seven of Article 562 hereunder in the course of court consideration of the elections-related dispute under the procedure set forth by the legislation;
- 4) expenses of the candidate to finance his/her election campaign exceeding the maximum expenses from the respective electoral fund regulated by part six of Article 562 hereunder by the amount greater than the maximum amount of voluntary contribution to the candidate's electoral fund regulated by part seven of Article 562 hereunder
- 5) repeated actions of the candidate for which s/he has previously received a warning in compliance with part one of Article 557 hereunder.
- 2. The Territorial Election Commission shall consider the termination of registration of a candidate with such candidate or his/her representative being present. The aforementioned individuals shall be notified about such consideration within one day in advance. If none of the aforementioned individuals is present while properly notified about the meeting the election commission shall consider the issue without them.
- 3. The Territorial Election Commission shall inform the candidate and (if nominated by the party) the respective party about its decision to terminate the registration of the candidate within

the following day upon approval and provide a copy of such decision to the candidate within the same term.

- 4. When the registration is terminated the candidate shall loose the status of the subject of the election process upon completion of the term for challenging such decision of the Territorial Election Commission in court. When the decision is challenged under the court procedure the status of the subject of the election process shall be preserved until the court ruling becomes effective.
- 5. In the event of death of the candidate the Head Territorial Election Commission of the respective elections shall announce the decision of registration of such candidate void.

#### Article 557. Warnings for violations of the election legislation

- 1. The Head Territorial Election Commission of the respective elections shall give warnings to the candidates for board members in the following instances:
- 1) exposure of any of the below facts in the course of court consideration of the elections-related dispute under the procedure set forth by the legislation:
- a) bribing voters or members of election commissions by the candidate, the nominating party, any official of the party, or any other affiliated individual assigned by the candidate or the nominating party;
- 6) giving money or offering free-of-charge or on preferential terms goods (less the goods listed in part two of Article 205 hereunder), works, services, securities, credits, lotteries or other material goods (indirect bribe) to the voters, establishments, institutions, organizations or members of election commissions in the course of the election process by the organization where the candidate, the nominating party or one of its officials is the founder, owner or member of management body;
- B) the candidate is using additional resources to finance his/her election campaign (other than the electoral fund) in the amount less than the maximum amount of voluntary contribution to the candidate's electoral fund regulated by part seven of Article 562 hereunder;
- r) the candidate while holding an official position including part time positions in executive, government or local self-administration bodies, state or public utility companies, establishments, institutions, organizations, or military units created in compliance with the laws of Ukraine has engaged or used in his/her election campaign his/her subordinates, company vehicles, communications, property, facilities or other objects or resources at his/her place of work (abuse of office);
- 2) violations by the candidate or the nominating party of limitations on election campaigns, including election campaigns in the course of the election process outside the terms set forth by Article 201 hereunder:
- 3) expenses of the candidate to finance his/her election campaign exceeding the maximum expenses from the respective electoral fund regulated by part six of Article 562 hereunder by the amount less than the maximum amount of voluntary contribution to the candidate's electoral fund regulated by part seven of Article 562 hereunder.
- 2. The issue on announcing a warning to the candidate shall be considered under the procedure set forth by parts two and three of Article 556 hereunder.

# Article 558. The procedure for holding elections of candidates for board members in multiple mandate districts with fewer registered candidates than the number of mandates in the respective district

- 1. When the number of registered candidates at the elections of members of raion or oblast boards in multiple mandate district is fewer than the number of mandates within the same district the voting shall be conducted in relation to such registered candidates for board members.
- 2. If no candidates were registered at the elections of members of raion or oblast boards, such respective elections shall be deemed as such which have not been held.

### Article 559. Work guarantees for candidates for board members

1. The candidate for board member shall be granted discharge from his/her work or official duties at his/her place of work under unpaid leave conditions for the duration of his/her election campaign.

- 2. In the course of the election process the candidate for board member shall not be fired from work at the initiative of owner or any authorized body of the enterprise, institution, establishment, or organization, or the commanding officer of the military unit (base). The candidate without his/her consent shall neither be assigned a different position, sent on business trips, nor drafted for military or alternative (unarmed) service, training (qualification) and special army boot camps for those liable for military service.
- 3. Any candidate for board member shall enjoy the rights of the official observer set forth in part one of Article 215 hereunder. Any candidate for board member shall be subject to limitations set forth by part two of Article 215 hereunder.

### Article 560. Authorized persons of the candidate for raion or oblast boards

- 1. Any candidate for board member shall be entitled to the following number of authorized persons:
  - 1) candidate for raion board member no more than two authorized persons;
  - 2) candidate for oblast board member no more than five authorized persons.
- 3. Any voter with the right of vote at the respective elections may be the authorized person of the candidate for board member. None of the individuals listed in clauses 1 though 4 of part four of Article 469 shall be an authorized person of a candidate.
- 4. The authorized persons of a candidate shall be registered under the procedure set forth by Article 470 hereunder.
  - 5. The authorized persons of the candidates shall:
- 1) represent the interests of the candidate in the relation with voters, election commission and other subjects of the election process, courts, local executive bodies, government bodies of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, local self-administration bodies, mass media, enterprises, establishments, institutions, and organizations on the territory of the respective territorial community;
- 2) be entitled to take part with deliberative vote in the meetings of election commissions preparing and conducting the respective elections;
- 3) have the right to be present at election precinct at the time of voting and at the meeting of the Precinct Election Commission when counting the votes with account to limitations set forth by clause 3 of part two of Article 114 hereunder;
- 4) enjoy the rights of the official observer from the candidate as regulated by part one of Article 215 hereunder;
  - 5) exercise other authorities set forth hereunder for authorized persons of candidates.
- 6. The candidate's authorized persons shall be subject to the limitations set forth by part two of Article 215 hereunder.
- 7. The candidate's authorized persons shall be granted discharge from their work or official duties at their places of work under unpaid leave conditions with the approval of the owner or any authorized body of the enterprise, institution, establishment, or organization as of the date of registration by the Territorial Election Commission until expiration of their authorities or completion of the election process.
- 8. In the event of termination of registration of the candidate for board member the authorities of his/her authorized persons shall terminate as of the date such candidate looses his/her status of the subject of the election process.
- 9. Any of the candidate's authorized individuals shall be replaced under the procedure set forth by Article 472 hereunder.

### Article 561. The candidate's right to have official observers

- 1. The candidate for the member of raion or oblast board shall have the right to have official observers in compliance with part one of Article 214 hereunder in the multiple mandate election district in which s/he is registered.
- 2. The candidate or his/her authorized person shall in person submit the candidates for official observers on behalf of the given candidate in compliance with Article 217 hereunder.

# Section XLVII. SPECIFIC FEATURES OF INFORMATION COVERAGE AND ELECTION CAMPAIGNING DURING ELECTIONS OF DEPUTIES OF RAION AND OBLAST COUNCILS

# Article 562. Special Features of Opening, Formation and Use of Electoral Funds of Candidates

- 1. A candidate for a deputy of a raion or oblast council in order to finance his/her election campaign creates an electoral fund pursuant to the procedure provided for in Articles 185–189 of this Code.
- 2. An organization of the party that nominated candidates for deputies of a raion or oblast council does not create its own electoral fund to finance the election campaign during the elections.
- 3. The accumulation account of the candidate's electoral fund is to be opened not later than on the fifth day after adoption of a decision of the Territorial Election Commission on the candidate's registration.
- 4. The current accounts of the candidate's electoral fund are not opened. The resources of the electoral fund are spent directly from the accumulation account of the electoral fund.
- 5. The candidate personally exercises the powers of the manager of the accumulation and the current accounts of the fund or appoints one of his/her proxies to act as the fund accounts manager.
  - 6. The maximum amount spent from the candidate's electoral fund may not exceed:
- 1) a candidate for a deputy of a raion council one hundred and fifty minimum salaries established as of the day of the start of the election process;
- 2) a candidate of a deputy of an oblast council five hundred minimum salaries established as of the day of the start of the election process.
- 7. The voluntary contribution to the candidate's electoral fund may not exceed thirty minimum salaries established as of the day of the start of the election process. The amount of the candidate's own funds transferred to the accumulation account may not exceed the maximum amount that may be spent from the electoral fund as provided for in part six of this Article.

### Article 563. Candidates' Information Posters

- 1. The main territorial election commission on the respective elections ensures production of information posters provided for in part one Article 194 of this Code for each candidate for a deputy in each multiple mandate district.
- 2. A candidate's information poster is to contain the data provided for in clauses 1-6 part two Article 475 of this Code.
- 3. The number of produced candidates' information posters and the production timelines and procedure are provided for in parts three five Article 75 of this Code.

#### Article 564. Parity Dissemination of Information about Candidates for Deputies

- 1. The requirements concerning parity dissemination of information provided for in part two Article 196 of this Code are applied to dissemination of information about the candidates for deputies of an oblast council.
- 2. The restrictions provided for in this Article and Articles 195–198 of this Code are applied to the national, regional and local TV and radio companies broadcasting in the territory of a respective city or a raion, to which the respective territorial community belongs.

# Article 565. Specific Features of Election Campaigning During Elections of Deputies of Raion and Oblast Councils

- 1. An Oblast Election Commission signs agreements as provided for in part three Article 210 of this Code with regional or local TV and radio companies broadcasting in the territory of a respective raion or a city of oblast level on provision of air time to the candidates for deputies of an oblast council registered in the respective multiple mandate district at the expense and within the limits of the budget funds allocated for the organization and conduct of the elections.
- 2. Regional or local TV and radio companies provided for in part one of this Article on the basis of a respective agreement provide air time to each candidate for a deputy of an

oblast council for election campaigning – minimum ten protocol on a respective TV channel and ten protocol on a respective radio channel for each candidate.

- 3. The schedule of air time stating the election campaigning TV and radio broadcasts, the specific date and time of their broadcasting is compiled by the respective TV and radio companies on the basis of the drawing of lots organized by the Oblast Election Commission involving the candidates or their proxies not later than thirty-two days before the election day.
- 4. The results of the drawing of lots provided for in part three of this Article are published in the regional or local printed mass media within five days after they were approved by the Oblast Election Commission.
- 5. Air time for election campaigning is not provided at the expense of the budget funds to candidates for deputies of a raion council.
- 6. Campaign materials of candidates for deputies of a raion or oblast council are not placed in the printed mass media at the expense of the budget funds allocated for the organization and conduct of the elections.

### Section XLVIII. SPECIFIC FEATURES OF ORGANIZATION AND CONDUCT OF VOTING, AND ESTABLISHMENT OF RESULTS OF ELECTIONS OF DEPUTIES OF RAION AND OBLAST COUNCILS

# Article 566. Requirements for Contents of Ballot Paper for Elections of Deputies of Raion and Oblast Councils

- 1. The text of a ballot paper for each multiple mandate district during the elections of deputies of a raion or an oblast council is approved by the main territorial election commission on the respective elections not later than twenty-two days before the election day.
- 2. The number of ballot papers for voting in each multiple mandate district is determined by the main territorial election commission on the respective elections on the basis of data provided by the Register maintenance bodies on the number of voters who have respective voting addresses taking into consideration the ballot papers reserve in the amount that does not exceed the number of voters in a respective election district by two per cent.

# Article 567. Specific Features of Transfer of Ballot Papers to Precinct Election Commissions

- 1. An Oblast Election Commission ensures the transfer of ballot papers for the respective multiple mandate district in the manufacturer's packing to the Raion and City (cities with oblast significance) Election Commissions acting as the District Election Commissions for the elections of deputies of an oblast council at the meetings of such commissions not earlier than seven days before the election day. On behalf of the Oblast Election Commission, ballot papers are transferred by the authorized members of the Oblast Election Commission.
- 2. A Raion or a City Election Commission organizes acceptance and storage of ballot papers for the elections of deputies of an oblast council pursuant to the procedure stipulated in parts two and four Article 224 of this Code. The protocol on acceptance of ballot papers is to be signed, in addition to the members of a Raion or a City Election Commission, by the member of the Oblast Election Commission authorized to transfer the ballot papers. The first copy of the protocol is forwarded to the Oblast Election Commission.
- 3. A candidate for a deputy, his/her proxy, or an official observer who was present during the transfer of ballot papers has a right to immediately receive upon his/her request a copy of the protocol provided for in part two Article 224 of this Code signed on each page by the Head and the Secretary of the Raion or City Election Commission and stamped with the commission seal not more than one copy of the protocol for each candidate registered in a respective election district.
- 4. Ballot papers for the elections of deputies of an oblast or raion council are transferred to the Precinct Election Commissions and accepted by the Precinct Election Commissions pursuant to the procedure provided for in Articles 225 and 226 of this Code.

### Article 568. Specific Features of Preparation of Premises for Voting

1. In addition to information posters provided for in part four Article 192 of this Code, there must be information posters of the candidates registered in the respective multiple

mandate district provided for in Article 563 of this Code placed immediately before the premises for voting.

- 2. Candidates' information posters are to be placed in the order corresponding to the order, in which the candidates are placed in a ballot paper.
- 3. The Head of the Precinct Election Commission is to ensure constant presence of the placed information posters of all candidates registered in the respective multiple mandate district during the whole time of voting.

#### Article 569. Procedure for Filling Out Ballot Paper During Voting

- 1. A voter puts a plus (+) or another mark expressing the voter's will in the square next to the name of a candidate whom the voter supports.
  - 2. When filling out a ballot paper the voter may support only one candidate for a deputy.

### Article 570. Special Feature of Voting in Special Election Precincts

A voter included in the list of electors in a special election precinct created in an in-patient care establishment receives a ballot paper for voting:

- 1) during the elections of deputies of a raion council provided his/her voting address belongs to a respective territorial community:
- 2) during the election of deputies of an oblast council provided that his/her voting address belongs to one of the territorial communities of a respective raion or to the territory of a respective city with oblast significance.

### **Article 571. Specific Features of Counting of Votes in Election Precinct**

- 1. For the counting of the number of votes cast for each candidates for a deputy the ballot papers that shall be counted are sorted pursuant to the procedure provided for in part one Article 244 of this Code into the places designated by individual plates having family names and initials of the candidates on each side or the word "Invalid".
- 2. An invalid ballot paper pursuant to clause 3 part two Article 244 of this Code is a ballot which:
- 1) has more than one mark provided for in part one Article 569 of this Code next to the names of different candidates;
  - 2) has no marks next to the names of candidates.
- 3. A Precinct Election Commission, following the procedure provided for in part three Article 226 of this Code, counts the ballot papers as establishes in number of votes cast for each candidate for a deputy in the respective multiple mandate district. During the counting of votes, each commission member has a right to examine or re-count the respective ballot papers.
- 4. When commission members have doubts as to the validity or the contents of a ballot papers, the election commission is to put this issue to vote. Before voting, each commission member has the right to personally examine the ballot paper. During the time of such examination, the work with other ballot papers is suspended. A respective protocol decision and the results of voting are entered in the minutes of the meeting of the Precinct Election Commission.
- 5. The results of the counting of votes in the election precinct during the elections of a deputy of a raion or oblast council are announced by the Head of the commission and entered in the vote counting protocol of the Precinct Election Commission.
- 6. During the counting of votes in the election precinct, the Precinct Election Commission is to check whether the number of voters who took part in the voting in the election precinct established as provided for in part twelve Article 243 of this Code is equal to the sum of the number of invalid ballot papers in the election precinct and the number of ballot papers with the voters' votes cast for each candidate. When there is a discrepancy in these numbers, the Precinct Election Commission may re-count the ballot papers. If such discrepancy is confirmed, the Precinct Election Commission draws an act in the form and pursuant to the procedure provided for in part ten Article 115 of this Code stating the reason of the discrepancy established by the commission decision.

10. Ballot papers with the voters' votes cast for each candidates are to be packed separately pursuant to the procedure provided for in part eight Article 240 of this Code. Each package is to bear the family name and initials of the respective candidate.

# Article 572. Data of Special Part of Final Protocol of Precinct Election Commission and District Election Commission

- 1. The special part of the vote counting protocol of the Precinct Election Commission provided for in part five Article 246 of this Code, the protocol of the District Election Commission on the re-counting of votes in the election precinct provided for in part twelve Article 252 of this Code, and the protocol of the District Election Commission on the results of voting for the multiple mandate district provided for in part four Article 255 of this Code is to contain the following data:
- 1) the summarized number of valid ballot papers in the election precinct or in the multiple mandate district;
  - 2) the number of votes cast for each candidate;
- 3) percentage of the votes cast for each candidate with regard to the summarized number of valid voters' votes.
- 2. The summarized number of valid votes is defined as the sum of the number of votes cast in support of each candidate.

#### **Article 573. Transportation of Election Documents of Precinct Election Commission**

- 1. The documents of a Precinct Election Commission for the elections of deputies of a raion council provided for in part one Article 250 of this Code are transported to the respective Raion Election Commission pursuant to the procedure provided for in Article 250 of this Code.
- 2. The documents of a Precinct Election Commission for the elections of deputes of an oblast council provided for in Article 250 of this Code are transported to the Territorial Election Commission acting as the District Election Commission for the elections of deputies of an oblast council in a respective multiple mandate district pursuant to the procedure provided for in Article 250 of this Code.

# Article 572. Specific Features of Consideration of Election Documents by Territorial Election Commissions Acting as District Election Commissions

- 1. A Raion Election Commission accepts and considers the election documents of Precinct Election Commissions for the elections of deputies of a raion council provided for in part one Article 250 of this Code pursuant to the procedure provided for in Articles 251–254 of this Code. Based on the results of consideration, the Raion Election Commission draws the protocol on the results of voting for each multiple mandate district for the elections of deputies or a raion council in the form provided for in Articles 255 and 572 of this Code.
- 2. A Raion or City (cities with oblast significance) Election Commission acting as a District Election Commission for the elections of deputies of an oblast council in a respective multiple mandate district accepts and considers the election documents of Precinct Election Commissions provided for in part one Article 250 of this Code pursuant to the procedure provided for in Articles 251–254 of this Code. Based on the results of consideration the Raion or City Election Commission draws the protocol on the results of voting in the respective multiple mandate district for the elections of deputies of an oblast council in the form provided for in Articles 255 and 572 of this Code.
- 3. When the elections of deputies of an oblast council take place simultaneously with the elections of deputies of a raion council, a city (for cities with oblast significance) council or a city mayor, the Raion or City Election Commission accepts and considers the election documents for the elections of deputies of an oblast council after having established the results of the elections of deputies of a raion council, deputies of a city (for cities of oblast significance) council or a city mayor.

# Article 575. Specific Features of Consideration of Protocol of District Election Commissions During Elections of Deputies of Oblast Council by Oblast Election Commission

- 1. An Oblast Election Commission accepts and considers the protocol of Raion or city Election Commissions acting as District Election Commissions for the elections of deputies of an oblast council on the results of voting for each multiple mandate district.
- 2. Based on the results of consideration of the protocol provided for in part one of this Article, the Oblast Election Commission adopts one of the following decisions:
- 1) to accept the protocol on the results of voting in the respective multiple mandate district and to endorse the stated figures;
- 2) to refuse to accept the protocol on the results of voting in the respective multiple mandate district and to oblige the respective Raion or City Election Commission to correct the discovered shortcomings by drawing the "Corrected" protocol.

# Article 576. Establishment of Results of Elections of Raion or Oblast Council in Multiple Mandate District

- 1. A Raion Election Commission establishes the results of the elections of deputies of a raion council in a multiple mandate district on the basis of the protocol on the results of voting in the multiple mandate district drawn as provided for in part one article 574 of this Code.
- 2. An Oblast Election Commission establishes the results of the elections of deputies of an oblast council in a multiple mandate district on the basis of the protocol on the results of voting in the multiple mandate district that it endorsed as provided for in clause 1 part two Article 573 of this Code.
- 3. When establishing the results of voting in the respective multiple mandate district, the main election commission on the respective elections adopts one of the following decisions:
  - 1) on recognizing the deputies elected in the respective multiple mandate district;
  - 2) on designating the repeat voting in the respective multiple mandate district:
  - 3) on recognizing the elections in the respective multiple mandate district as invalid.
- 4. The main election commission on the respective elections recognizes as the elected deputies the candidates for deputies (whose number is to correspond to the number of mandates in the multiple mandate district pursuant to part five Article 542 of this Code) who, according to the results of voting in the respective multiple mandate district, received more votes compared to other candidates registered in the same election district.
- 5. When, according to the results of voting in the respective multiple mandate district, there are two or more candidates contending the last mandate in the election district who received the same number of votes, the Territorial Election Commission adopts a decision on designating the repeat voting on these candidates.
- 6. In the case provided for in part one Article 558 of this Code, a Raion or oblast Election Commission Recognizes as the elected deputies the candidates (candidate) for deputies whose number of the cast votes exceeds the percentage received after dividing the number of votes who took part in the voting in the respective multiple mandate district by the number of mandates in the respective multiple mandate district.
- 7. When in the case provided for in part five of this Article, the number of deputies elected in the respective multiple mandate district is lower than the number of mandates for this election district defined as provided for in part five Article 542 of this Code, the main election commission on the respective elections designates the repeat elections in this election district for the number of mandates that remained available according to the elections results.
- 8. In the case provided for in part two Article 558 of this Article, the main election commission on the respective elections designates the repeat elections in this election district for the number of mandates defined as provided for in part five Article 542 of this Code.

#### Article 577. Repeat Voting

- 1. The main election commission on the respective elections designates the repeat voting in a multiple mandate district on the grounds provided for in part five Article 576 of this Code on the second Sunday after the day of voting at the respective elections. The decision to conduct the repeat voting is to be published in the regional or local printed mass media not later than on the second day after its adoption or, if it is impossible, is made public by other means.
- 2. The procedure for the organization and conduct of the repeat voting, the counting of votes and establishment of the results of voting for the respective multiple mandate district is determined by this Code with the specific features provided for in this Article.
- 3. The form and the text of a ballot paper are approved by the Territorial Election Commission simultaneously with designation of the repeat voting.
- 4. A ballot paper for the repeat voting is to include the candidates for deputies provided for in part five Article 576 of this Code without the candidates who after the election day refused to stand for the elections.
- 5. When all candidates provided for in part five Article 576 of this Code except for one not later than five days before the day of the repeat voting refused to be the candidates as provided for in clause 1 part one Article 556 of this Code or not longer stand for the elections as provided for in part five Article 556 of this Code, the main Territorial Election Commission on the respective elections adopts a decision on cancelling the repeat voting and on recognizing as the elected deputy the candidate included in the ballot paper for the repeat voting who did not submit the respective request.
- 6. The Voter Lists in the respective election precincts are produced pursuant to the procedure provided for in parts one four Article 329 of this Code. The Voter Lists are to include only the voters whose voting address belongs to the respective multiple mandate district.
- 7. The organization and conduct of the repeat voting is done by the Precinct Election Commissions with the same membership that conducted the voting during the respective elections. A replacement of a member of the Precinct Election Commission in the event of early termination of his/her powers is done pursuant to the procedure provided for in Article 106 of this Code.
- 8. Election campaigns of the candidates included in a ballot paper for the repeat voting are not financed during the organization of repeat voting.

### Article 578. Grounds for Designating Repeat Elections of Deputies (Deputy)

- 1. The main election commission on the respective elections adopts a decision on recognizing the elections of deputies in the respective multiple mandate district as invalid and on designating the repeat elections of deputies in this election district for the number of mandates defined as provided for in part five Article 542 of this Code:
  - 1) in the case provided for in part eight Article 576 of this Code;
- 2) when the number of election precincts at which the voting was recognized invalid according to Articles 249 and 253 of this Code is minimum 25 per cent of the total number of election precincts in the respective multiple mandate district.
- 2. The main election commission on the respective elections adopts a decision on designating the repeat elections in the respective multiple mandate district for the number of mandates that remained available based on the elections results in the case provided for in part seven Article 576 of this Code.

# Article 579. Official Promulgation of Results of Elections of Deputies of Raion or Oblast Council

- 1. The main territorial election commission on the respective elections not later than on the fifth day after establishment of the elections results officially announces the results of the elections of deputies of a respective council in the regional or local printed mass media.
- 2. The results of elections are published in the form of a list of persons elected the deputies of a respective council. For each person who was elected a deputy, the list is to contain the following information:
- 1) the number of a multiple mandate district and the number of mandates in it as provided for in part five Article 543 of this Code as well as the number of deputies elected in the respective election district;
  - 2) family name, first name and patronymic;
  - 3) number of votes cast in support;
- 4) percentage of votes cast in support with regard to the number of valid voters' votes in the respective single mandate election district;
  - 5) year of birth;
  - 6) subject than nominated the candidate who was elected a deputy;
  - 7) party affiliation;
  - 8) educational background;
- 9) place of work (employment), position of the person who was elected a deputy as of the moment of elections;
  - 10) place of residence.
- 3. When the repeat voting is designated or the repeat elections in an individual multiple mandate district, this fact is to be mentioned in the publication stating the number of mandates, for which the repeat voting or the repeat elections will be conducted.
- 4. The results of the repeat voting in a single mandate election district are officially promulgated pursuant to the procedure and within the timelines provided for in parts one and two of this Article. When on the basis of the results of the repeat voting in a respective multiple mandate district the repeat election is designated, this fact is to be announced pursuant to the procedure provided for in part three of this Article.
- 5. Official promulgation of the respective elections results by the main territorial election commission constitutes the grounds for adoption of a decision on termination of the effect of another representative mandate of a person who was elected a deputy.

#### Article 580. Registration of Elected Deputies

- 1. In order to be registered as a deputy of a raion or city council a person who was elected a deputy is to submit (when another representative mandate is available) to the main territorial election commission on the respective elections not later than on the fifteenth day after official promulgation of the elections results a copy of the registered statement on termination of another representative mandate that was submitted to the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine, the parliament of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea or the respective local council.
- 2. The main territorial election commission on the respective elections not later than on the twentieth day after the official promulgation of the results of the elections of deputies adopts a decision on registration of the elected deputies of a respective raion or oblast council.
- 3. When a person having another representative mandates fails to submit a statement provided for in part one of this Article within the period provided for in part one of this Article, the main territorial election commission on the respective elections adopts a decision on recognizing the person as having refused to accept the deputy mandate and designates the interim elections in the respective single mandate election district.

#### **CHAPTER XVI. TRANSITIONAL AND FINAL PROVISIONS**

# Article 581. Transitional Provisions on Primary Creation of Election Precincts and Territorial Election Districts

- 1. The bodies provided for in Article 41 of this Code within two mother after this Code enters into legal force are to submit their proposals to the Central Election Commission on creation of all permanent election precincts in the respective raion, city, or foreign state pursuant to the provisions of Articles 42-44 of this Code.
- 2. The Central Election Commission within three months after the receipt of the aforementioned proposals examines the received proposals with regard to their compliance with the provisions of this Law and adopts a decision on creation of the respective Precinct Election Commissions or on a refusal to create an election precinct.
- 3. The Central Election Commission is to send a decision on a refusal to create an election precinct with the exhaustive list of the grounds for such refusal immediately to the body that submitted the proposal.
- 4. When the grounds that made it impossible to create an election precinct were eliminated, the body provided for in Article 41 of this Code re-submits the proposal on creation of the respective election precinct to the Central Election Commission.
- 5. A decision of the Central Election Commission on creation of permanent election precincts in a respective region or foreign state adopted pursuant to part two of this Article is to be published pursuant to the procedure provided for in part one Article 47 of this Code not later than on the fifteenth day after its adoption.
- 6. After creation of permanent election precincts pursuant to the procedure provided for in parts one and two of this Article but not later than six months after this Code enters into legal force, the Central Election Commission creates territorial election districts as provided for in Article 30 of this Code.
- 7. A decision of creation of territorial election districts is to be published pursuant to the procedure provided for in part one Article 32 of this Code not later than on the fifteenth day after it adoption.

# Article 582. Subjects Having Right to Nominate Candidates for Members of Election Commissions for Nationwide Elections before Formation of Next Convocation of Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine

- 1. Before the formation of the seventh convocation of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine as provided for in this Code, instead of political parties represented by factions in the current convocation of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine pursuant to part one Article 87 of this Code, the subjects having the right to nominate candidates for members of District Election Commissions and Precinct Election Commissions for the nationwide elections are factions created in the current convocation of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine.
- 2. A nomination submitted on behalf of a faction is to be signed by the faction leader whose signature is to be certified by the Verkhovna Rada Secretariat or by a notary pursuant to the procedure established by law.

# Article 583. Transitional Provisions on Preliminary Training of Members of Election Commissions

- 1. Within three months after this Code enters into legal force, the Central Election Commission has to approve:
- 1) conditions for licensing the activities related to training of candidates for members of election commissions provided for in Article 120 of this Code;
- 2) requirements for the contents and scope of knowledge and skills to be mastered by candidates for members of election commissions, the minimum number of training hours for theoretical and practical classes, programs recommended for training of candidates for

members of election commissions, forms and methods of final attestation according to Article 118 of this Code:

- 3) form of the state certificate on completion of training for work in an election commission according to part one Article 125 of this Code;
- 4) forms and methods of control of adherence to the license conditions, the quality of training of candidates for members of election commissions according to Article 126 of this Code.
- 2. The Central Election Commission within six months after this Code enters into legal force is to ensure production of the necessary number of the state certificates on completion of training for work in an election commission.

#### Article 584. Final Provisions

- 1. This Code enters into legal force on January 1, 2011.
- 2. The following laws are recognized null and void after this Code enters into legal force:
- 1) Law of Ukraine "On Elections of President of Ukraine" (*Vidomosti Verkhovnoi Rady Ukrainy*, 1999, # 14, p. 81; # 28, p. 237; # 44, p. 387; 2001, # 9, p. 38; 2003, # 27, p. 209; # 30, p. 247; 2004, # 20-21, p. 291; 2009, # 36-37, p. 511; # 50, p. 754; *Ofitsiynyi visnyk Ukrainy*, 2010, # 8, p. 380);
- 2) Law of Ukraine "On Elections of National Deputies of Ukraine" (*Vidomosti Verkhovnoi Rady Ukrainy*, 2004, # 27-28, p. 366; 2005, # 35-36, p. 446; 2005, # 38-39, p. 449; 2005, # 52, p. 566; 2006, # 10-11, p. 97, p. 98; 2006, # 33, p. 285; 2007, # 28, p. 383; 2009, # 36-37, p. 511);
- 3) Law of Ukraine "On Elections of Members of Parliament of Autonomous Republic of Crimea, Deputies of Local Councils and Village, Settlement and City Mayors" (*Vidomosti Verkhovnoi Rady Ukrainy*, 2004, # 30-31, p. 382; 2005, # 35-36, p. 446; 2006, # 5-6, p. 75; 2006, # 10-11, p. 97, p. 98; 2006, # 33, p. 285; 2007, # 13, p. 134; 2009, # 19, p. 260; # 30, p. 424);
- 4) Law of Ukraine "On Central Election Commission" (*Vidomosti Verkhovnoi Rady Ukrainy*, 2004, # 36, p. 448; 2005, # 35-36, p. 446; 2007, # 7-8, p. 66; 2007, # 13, p. 134; 2007, # 20, p. 282; 2007, # 28, p. 382);
- 5) Law of Ukraine "On State Voter Register" (*Vidomosti Verkhovnoi Rady Ukrainy*, 2007, # 20, p. 282; 2009, # 50, p. 754).
  - 3. The following laws are to be amended:
- 1) in the Criminal Code of Ukraine (*Vidomosti Verkhovnoi Rady Ukrainy*, 2001, # 25-26, p. 131; 2006, # 12, p. 105; 2006, # 33, p. 280; 2008, # 24, p. 236; 2009, # 50, p. 754):
- a) in the first paragraph part one Article 157, the words "and the commission member's avoidance of work in the commission without a valid reason" are to be eliminated;
  - b) in Article 158<sup>1</sup>:
  - in the title, the words "election precinct" are to be replaced with "elections or referendum"; the first paragraph of part one is to be stated in the following wording:
  - "The voter's voting more than once during the same elections or referendum –";
- 2) in the Budget Code of Ukraine (*Vidomosti Verkhovnoi Rady Ukrainy*, 2001, # 37-38, p. 189; 2004, # 5, p. 34; 2004, # 15, p. 218; 2005, # 4, p. 103; 2005, # 5, p. 122; 2006, # 1, p. 18; 2008, # 27-28, p. 253):
  - a) clause 20 part one Article 87 is to be stated in the following wording:
- "20) conduct of elections (except for the elections of the members parliament of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea as well as the repeat and interim elections) and nationwide referenda";
  - b) part one Article 88 is to be appended with clause 5 as follows:
- "5) conduct of repeat elections of village, settlement and city mayors; repeat and interim elections of deputies of village, settlement and city councils, local referenda";
  - c) part one Article 89 is to be appended with clauses 7 and 8 a follows:

- "7) conduct of local elections:
- a) repeat elections of city mayors; repeat and interim elections of deputies of city and city district councils;
  - b) repeat and interim elections of deputies of a raion council;
  - 8) conduct of local referenda".
  - d) part one Article 90 is to be appended with clauses 7 and 8 as follows:
- "7) conduct of elections of the members of parliament of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, and the republican referendum of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea;
  - 8) conduct of repeat and interim elections of deputies of an oblast council";
- 3) In the Code of Administrative Court Proceedings of Ukraine (*Vidomosti Verkhovnoi Rady Ukrainy*, 2005, # 35-36, # 37, p. 446; 2005, # 52; 2006, # 1, p. 16; 2009, # 19, p. 262; # 45, p. 683; # 50, p. 754; 2010, # 4, p. 35):
  - a) Article 18, after part three is to be appended with part four as follows:
- "4. The Administrative Court of Appeal, the territorial jurisdiction of which includes the City of Kyiv as the first instance court has jurisdiction over the cases provided for in part three Article 172 and part five Article 176 of this Code".

In view of this, parts four and five are to be considered parts five and six, respectively;

b) in Article 20:

in part one, the words "the Administrative Court of Appeal, the territorial jurisdiction of which includes the City of Kyiv and" are to be added after the words "as well as";

in part three, the word "district" is to be replaced with the word "of appeal";

- c) Article 24 after part one is to be appended with a new part as follows:
- "2. The administrative cases falling within the jurisdiction of the administrative court of appeal, jurisdiction of which includes the City of Kyiv, as the first instance court are considered and decided on by a board consisting of minimum three judges".

In view of this, parts two – seven are to be considered parts three – eight, respectively;

- d) clause 4 part one Article 109 is to be eliminated;
- e) part six Article 117 is to be eliminated;
- f) in Article 172:

in part three, the words "Kyiv Administrative Court of Appeal" are to be replaced with the words "the Administrative Court of Appeal, the territorial jurisdiction of which includes the City of Kyiv";

the second sentence of part four is to be eliminated;

- g) in part three Article 175, the words "for the post of the President" are to be replaced with the words "for national deputies";
  - h) the text of Article 176 is to be stated in the following wording:
- "1.The Central Election Commission, a District Election Commission, a candidate for the President of Ukraine, a party (bloc) a subject of the election process, and a voter whose legal rights or legally protected interests were infringed have the right to lodge a complaint against a decision or action of an association of citizens, an election bloc, an officer or an authorized representative thereof related to the election process of elections of the President of Ukraine except for decisions or actions that, pursuant to law or the statute of the association of citizens belong to its internal organizational activities or its exclusive competence.
- 2. A candidate for the President of Ukraine, a party (bloc) subject of the election process, the Central Election Commission, a District Election Commission have the right to take legal action against action or inaction of mass media and information agencies, their owners (co-owners), officials, and creative specialists during the election process of elections of the President of Ukraine that violate the procedure established by law for regulating activities of mass media and information agencies during the election process, including the exercise of the right to a response and other legal provisions on the coverage of elections and election campaigning.
- 3. A candidate for the President of Ukraine, a party (bloc) subject of the election process have the right to take legal action against actions of another candidate for the President of

Ukraine or his/her proxy when such actions are aimed at violating the procedure established by law for nomination of a candidate, conduct of the election campaign, or at committing other violations of election legislation. A voter has the right to lodge a complaint against actions of a candidate for the President of Ukraine or his/her proxy when such actions infringe his/her electoral rights.

- 4. A candidate for the President of Ukraine, a party (bloc) subject of the election process, the Central Election Commission, a district election commission have a right to take legal action against a decision, action or inaction of an executive body, a local self-government body, an enterprise, institution, organization or company, and an official thereof related to their non-performance of the responsibilities they are charged with by law, illegal interference with the activities of election commissions or commission members, infringement of citizens electoral rights and non-implementation of the legislative requirements on coverage of elections and election campaigns.
- 5. A statement of claim against action or inaction of a candidate for the President of Ukraine or his/her proxy is submitted to the administrative court of appeal, the territorial jurisdiction of which includes the City of Kyiv.
- 6. A decision of the Supreme Administrative Court of Ukraine on a complaint against the elections results is final and may not be appealed against using the appeal or cassation procedure".
  - i) in Article 177:

in parts three and five, the figures "175" are to be replaced with the figures "176";

in part four, the figures and symbols "174, 175" and to be replaced with the figures and symbols "174-176"

the second sentence of part six is to be stated in the following wording" "The court of the appellate instance in the cases considered as provided for in part three Article 172 and part five Article 176 of this Code by the administrative court of appeal, the territorial jurisdiction of which includes the City of Kyiv, is the Supreme Administrative Court of Ukraine".

4) in the Law of Ukraine "On Advertising" (*Vidomosti Verkhovnoi Rady Ukrainy*, 1996, # 39, p. 181; 2004, # 8, p. 62; 2008, # 18, p. 197):

in part five Article 12, after the words "ordered by" the words "election commissions" are to be added.

- 5) in Article 31 of the Law of Ukraine "On Mandatory State Social Insurance in Case of Unemployment" (*Vidomosti Verkhovnoi Rady Ukrainy*, 2000, # 22, p. 171; 2006, # 32, p. 271):
  - a) clause 1 part one is to be stated in the following wording:
- "1) employment of the unemployed, except for temporary (during the election process) employment in election commissions as a commission member or a specialist, an expert or support staff;";
- b) in clause 4 part five, the words "except for remuneration for temporary (during the election process) work in election commissions as a commission member or a specialist, an expert or support staff" are to be added in the end;
- 6) Article 5 of the Law of Ukraine "On State Social Support for Families with Low Incomes" (*Vidomosti Verkhovnoi Rady Ukrainy*, 2000, # 35, p. 290; 2002, # 50, p. 367; 2004, # 5, p. 25; # 33-34, p. 407) is to be appended with new part seven as follows:

"When calculating the average monthly income as provided for in part one of this Article, incomes of the family members received for temporary (during the election process) work in election commissions as a commission member or a specialist, an expert or support staff are not counted";

- 7) in the Law of Ukraine "On State Support for Families with Children" (*Vidomosti Verkhovnoi Rady Ukrainy*, 1993, # 5, p. 21; 2001, # 20, p. 102; 2005, # 26, p. 356; 2006, # 22, p. 185; # 26, p. 217):
- a) in part seven Article 14, after the words "a certificate from the place of work", the words "also working temporarily (during the election process) in election commissions as a commission member or a specialist, an expert or support staff" are to be added;
  - b) Article 15 is to be appended with the new part three stated in the following wording:

"When allocating support pursuant to the procedure provided for in part one of this Article, incomes of the family members received for temporary (during the election process) work in election commissions as a commission member or a specialist, an expert or support staff are not counted":

- c) Article 18<sup>3</sup> is to be appended with the new part three stated in the following wording:
- «"When calculating the average monthly income as provided for in part one of this Article, incomes of the family members received for temporary (during the election process) work in election commissions as a commission member or a specialist, an expert or support staff are not counted";
- 8) in the Law of Ukraine "On Mandatory State Insurance in Case of Temporary Disability and Expenses Related to Birth and Burials" (*Vidomosti Verkhovnoi Rady Ukrainy*, 2001, # 14, p. 71; 2006, # 26, p. 217):
  - a) Article 43 is to be appended with the new part two stated in the following wording:

"When allocating support pursuant to the procedure provided for in part one of this Article, incomes of the family members received for temporary (during the election process) work in election commissions as a commission member or a specialist, an expert or support staff are not counted":

- b) in the second paragraph of part one Article 44, after the words "parental leave", the words "except for temporary (during the election process) work in election commissions as a commission member or a specialist, an expert or support staff" are to be added.
  - 4. The Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine is to: bring its normative legal acts in accordance with this Code;

ensure adoption, revision and cancellation by the ministries and other executive bodies of normative acts that violate the provisions of this Code;

identify the procedure and timelines for taking the measures provided for in this Code; ensure facilitation of creation of regional offices of the Central Election Commission

- 4. The Central Election Commission is to: ensure adoption of normative legal acts necessary for implementation of this Code; ensure creation of regional offices of the Central Election Commission.
- 5. The Council of Ministers of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, Kyiv and Sevastopol City State Administrations within one month after creation of regional offices of the Central Election Commission according to Article 83 of this Code are to provide them with the necessary premises and means of communication.